

Biblio File

NOTE: Biblio File suffered a back-up error that damaged both the original and back-up copies of this edition of Literary License. If a news item you sent in was omitted, please resubmit it for the next issue.

Paul Lisnek's latest work of fiction, *Assume Treason*, (Written Dreams Publishing, 2021) was awarded the 2021 Next Generation Indie Book Award for Finalist, Mystery Books. ... **Michele Weldon's** latest book, *Act Like You're Having A Good Time* (See Literary License,



Michele Weldon

June/July 2020), won first place Gold in the Essay book nonfiction category from Independent Publisher Book Awards. It also won first place in nonfiction/memoir from Illinois Women's Press Association, where Michele was also honorable mention in editorial. ... **David Radavich** recently read poetry via Zoom at the Moonstone Arts Center in Philadelphia, at the Society for the Study of Midwestern



Joyce Burns Zeiss

Literature Conference in East Lansing, Michigan, and at the Thomas Wolfe Society Conference in Asheville, North Carolina. He gave a presentation titled "Elegy for Jane": The Nature of Grief" via Zoom at the Theodore Roethke House in Saginaw, Michigan. ... **Joyce Burns Zeiss'** short story, "Out of Cambodia," is included in *Turning Points* (Windy City Publishing 2021), Off Campus Writers' Workshop's anthology celebrating its 75th anniversary. Included are the works of 43 authors and an introduction by **Scott Turow** and Fred Shafer.

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Panel discusses diversity, representation in literature

On April 13, a panel moderated by non-fiction young adult author **Claire Hartfield** discussed representation, writing and diversity in literature. The other panelists, all authors, were **Rita Woods**, **Amina Gautier** and **Crystal Chan**.

Hartfield said, "There are certain kinds of expectations or cultural frameworks that we all operate in. It is interesting to see how those frameworks that are specific to a specific culture interact with things that are more universal."

That leads to questions about who has authentic voices and what kinds of stories authors are allowed to write, she said, raising the question of whether authors of color are "pigeonholed sometimes into a certain kind of story."

Woods talked about the challenges when an author writes about characters "outside your own demographic."

"One of the traps that writers of color fall into, at least from my experience, is the expectation – maybe not so much this past year – when, say, you have a Black author, the assumption is, it is going to be a trauma where we are the victim and we somehow overcome despite this hor-



Claire Hartfield



Crystal Chan



Amina Gautier



Rita Woods

rific incident that happened to us, or it is an urban story. Apparently, the only place Black people grow up is in the inner city. Even if you look in the arena of things like science fiction and sci-fi fantasy, it is very small niche of Black sci-fi fantasy writers.

"Traditionally, I don't think that was considered our genre. Things like romance, those kinds of things. I think some of that is opening up, at least the

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with Gerard Plecki

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It is available at the Book Stall in Winnetka. ... **Robert Fieseler** is the winner of the 2021 Betty Berzon Emerging Writer Award. **Richard Bales** writes to say, "After about eight years of work, I am pleased to report that my book on **Nelson Algren** is at the publisher. My working title is, *The Lost Literature of Nelson Algren*, but I think that the publisher may change it to



Nelson Algren

The Lost Works of Nelson Algren. It covers everything but his novels. I have, for example, essays that discuss his baseball literature and his book reviews. My essay on *Chicago: City on the Make* is probably the most thorough treatment ever written on this prose poem. Along the way I discovered two published but unknown works – a poem and an article. Working with the Algren estate, I was able to get permission to reprint both of these items in the book. The poem is a devastating attack on

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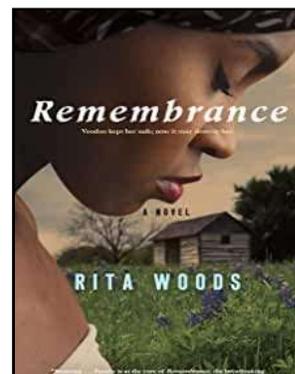
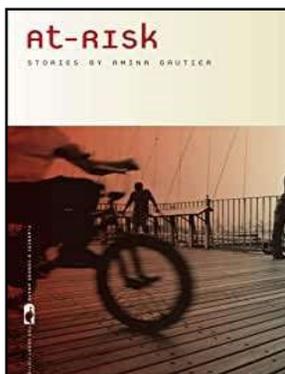
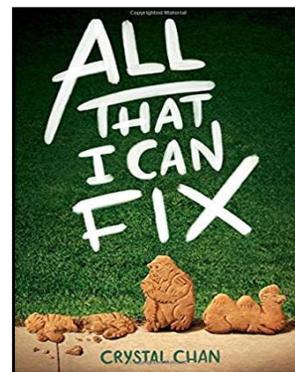
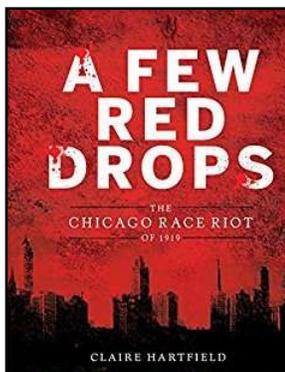
Diversity Continued from Page 1

last year has provided an opportunity for a broader view of what ... people of color experience is, but I do think there is that built-in story about what a Black story is."

Gautier discussed the question of authenticity of authors writing about the experiences of others.

"For over 100 years, we have had literature by 'mainstream' authors or white authors or white male authors writing about experiences of a gender they did not possess or a racial identity they did not have," she said. "Their right to write those things was not questioned. And now, we are questioning this. ... It comes down to a question of intentionality. As a fiction writer, I don't believe in censorship."

Chan said, "Maybe the unspoken question is: Who has the legitimacy to write outside of their demographics and their identity? Of course, this is the burning question. ... We should be talking about



this constantly, not just because it is a big topic but also because the question continues to evolve as the industry evolves, as the country evolves, as the demographics evolve, as the politics evolve. ... All of these things affect the conversation. It is a very living question."

Watch the video of the full program at: <https://midlandauthors.com/events-past/>

Slate of 2021-2022 officers, board members

At the Midland Authors annual dinner on Sept. 14, members in attendance will vote for new officers for the coming year.

Here are the officers and board members on the slate.

Officers

President: **Gerard Plecki**
Vice-President: **Claire Hartfield**
Corresponding Secretary: **Lynn Sloan**
Membership Secretary: **Thomas Frisbie**
Recording Secretary: **Jim Schwab**
Treasurer: **Greg Borzo**

Board Members

Marlene Targ Brill (Replaces **Greg Borzo** – Term expires 2024)
Christopher Lynch (Replaces **Allen Salter** – Term Expires 2024)
Dominic Pacyga (Runs for another term – Term Expires 2024)
Carol Saller (Replacing **Claire Hartfield** – Term Expires 2023)
Jim Walker (replacing **Lynn Sloan** – Term Expires 2022)

Patrick McBriarty will be Webmaster, which is an appointed position.

‘Living on!’: Q & A with Woodstock book author

Gerard Plecki, the incoming president of the Midland Authors, is the author of three books and has written articles on music and film criticism.

Literary License: *Woodstock has come to mean many things to many people.*

How did you capture that in one book?

Gerard Plecki: It is important to understand interpretations have been nonstatic. Opinions and recollections change over time. Performers like John Fogerty who were originally glad to play at Woodstock later expressed regret over their endorsement of the festival. Others, like Pete Townshend, who hated Woodstock and never wanted to play there, would over the decades come to applaud the event. I discovered that issues of “meaning” were not as complex as its corollary, which was separating fiction from fact. As with any major cultural, political, or sociological event, perceptions and memories are colored

Literary Landscape
Gerard Plecki



Aug. 10, 2021, program
Cliff Dwellers, 200 S. Michigan
6 p.m. social hour/7 p.m. program

Woodstock rendition.

For much of the time I followed Keef Hartley’s research concept; his goal was to find and catalog as many internet videos of Woodstock as possible. Sadly, this legendary drummer passed away too soon. He did not have much of a chance to relish some audio tapes and videos of his own band’s Woodstock performance. Songs such as his can still be found on the internet if one looks hard enough. More

significantly, though, I felt guided by the voice of Mel Lawrence, the director of operations for Woodstock. No one knew as much as he did about Woodstock chronology and logistics, and I am grateful for the opportunity to

put on the record many of his thoughts and opinions before he passed away.

LL: *What led you to choose Woodstock as a topic?*

GP: I always loved the music, the musicians and live concerts. I was bothered by all the incomplete, nonfactual and contradictory books about the festival. Woodstock deserved better. I wanted to prove all those involved with Woodstock – including attendees – were exactly the right people at the right time in the right place, all necessary for the event to succeed.

LL: How does this book fit in with your books *Robert Altman* and *Test Positive*?

GP: The goal was the same – I wanted to place the films of Robert Altman and the COVID-19 pandemic in a proper critical and historical context.

LL: *What’s your next book?*

GP: There are two: a study of the history and mission of the Chicago Seed, and an examination of our politically correct culture. And yes, both will include looking at lots of rock music, because Woodstock lives on!

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Simone de Beauvoir, and the article is a compassionate and moving piece on 1950s race relations in Chicago. The publisher is McFarland & Co., who published my book on the cause of the Chicago Fire.” ... Midland Authors 2017 and 2009 book award winner **Louise Erdrich** won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for *The*



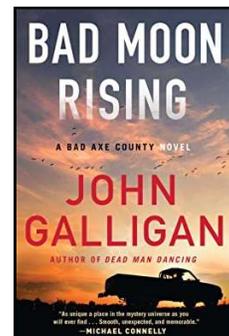
Artika Tyner

Night Watchman. ...

Artika Tyner was a winner in the 2021 St. Paul, Minnesota, Sidewalk Poetry Competition. Her submission paid tribute to the historic Rondo neighborhood, where she grew up. ...

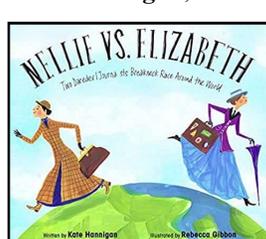
Carol Felsenthal has been working for four years on a book about her late brother, Richard Greenberg. She also was an associate producer for the FX series “Mrs. America” with Cate Blanchett as Phyllis Schlafly. ... Here are titles that came across Biblio File’s desk after Literary Latest locked up its column for this edition: **John**

Galligan’s *Bad Moon Rising* (Atria Books) came out on June 29. Kirkus Reviews called it “Gritty and propulsive. ... Intriguing characters take a wild ride through backwoods



Wisconsin in this irresistible mystery.” ... *Nellie vs.*

Elizabeth: Two Daredevil Journalists’ Breakneck Race Around the World by **Kate Hannigan**, will come out next

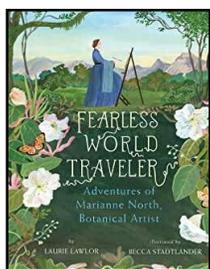


February. It is the story of journalists Nellie Bly and competitor Elizabeth Bisland racing to circle the globe and beat the fictional record set in Jules Verne’s novel *Around the World in*

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80 Days. ... **Burt Levy** writes to say his new book, *The 200 mph Steamroller*, is now available for ordering at www.lastopenroad.com. "The hardcover first-edition files, COMPLETE, are off to our beloved printer," he says. Also, Burt was the special guest at the July 10 Concours d'Elegance at Copshaholm at Studebaker National Museum. ... Booklist



says **Laurie Lawlor's Fearless World Traveler: Adventures of Marianne North, Botanical Artist** (Holiday House, May 11, 2021) "captures both Marianne's spir-

it and the restrictive norms of the time, which couldn't hold back this daring naturalist." ... The sixth installment in **Patricia Skalka's** Dave Cubiak Door County Mystery series, *Death Washes Ashore*, (University of Wisconsin Press, April 20) tells what happens when Sheriff Dave Cubiak heads out into the aftermath of a brutal storm on the peninsula to assess the damage and check in with folks to offer help. ... **Robert K. Elder** tweets to say "Spotted at @vromans bookstore in Pasadena – the special edition of Gilbert Wilson's "Moby Dick" that I edited with @hatandbeardbks." ...

Erika Lee discussed how the immigrant experience shapes American identity on July 4 in a conversation moderated by Los Angeles Times' Editorial Page editor Sewell Chan. ... **Linda Nemeč Foster** has had a busy spring and summer promoting her new book of poetry, *The Blue Divide*. Pre-publication events were hosted in March by the publisher, New Issues Press, and the Detroit Writers Guild. She had book launches via Zoom hosted by Literati Bookstore in Ann Arbor (April 27) and Schuler Books in Grand Rapids (May 6). Linda was also featured in virtual readings sponsored by the Greatest Indoor Reading Series (June 11) and Warren



Erika Lee

Wilson College's MFA Program (June 19). Besides these events, *A Blue Divide* was the subject of Kelly Fordon's blog and Jeff Milo's podcast, "A Little Too Quiet" (both in May). Praised by a reviewer in Publishers Weekly, Foster's new collection was the subject of a video/poem, "Life Cycle of Clouds," created by Western Michigan University's students. ... Midland Authors President **Dick Simpson** was quoted July 12 on Chicago's WBEZ-FM on the subject of gerrymandering. ... **Arnie Bernstein** writes to say: "My next venture, the



Dick Simpson

German version of PBS documentary moviemaker Annette Baumeister, is doing a film on the German-American Bund, which will be shown early next year in Germany (and maybe later in the United States). A rollicking interview, to be sure and we had a great time." ... **Blue Balliett** was a special guest 22 at the 26th annual Nantucket Film Festival book awards announcement. ... Seacoastonline included **Amy Timberlake's** *Skunk and Badger* on its recommended summer reading list. ... The May 10 Chicago Sun-Times quoted **Joey Korom** about architect Helmut Jahn. ... **Jim Daniels** contributed to *The Pittsburgh Neighborhood Guidebook* (Belt Publishing, May 4, 2021), a compendium of essays and poems. ... An upcoming Netflix series produced by Chris Nee, "Ada Twist, Scientist," is based on the books by **Andrea Beaty**. ... The July 9 Baltimore Sun quoted **Jon Teaford** about Baltimore's Harborplace. ... **Jerry Apps** wrote "New growing on the roots of the old" for the July 12 Wisconsin State Farmer. ... **Angela Jackson-Brown** and **Allison Joseph** were scheduled to be faculty members at the online July 28-31 Midwest Writers Workshop. ... **Delmarie Cobb** was quoted on Chicago's ABC7 on June 24 the rift between Chicago's mayor and City Council. ... **Christopher Mooney** appeared on the "Capitol Cast" podcast to discuss the legislative session after the Illinois General Assembly adjourned in May. ... **Rick Kogan** talked on WGN radio on July 18 with **June Sawyers** and

Larry Axelrood, a retired circuit court judge and a published author and fiction writer, is seeking a reader/peer reviewer for a manuscript he is looking to shop. If you are interested in the job, you can reach Larry at Laxelrood@aol.com.

Don Evans about June's staged reading of "Nighthawks: A Theatrical Meditation on Solitude and Loneliness," scheduled for Aug. 1 at the Oak Park Brewing Co. ... **Emilio DeGrazia** was scheduled to be one of the readers June 24 of the newly published anthology *Crossings: An*



June Sawyers

Anthology of the Poets Laureate of Winona Minnesota. ... **Craig Fehrman** was quoted in the Independent on June 23 about the likely response to a possible Trump memoir. ... The Willoughby-Eastlake (Ohio) Public

Library was scheduled to host **Edward "Ted" McClelland** on July 8. ... The June 5 (suburban Chicago) Daily Herald quoted **James Ballowe** about Joy Morton. ... Business Insider's June 29 list of the "most popular book in the year you were born" included **James Finn Garner's** 1994 book *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories*. ... **David L. Harrison** writes to say: "It's nice to finally start getting out more and standing in front of kids again! I'm away from home (for a while at our condo in Florida) and have more trouble staying in touch from here than from home. Activities during June included: 8: Publication release of my 101st book, *The Dirt Book* (See Literary Latest); 10: First school visit since pre-pandemic, Leeton, Missouri; 16: First library visit since pre-pandemic, Versailles, Missouri; 22: Interviewed on KWTO Radio, reaching into parts of four states; 25: Signed contract to co-author an educational resource book for Teacher Created Materials; 29: Book signing at Sundog Book Store in Seaside, Florida. ... **Lin Enger** was scheduled to discuss his book *American Gospel* virtually July 12 on the Friends of the Brainerd Public Library Facebook page.

2021 book award winners

On May 6, the Midland Authors announced the winners of its 2021 awards for the best books written by Midwest authors and published in 2020.

The winners, one in each of six categories, were chosen by six panels of judges from more than 290 books submitted for the contest. The judges also selected one or more honorees in each category.

The categories were: Adult Fiction, Adult Nonfiction, Children's Fiction, Children's Nonfiction, Biography and Memoir and Poetry. The annual competition is open to authors who live in, were born in or have strong ties to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota or Wisconsin.

Following are the six winning authors. They each received a \$500 award and a recognition plaque from the Midland Authors:

Adult Fiction Award

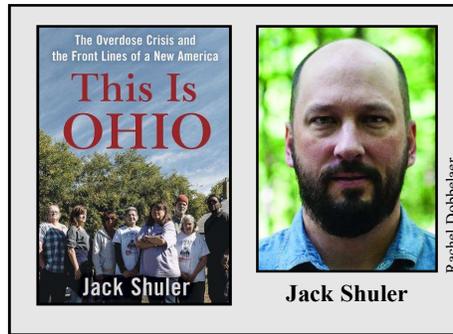


Tiffany McDaniel, who lives in Circleville, Ohio, for her book *Betty* from Alfred A. Knopf.

Midland Authors judge **Angela Jackson-Brown** said, "*Betty* stood out among the numerous submissions because of its rich and vivid portrayal of a young girl growing up in Appalachia. Betty was both memorable and relatable with phenomenal lines that stay with the reader long after she closes the page, such as the opening line, 'A girl comes of age against the knife.'"

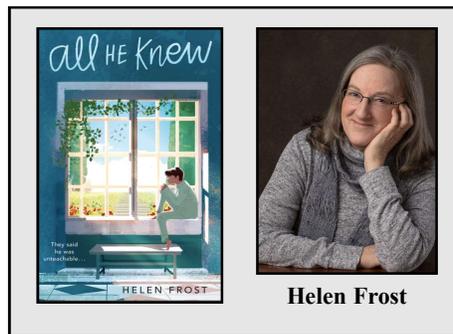
Richard Frisbie Award for Adult Nonfiction

Jack Shuler, *This Is Ohio: The Overdose Crisis and the Front Lines of a New America*, Counterpoint Press.



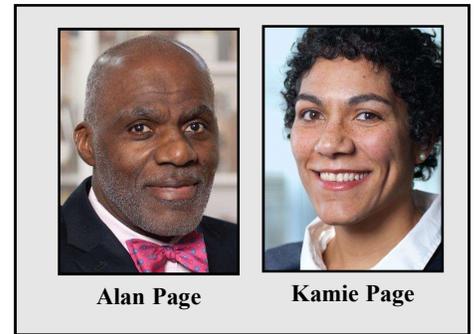
Shuler, who is from Granville, Ohio, takes a grass-roots look at one of the primary hot spots of America's opioid addiction crisis. The SMA judges wrote that "Shuler, by combining quantitative research with engaged listening, exposes and documents the roots of the crisis in income inequality, lack of health care and institutional barriers to change. *This Is Ohio* personalizes and inspires with stories of local activists and their relentless and creative responses to an overwhelming challenge."

Children's Fiction Award



Helen Frost, *All He Knew*, FSG Macmillan. The author is from Fort Wayne, Indiana. According to the Midland Authors judges, "Frost tells this powerful World War II-era tale through a series of beautifully and simply rendered poems. Inspired by true events, *All He Knew* is the story of a young boy consigned to a harshly managed institution and the one compassionate soul he meets there, who is performing public service as a conscientious objector. The story remains relatable and timely, exploring issues of disabilities and outsider status."

Children's Reading Round Table Award for Children's Nonfiction
Alan Page and **Kamie Page**, *Bee Love (Can Be Hard)*, Page Education



Foundation.

The authors, who live in Minneapolis, Minnesota, have created a book that resides at the boundary of fiction and nonfiction. The authors have embedded solid information about bees along with wisdom about how to face and overcome something that seems frightening. Specifically, Otis, a young boy who is afraid of bees, is comforted and strengthened by his grandfather's advice that the way to overcome a fear of bees is to learn more about them. When they visit a bee farm and learn how bees are kept, Otis dons protective gear and walks safely among them. By the end of the day, Otis becomes a bee protector himself. Young readers will understand the emotions beautifully conveyed through text and illustration, and a brief endnote gives further information, inviting young readers to learn more.

Poetry Award



Nandi Comer for *Tapping Out: Poems*, Northwestern University Press. **Grace Bauer**, a Midland Authors poetry judge, wrote "*Tapping Out* was one of those

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books that just stayed with me. I found myself thinking of the book long after I'd put it in my 'probably/yes' pile. And it was one I felt compelled to come back to. We've all been thinking a lot about masks this past year, and Comer uses that image and the conventions of Mexican freestyle wrestling to examine issues of identity and the search for belonging – in a body and in a society that judges certain bodies. Comer, who resides in Detroit, Michigan, has written a really stunning first book. The fact that this is Comer's debut collection made it that much more impressive.”

Bernard J. Brommel Award for Biography and Memoir



Riva Lehrer, *Golem Girl: A Memoir*, One World, Penguin/Random House.

Midland Authors Biography/Memoir judge **Emilio DeGrazia** emphasized “that good books inform us. Those we call great, transform us. Lehrer’s *Golem Girl* unsettles the grounds of our thinking while reshaping and enlarging our sense of what it means to be human. This life story is told with profound intelligence, learning, artistry, courage and honesty.”

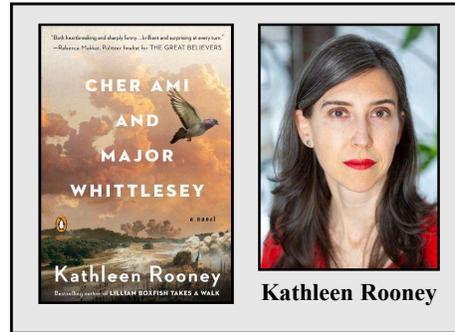
Riva Lehrer lives in the Edgewater neighborhood of Chicago.

Besides award winners, SMA judges selected Honored Books in each category.



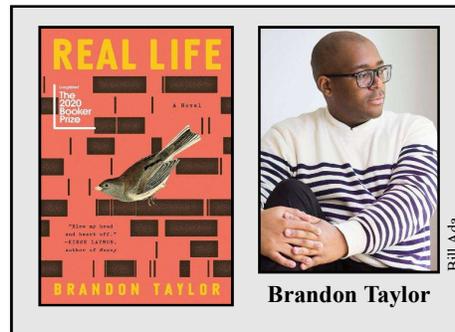
Adult Fiction Award Honorees: **TaraShea Nesbit**, who lives in Oxford,

Ohio, for her book *Beheld* from Bloomsbury Publishing. SMA judge **William O'Rourke** wrote, “This title depicted the first murder that occurred in the Plymouth Colony from the point of view of the women who lived there. The writing is beautiful, and the voices are distinct, compelling and true. The book gives an alternate but equally important view of issues that brought colonists together and tore them apart, along with a page-turning story.”



Kathleen Rooney, a Chicagoan, for *Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey* from Penguin Books.

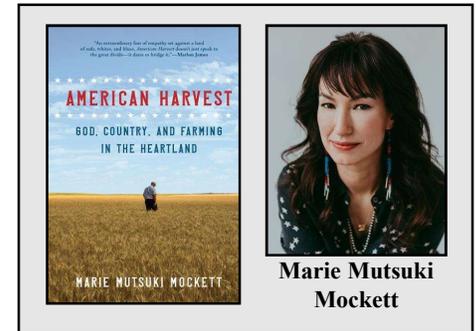
According to the judges, “Rooney’s book is brilliantly original. Inspired by true events and faultlessly researched, the book charts the World War I experiences of Major Whittlesey, an American soldier, and Cher Ami, a messenger pigeon. The writing is beautiful; the brutality of war is real; the characters, compelling. And yes! The pigeon tells its own tale-with astonishing plausibility! It’s the kind of book you finish and think, who would even think of this and how in the world did she manage to pull it off!”



Brandon Taylor, for *Real Life* by Riverhead Books. Taylor, who lives in Iowa City, Iowa, wrote a standout work of fiction because of how the author carefully crafted each sentence, scene, and character. According to judge **Barbara**

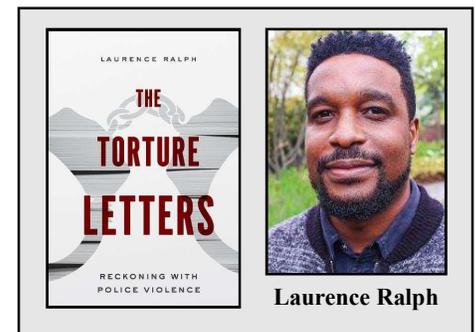
Shoup, “this story gave the reader insight into what it might be like for a young, Black, queer man teaching at a Midwestern University. Taylor used an economy of words, everything deliberate, everything precise. He put the human condition underneath a microscope, forcing the reader to stare at it unflinchingly.”

Richard Frisbie Award for Adult Nonfiction Honorees



Marie Mutsuki Mockett, *American Harvest: God, Country, and Farming in the Heartland*, Graywolf Press. (The author grew up in Nebraska and lives in San Francisco.)

“Mockett returns to her family’s Midwestern roots by joining the summer wheat harvest in a quest for insight into the views of conservative and evangelical farmers,” according to the Midland Authors judges. “Her lyrical ruminations examine identity, faith, our relationship to the land and how Americans connect despite their differences.”



Laurence Ralph, *The Torture Letters: Reckoning with Police Violence*, University of Chicago Press.

The judges wrote, “Ralph, who graduated from University of Chicago and lives in Princeton, New Jersey, writes with scholarly care and personal empathy. The author, addresses powerful, eloquent let-

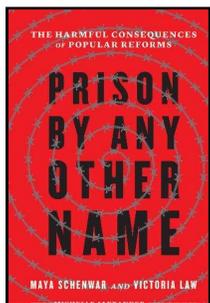
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ters to past and future Chicago leaders, to police, and to those who have suffered – or may yet suffer – at their hands. He documents the long-sanctioned Chicago Police Department practice of torturing confessions from black and brown people, an open secret for half a century. Ralph pleads for an end to the use of fear as a means of control.”

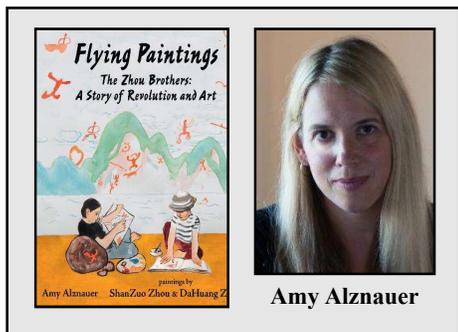


Maya Schenwar and Victoria Law, *Prison by Any Other Name: The Harmful Consequences of Popular Reforms*, The New Press. The SMA judges wrote,



“Chicagoan Schenwar and New Yorker Victoria Law further document the racial bias behind mass incarceration, showing how popular methods of reducing prison populations – such as long-term electronic

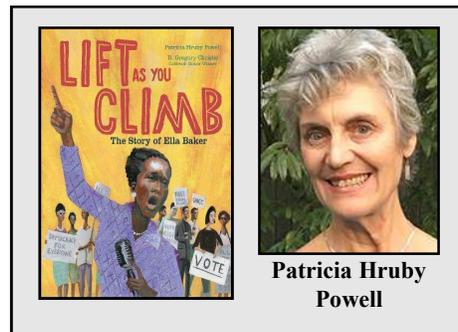
monitoring, house arrest and extended probation – are merely money-saving ways to control marginalized people while restricting their movements, opportunities, and basic freedoms.”



Children’s Reading Round Table Award for Children’s Nonfiction, Honorees:
Amy Alznauer, *Flying Paintings: The*

Zhou Brothers: A Story of Revolution and Art, Candlewick Press.

This Chicago author, according to the judges, “crafted an appealing biography of two brothers who lived through difficult times during their childhood and youth in the province of Guangxi, China. Upon coming to America as adults, the brothers continue to work together and eventually become world-renowned artists. The Zhou brothers illustrate the book themselves, giving a deeper understanding of their story and their art. An endnote clarifies details of the brothers’ childhood and adult lives, and describes the joys and challenges of two artists painting together in such a way that the paintings seem to come alive.”



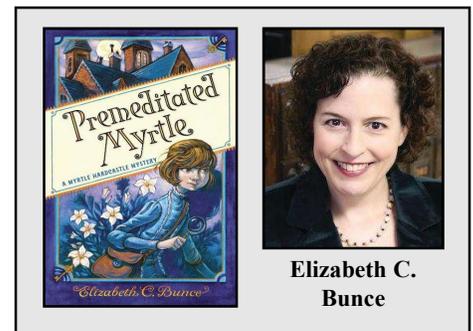
Patricia Hruby Powell, *Lift As You Climb: The Story of Ella Baker*, McElderry/Simon & Schuster. (Author from Champaign, Illinois) The judges wrote: “Ella Baker was an important figure in the Civil Rights movement. Because she was a woman, and women of her era are often overlooked or overshadowed, she has not received as much attention as her life and work deserve. In this engaging book, her story is brought to life, illuminating history in a new way. An author’s note, timeline, bibliography and other additional information demonstrates the thorough research that went into this book encourages young readers to learn more.”



Heather Dean Brewer

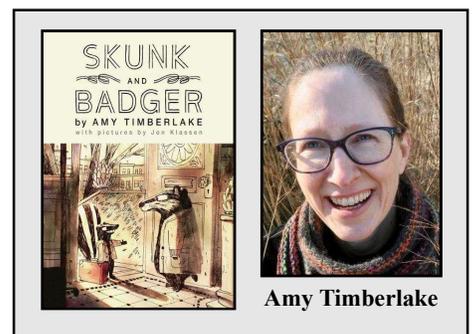
Children’s Fiction Award Honorees
Heather Dean Brewer, *Love Is Powerful*, Candlewick Press.

The judges said this book “is beautifully illustrated, touching and impactful. *Love Is Powerful* is empowering for children showing that one voice can make a difference. Brewer is from North Muskegon, Michigan. Her book offers a positive message of social action and is a memorable reading experience for children and parents.



Elizabeth C. Bunce, *Premeditated Myrtle*, Algonquin Young Readers.

The judges wrote, “Plucky, original and definitely a sleuth to be reckoned with, 12-year-old Myrtle takes readers on an exciting detective journey set in Victorian England. With clever humor and sparkling wit, Bunce (who hails from Lenexa, Kansas) keeps the pace moving, turns up unexpected surprises, and keeps her audience eager for more clues to be unraveled in future installments.”

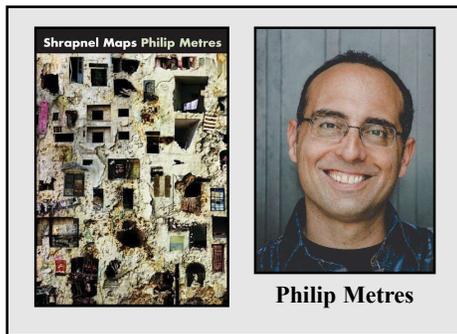


Amy Timberlake, *Skunk and Badger*, Algonquin Young Readers. The judges wrote, “Who knew a skunk could be so endearing? Filled with charm and humor, Chicagoan Timberlake tells the story of friendship between the unlikeliest of creatures. The delightful droll narrative and whimsical illustrations offer a magic com-

Turn to Page 8

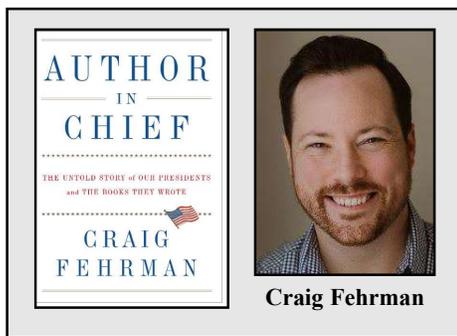
Awards Continued from Page 7

bination emblematic of classic children's literature."



Poetry Award Honoree

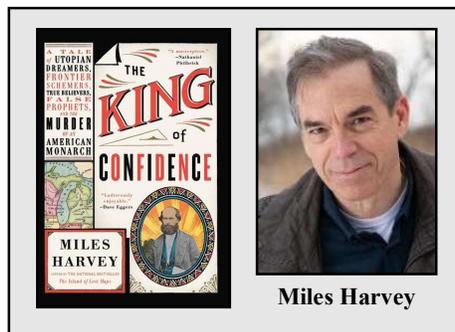
Philip Metres for *Shrapnel Maps*, Copper Canyon Press. According to judge **Grace Bauer**, Philip Metres gives us a poets-eye-view of the troubles in the Middle East. For him, these stories are personal as well as political, familial and historical. Combining the language of official documents with lyrical, narrative and more fragmented experimental poems, Metres takes us into the day-to-day lives and living of the place and its peoples. He takes us, as Naomia Shihab Nye says, "into the soul of Palestine."



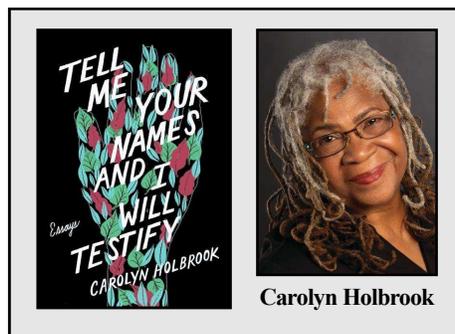
Bernard J. Brommel Award for Biography and Memoir, Honorees

Craig Fehrman, *Author in Chief*, Simon & Schuster/Avid Reader Press. Fehrman is from Bloomington, Indiana). The judges wrote that *Author in Chief* is a well-researched and well told history of presidential biographies, full of insights about how our views of leadership are framed for public viewing. In sequences that contextualize the lives of presidents within their literary currents, Fehrman shows how the writing of presidential lives has evolved, or devolved,

into commercial enterprises presided over by well-heeled publishers and ghost writers keen to exploit the rewards of a culture governed by celebrity."



Miles Harvey, *The King of Confidence: A Tale of Utopian Dreamers, Frontier Schemers, True Believers, False Prophets, and the Murder of an American Monarch*, Little, Brown and Company. Judge **Elizabeth Hellman** wrote, "King of Confidence was a breath of fresh air as far as biographies go. The writing is flowing, amusing without being ridiculous. Harvey painted a world I was eager to know more about. It probably isn't respectful to call this a romp, but I mean it in the very best sense of the word. I couldn't put it down."



Carolyn Holbrook, *Tell Me Your Names and I Will Testify: Essays*, University of Minnesota Press.

According to the Midland Authors judges, "Holbrook's memoir, frank and compelling, testifies to the influence skin color and the troubles that haunt it, have on families struggling to achieve meaningful and productive lives. The hard facts of Holbrook's life in Saint Paul, Minnesota, as woman, mother, wife and ex-wife, employee, community activist and arts administrator are presented without self-pity as they unfold against her deeper story of trying to achieve the cre-

ative life of a writer. Hers is a troubled story that concludes with a type of success at once exemplary and important to American life."

Coordinator, and Judges by Category

The coordinator of this year's contest was **Marlene Targ Brill**. Following are the judges for this year's contest:

Adult Fiction: **Angela Jackson-Brown**, author poet, and playwright who teaches at Ball State University in Muncie, IN; **William O'Rourke**, author, editor, emeritus English professor at the University of Notre Dame; **Barbara Shoup**, author, Writer-in-Residence at Indiana Writers Center and faculty member at Art Workshop International.

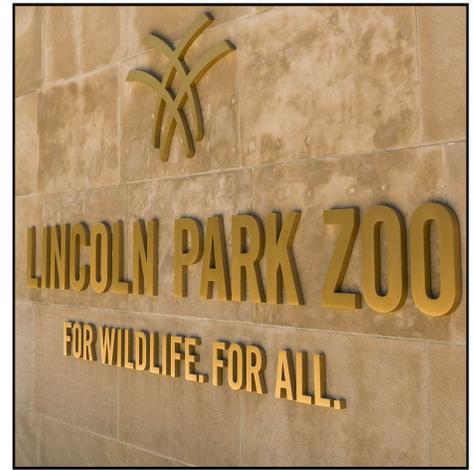
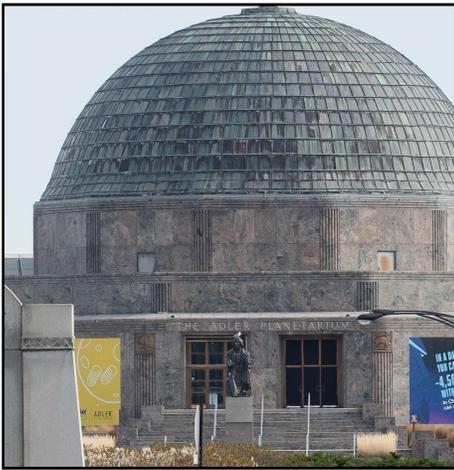
Adult Nonfiction: **Joseph Gustaitis**, author, writer, former humanities editor of Collier's Encyclopedia, television writer; **Michael Fedo**, author, contributor to major publications; **Carol Saller**, author, editor, writer trainer/blogger.

Children's Nonfiction: **Judith Schein Cohen**, graduate educator, literacy supervisor at University of Illinois at Chicago, writer of educational materials, grade school and high school teacher; **Helen Frost**, a poet and author; **Artika Tyner**, educator, author, a civil rights attorney, founder/CEO of Planting People Growing Justice Press and Bookstore.

Children's Fiction: **Amelia Cotter**, author, poet, storyteller; **Laura Hirshfield**, retired Reader's Services Librarian at the Evanston Public Library, visual artist of cloisonné enameling and collage; **Anne O'Malley**, retired high school librarian, reviewer of teen and young adult books for Booklist, the American Library Association's review journal, former editor in children's and educational publishing.

Poetry: **Grace Bauer**, author, essayist; poet, **David Radavich**, author of books, plays and poems; **Chris Abani**, poet, playwright, novelist, Northwestern professor.

Biography and Memoir: **Emilio DeGrazia**, founded Great River Review in 1977, editor, author, poet; **Libby Fischer Hellmann**, broadcast news writer, author of crime fiction; **Bob Remer**, president of the Edgewater Historical Society and Museum, founding publisher of Chicago Books in Review, and former acting commissioner and deputy Commissioner of the Chicago Public Library.



The Adler Planetarium (left) and Lincoln Park Zoo (right) are two of the members of Chicago Collections, of which Jeanne Long (center) is executive director. Long presented the Midland Authors virtual May 11 program.

A research resource for authors

On May 11, **Jeanne Long**, executive director of Chicago Collections, talked about the resources her organization can provide to authors who are doing research. The online event was the Midland Authors’ monthly program.

At <https://chicagocollections.org>, Chicago Collections is a nearly 10-year-old consortium of nonprofit organizations that provides a free guide to the archives of its members, including such organizations as the Chicago Public Library, the Chicago History Museum, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Roosevelt University, Northwestern University, Loyola University Chicago, DePaul University, the Chicago Zoological Society and other libraries, museums, historical societies and cultural organizations.

Chicago Collections’ goal is to preserve and share the history and culture of the Chicago region.

“We exist to serve authors and researchers like yourselves.”

“We exist to serve authors and researchers like yourselves,” Long said. “... The last thing we want to hear is [an author saying] I wish I had known about this before I finished the book.”

Chicago Collections’ members have thousands of photographs and historical documents that allow authors for the first

time to explore the index on its website to do their research more effectively.

For example, an author looking for information about the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair can find a listing on the website of the relevant information that is held at each of the member organizations one by one to see what they have.

The website also has “Ask Chicago Collections.” Authors can email in a question that will be sent to member libraries and archives and get a response within about three days.

When Long’s program moved to the question-and-answer portion, Midland Authors President **Dick Simpson** gave an example of what authors had to do before the consortium existed.

“When I wrote my *Rogues* book on the history of the Chicago City Council, I had to find where documents were,” Simpson said. “... There were only four significant collections that would help me with my book, but I had no idea which four they were. I could make a guess. So I ended up having to go to the Chicago History Museum, which seems like a logical place because it tended to be more exhaustive, but they in fact were missing some key documents, like the Journal of the City Council in the year Richard J. Daley was elected. I had to go to get the history documents [at] a library almost no one knows about, the IRAD [Illinois Regional Archives Depository] regional library at

Northeastern [Illinois University].”

Now, authors can save a lot of time by using Chicago Collections as a finder’s guide, he said.

“I can’t recommend it too much,” he said.

Long said the organization is designed to help “researchers like yourselves, faculty, K-12 teachers, undergraduate and

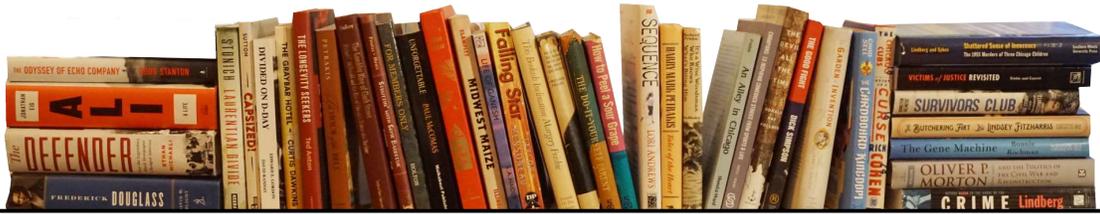
“The last thing we want to hear is [an author saying] I wish I had known about this before I finished the book.”

graduate students, lifelong learners and the general public.”

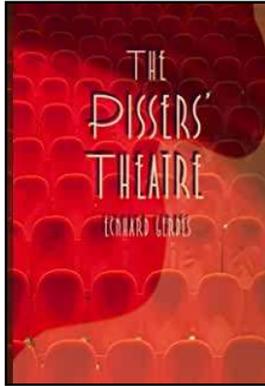
Before the Chicago Collections’ search function called Explorer was set up “one would have to go to every site across the city, which is easier with the internet, but it takes time to dive in and find the right source [and] every site is different. But now, after Explorer, it is one-stop shopping. ... This continues to be viewed as the open portal, the gateway to Chicago collections.”

“... You can explore topics, events and monuments. just by typing in a word,” Long said. “You can explore people and organizations [and other topics].”

Hear audio of the program at: <https://midlandauthors.com/events-past/>



Literary Latest



'THE IDEA HIT ME'

In Eckhard Gerdes' 15th novel, *The Pissers' Theatre* (Black Scat Books, June 10, 2021), two women friends – one from the city, the other from the suburbs – attend opening night of a cryptic new play: "Pissers' Theatre." Both the play and the theatre have been designed to accommodate audience incontinence. Thus, the production pauses whenever someone needs to urinate. This bizarre experiment plays havoc with the show's continuity and leads the heroines into strange places.

Gerdes writes to say, "I love plays, especially the absurd. Two years ago, up at Spring Green, Wisconsin, I saw an Ionesco play I'd never seen before, and I loved it. I also love Beckett, and I also love Brecht and the removal of the proscenium arch between viewer and viewed. Martin Esslin's great book on Theatre of the Absurd was resonating in my mind from many years ago, and my own foray into that sort of drama with my play "S a Bird" (which was performed once at the Chopin Theatre in Chicago on Dec. 17, 1994, in collaboration with Oyez Review) left me open for doing a book including theater again. I have written plays and performed in them, and the immediacy of the audience's response is enticing. So one evening my daughter Penelope and I were watching some YouTube videos or something on the big TV. When we do

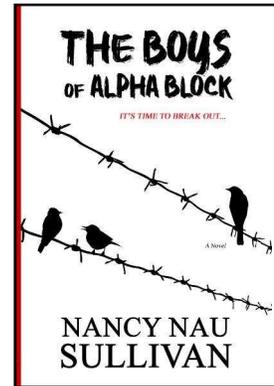
that, we spitball ideas back and forth. She's also a writer, and she also earned her degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. When we sit down, I try to keep a pad of paper and pen nearby. I never know when something will strike me. This idea hit me during a conversation with Penny. I jotted it down and left it alone. A few days later, when I wanted to do some writing, I looked through my odds and ends of notes and found this one. It just hit me. It unfolded itself to me faster than any story I have ever written.

"I tried to keep on it as best as possible, but at times I certainly felt bucked. I don't normally quit on ideas, though, so I didn't let go until it was done. The main characters are not any persons in particular, but they are drawn from the many friendships and acquaintances I made during my years in the book biz in Chicago, particularly at Kroch's and Brentano's in Evanston and at Barbara's Bookstore at the original Old Town location on Wells.



Eckhard Gerdes

My protagonists, Kay and Karen, are old friends of mine, though no one in particular. I love them. I wanted to let both of them be who they are. Finding out what they were up to was always a surprise for me as I wrote the story. Also, having attended many theatrical performances, I noticed the difficulty some people have to hold their bladders for the intermissions. No judgment. I am getting on in years myself, and I know I'm swimming in a different stream now, too, but I thought about what it would be like if a theater accommodated people's having to go to the bathroom by just pausing the play. I think I have also have raised some interesting issues regarding pop-up theatre and the art of intrusion. The story is about how this amazing art form known as theatre defies easy definition."



NEW ADULT FICTION NOVEL

Nancy Nau Sullivan's latest novel is *The Boys of Alpha Block* (TouchPoint Press, April 19, 2021).

From the publisher: "*The Boys of Alpha Block* is a new adult fiction novel that explores the workings of a juvenile prison. The book takes on the perspective of a teacher bent on redemption and rehabilitation through education and respect.

"*The Boys of Alpha Block* moves through the points of view of imprisoned teenage boys and their teacher. Sullivan used letters, journal entries, poems, and essays to meld her real-life experiences with the boys' story and to shed light on the incarceration and punishment of young people.



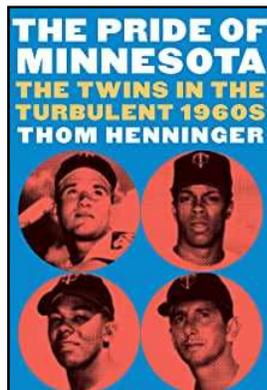
Nancy Nau Sullivan

"Sullivan, who taught in a boys' prison for five years, says, 'My theme is that reading and education are key to rehabilitation, but there are many stumbling blocks in that process. In my experience, cruelty, lack of empathy, lack of funds – and lack of family – got in the way. Recidivism is a difficult thing to gauge, but education cannot be downplayed as the best way to keep kids from sliding back into crime.'"

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Literary Latest

Continued from Page 10



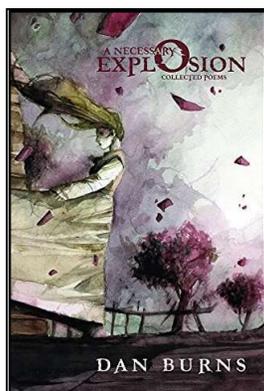
PENNANT STORIES

The Pride of Minnesota: The Twins in the Turbulent 1960s is **Thom Henninger's** new book. From the publisher: "The 1960s were a heady time to come of age. During these turbulent times the Minnesota Twins were the pride of the North Star State – an elite team that advanced to the World Series in 1965 and played in dramatic pennant races in the years thereafter.

"After an uneven 1964 season the Twins set themselves up for a turnaround that would last the rest of the decade. At the end of his playing career with the Twins, Billy Martin was hired as third base coach in 1965, giving them a more aggressive base-running style. Mudcat Grant became the first African American pitcher to win at least 20 games in the American League, and Tony Oliva won his second batting title to help lead the Twins to the World Series, which they lost in seven games to the Dodgers. In 1967 rookie Rod Carew joined the Twins as they engaged in a historic pennant race but finished second to the Red Sox. In 1969 Martin took over as manager, and both Carew and Harmon Killebrew led the Twins to the American League Championship Series, only to lose to the Orioles, after which Martin was fired in part for a now-legendary bar fight. Bill Rigney took the helm in 1970 and steered the Twins to a second-straight division title and ALCS loss to the Orioles.

In *The Pride of Minnesota*, Henninger details these pennant races, from the key moments and games to the personalities of the players involved."

LITERARY LICENSE, JUNE-AUGUST 2021

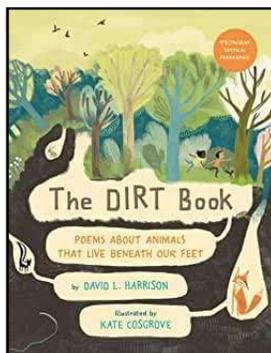


Dan Burns' book *A Necessary Explosion: Collected Poems* (Chicago Arts Press) came out on June 25. It is Dan's first poetry collection, 15 years in the making.

From the publisher: "*A Necessary Explosion* is an act Dan Burns performs daily to expel the stories pressing on his mind.

"Only by getting words down onto the page can he make room for all that comes next.

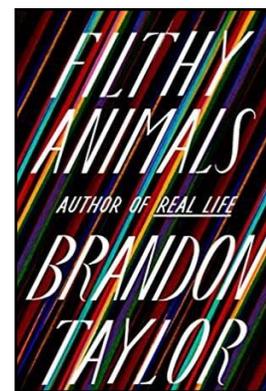
"Exploring the themes of life, love, family, writing, music, travel, history and humanity's future, this collection artfully conveys the words of a craftsman in relatable, accessible poems."



101ST BOOK

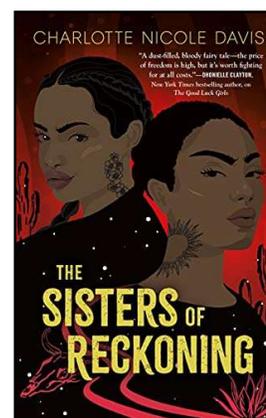
The Dirt Book: Poems About Animals That Live Beneath Our Feet (Holiday House, June 8, 2021) is **David L. Harrison's** 101st book. From the publisher: "Fifteen fun and fact-filled poems about soil.

"This book unearths some of the glorious mysteries that lie beneath our feet! Dirt is made of chipped rocks, rotting plants, decaying animals, fungi, and germs. It's food for plants and home to animals of all kinds."



'SUMPTUOUS, MELANCHOLIC PORTRAITS'

The New York Times Book Review says 2021 Midland Authors award winner **Brandon Taylor's** new book *Filthy Animals* (Riverhead Books, June 22, 2021) is "Sumptuous, melancholic portraits of characters overwhelmed. . . . Taylor has a talent for taking the dull hum of quotidian life and converting it into lyrics. . . . These intimacies, often cozy, pair splendidly with the uglier, more brutal elements to establish the book's focus: the feral that lurks under the veneer. . . . A perfect companion piece for our nervous era."



NEW BOOK

2020 Midland Authors children's fiction award honoree **Charlotte Nicole Davis** has a new book out, *Sisters of Reckoning* (Tor Teen, Aug. 10, 2021).

From the publisher: "The Good Luck Girls are free. Aster's sister and friends have new lives across the border in Ferron, while Aster remains in Arketta,

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New Members

Thom Henninger is author of *The Pride of Minnesota: The Twins in the Turbulent 1960s* (University of Nebraska Press, 2021) and *Tony Oliva: The Life and Times of a Minnesota Twins Legend* (University of Minnesota Press, 2015). He is also a contributor to other books, including *Play It Again: Baseball Experts on What Might Have Been*.

He is a St. Paul, Minnesota, native and editor at Baseball Digest, and his work has appeared in ESPN Insider. For more than 17 years he wrote for STATS LLC, where his column “Thom’s Take” ran weekly.

He also has authored player profiles for Baseball America.

He was nominated by **Stuart Shea**.



Thom Henninger

Karla Clark is the author of five children’s books, three novels, a short story collection, with a fourth novel on the way.



Karla J. Clark

Among her books are *You Be Mommy* (Feiweil & Friends, 2020); *Everybody and Their Brother* (AuthorHouse, 2017); *Three Ways to Be Brave: A Trio of Stories* (Rise x Penguin Workshop, 2021); *You Be Daddy* (Feiweil & Friends, 2021), and

Anna’s Heaven (AuthorHouse, 2008).

She was born in Rockford, Illinois, where she still lives, and has a degree from Northern Illinois University.

She was nominated by **Dick Simpson**.

Joe Kolman is the author of the novel *Naked Opinion* (Harriman House, 2007) and has a forthcoming book, *6,000 Votes*.

He also is a documentary filmmaker. He has written free-lance articles for publications ranging from the Chicago Reader to The Economist.

Kolman began his career in 1983 as an associate editor at Institutional Investor magazine. In 1992, he started Derivatives Strategy, a publication that explained the nascent market in over-the-counter derivatives in plain English. The publication quickly became the leading magazine covering the U.S. derivatives market. In 2005, he became a vice president at AllianceBernstein Investments. He has been a fellow at the MacDowell Colony.

He was nominated by **Dick Simpson**.

Patricia Clark, an associate professor in the Writing Department and poet-in-residence at Grand Valley State

University, Michigan, is author of six volumes of poetry, including *Self-Portrait with a Million Dollars* (Terrapin Books, 2020); *The Canopy* (Terrapin Books, 2016), and *Sunday Rising* (Michigan State University Press, 2013). She has also pub-



Patricia Clark

lished three chapbooks: *Deadlifts* (New Michigan Press, 2018), *Wreath for the Red Admiral* (lulu.com, 2016) and *Given the Trees* (Voices from the American Land, 2009). *The Canopy* won the 2018 PSV Book of the Year Award.

Clark’s poetry has appeared in The Atlantic, Poetry, Slate, New England Review and other publications.

She was nominated by **Thomas Frisbie**.

Carrie A. Pearson, a former early elementary teacher, is the author of *A Warm Winter Tail* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2012); *A Cool Summer Tail* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2014), and *Stretch to the Sun: From A Tiny Sprout to the Tallest Tree on Earth* (Charlesbridge, 2018)

She hikes, bikes, runs, skis, windsurfs, kayaks, and swims – and writes about what she experiences.



Carrie A. Pearson

Carrie lives in Marquette, Michigan, with her husband and their three daughters.

She is the co-Regional Advisor of SCBWI-Michigan and is a member of several other literacy-based organizations.

Stretch to the Sun won a silver Eureka Award for outstanding nonfiction from the California Reading Association. *A Warm Winter Tail* won the Gelett Burgess Nature for All Ages Award and was selected for the Great Lakes, Great Reads literary campaign.

She was nominated by **Dick Simpson**.

Literary Latest

Continued from Page 11

helping more girls escape.

“But news of a new welcome house opening fills Aster with a need to do more than just help individual girls. And an unexpected reunion gives her an idea of how to do it.

“From there, grows a wildly ambitious plan to free all dustbloods, who live as prisoners to Arketta’s landmasters and debt slavery.

“When Clementine and the others return from Ferron, they become the heart of a vibrant group of fearless fighters, working to unite the various underclasses and convince them to join in the fight.

“Along the way, friendships will be



Charlotte Nicole Davis

BRETT PRUITT

forged, lives will be lost, and love will take root even in the harshest of circumstances, between the most unexpected of lovers.”

School Library Journal wrote, “Davis has a knack for effortlessly tying in character development to the fast-moving plot. Readers will enjoy meeting and continuing to get to know the diverse cast[.] This book is hard to put down and readers will be inspired by its ending. ... Perfect for fans of *Snowpiercer* and *Firefly*.”

Printers Row Lit Fest Sept. 11-12

Printers Row Lit Fest, the Midwest's largest outdoor literary festival, is returning on Saturday, Sept. 11, and Sunday, Sept. 12, and the Midland Authors will once again participate. Both members and nonmembers will be able to showcase and sell books under a tent that we will rent at the festival, which takes place in the Printers Row area of the South Loop, primarily along Dearborn Street.

Midland Authors members can reserve a two-hour time slot for half of one table. The cost would be \$25 for most time slots – or just \$15 for the 4-6 p.m. time slots.

Space is limited, so please respond asap. If you'd like to participate, email **Joe Gustaitis** at jagustaitis@yahoo.com with your first and second preferences from these time slots. We will confirm all time slots with authors and let them know about payment details.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11

10 a.m. - noon
noon - 2 p.m.
2 - 4 p.m.



James Finn Garner (from left), Tim Chapman and Joseph Peterson at the Midland Authors tent at the 2016 Printers Row Lit Fest.

4 - 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 12

10 a.m. - noon
noon - 2 p.m.
2 - 4 p.m.
4 - 6 p.m.

In addition, Midland Authors members and nonmembers will be able to rent one table for \$330 or one-half of a table for \$180 – over both days – with a 10% discount for members. This approach would

give an author the best opportunity to sell a significant number of books. Table preferences within the Midland Authors tent will be given on a first-come, first-served basis. Again, email Joe Gustaitis asap at jagustaitis@yahoo.com asap.

Participants are responsible for bringing their own books, selling them, collecting the money and taking away any unsold copies. They must remain at their table for the duration of their assigned time.

Final Chapters

It was at a Midland Authors annual dinner that **Bill Barnhart** first met Alex Schwartz, director of the Northern Illinois University Press, who was seated at the same table. Schwartz was intrigued with Barnhart's book project at that time, and the NIU Press wound up publishing Mr. Barnhart's biography of former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, co-authored with **Gene Schlickman**.

The book, *John Paul Stevens: An Independent Life*, went on to win the Midland Authors 2011 Biography Award (later renamed the Bernard J. Brommel Award for Biography and Memoir).

Mr. Barnhart, a longtime Midland Authors member and contributor to the organization died on July 3 of liver disease at Tidwell Hospice in Sarasota, Florida. He was 74.

Mr. Barnhart, a former Chicago Tribune reporter, editor and columnist, and Schlickman also were honored by the Midland Authors as finalists for the 2000 Biography Award for their 1999 book,

LITERARY LICENSE, JUNE-AUGUST 2021

Kerner: The Conflict of Intangible Rights (University of Illinois Press), an account of former Illinois Gov. Otto Kerner.

Of his biography of John Paul Stevens, Mr. Barnhart wrote, "Writing about Justice John Paul Stevens was a challenge, in part because Stevens rarely grants interviews and in part because the work of the Supreme Court of the United States seems impenetrable to many people. But I figured that if I could figure out over-the-counter swaps on Wall Street I could figure out the Supreme Court."

Former FCC chairman Newton N. Minow wrote of the Stevens biography, "Bill Barnhart and Gene Schlickman combine their exhaustive research with insightful analysis to give readers a splendid biography of the Supreme Court's most respected member."

Legal writer Jeffrey Toobin called the book "terrific."

Barnhart, who retired from the Tribune in 2008, and Schlickman interviewed Stevens and a large number of Stevens' friends and family members, former

clerks, current colleagues, politicians and court watchers. They spoke with such public figures as former President Ford, former Ford chief of staff Donald Rumsfeld, and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Interviews with Stevens' children and one of his brothers provided personal insights into the man behind the robe. The

book also included tales of his childhood, of growing up in an affluent family in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood, and of the family business, including the Stevens Hotel (now the Chicago Hilton and Towers).

Barnhart and Schlickman also traced Stevens' early years as a Chicago lawyer, his

appointment to the federal appeals bench in Chicago, and his nomination to the Supreme Court by Republican President Ford.

Mr. Barnhart received master's degrees in business and education from the University of Chicago. He also enjoyed playing golf and the banjo, and he was a fan of bluegrass music.

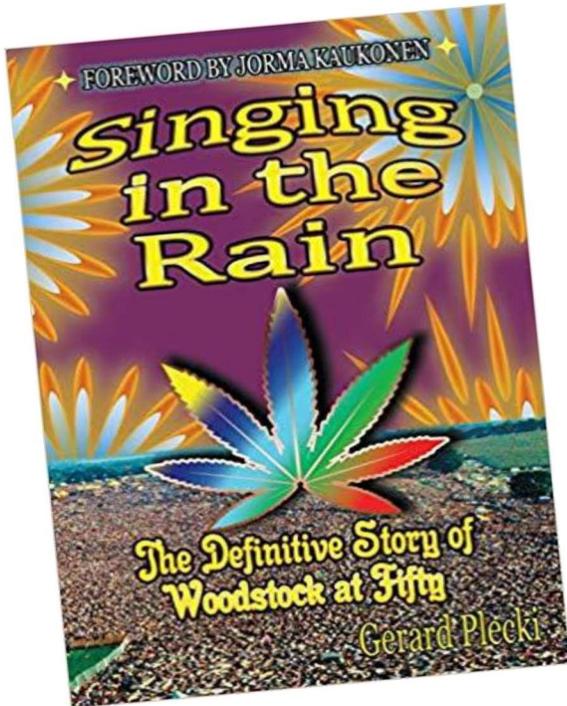


Bill Barnhart

MIDLAND AUTHORS

presents

A look back at Woodstock



Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Cocktail hour: 6-7 pm; Panel discussion: 7-8 pm

Cliff Dwellers Club, 200 S. Michigan Ave.

22nd floor penthouse — with a great view of Millennium Park!

Free, open to the public; free appetizers, cash bar

Also via Zoom: <https://bit.ly/3qvYTcK> (no need to register)

***Singing in the Rain: The Definitive Story of Woodstock at Fifty*, by Gerard Plecki**

Foreword by Jorma Kaukonen of the Jefferson Airplane.

An inside look at the creative energy and seminal performances that shaped this legendary event. This is the only publication that reviews every song performed by every musician at the iconic festival.

Plecki will discuss his book in conversation with **Walter Podrazik**, television historian and analyst, and lecturer at the Dept. of Communication, University of Illinois, Chicago.

“Wally” is co-author of ten books, including *Watching TV: Eight Decades of American Television*.

Plecki has written articles on music and film criticism. His previous books include *Robert Altman*, an authoritative analysis of this unconventional American director’s films, and *Test Positive: Surviving COVID-19 in the Reign of Trump* (October 2020), a history of the pandemic in our country.

Plecki will discuss the inside story of how Woodstock came to be and impacted politics, music, society.

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For more information, contact Greg Borzo: (312) 636-8968; gregborzo54@gmail.com

**Note from the SMA Board of Directors:** *Members of the Society of Midland Authors are encouraged to nominate authors from our 12-state region who have published with a recognized publisher. The nominations will be considered by the SMA board at its next meeting. The 12 states are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin. The nomination form is below. Send it to Society of Midland Authors, P.O. Box 10419, Chicago, IL 60610. You can also email it as a PDF to Membership Secretary Thomas Frisbie at tomfrisbie@aol.com.*

**For the use of members only.**



## NOMINATION FORM

**Author Member:** Author Members must be an "author or co-author of a book demonstrating literary style and published by a recognized publisher, or of a published or professionally produced play."

**Associate Member:** Associate members (without voting rights) may be "persons having some connection with literature, such as librarians, teachers, publishers, and editors."

|                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Qualifying residence or place of birth:</p> <p>Biography:</p> | <p>Phone number(s):</p> <p>E-mail address:</p> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 5px;"> <p>Name of proposer:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p> </div> |
| <b>WORKS:</b>                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Title:</p> <p>1:</p> <p>2:</p> <p>3:</p> <p>4:</p> <p>5:</p> <p>6:</p> <p>7:</p> <p>8:</p> | <p>Publisher:</p> <p>Year:</p>                                                                                                                                       |

### Literary Largess

Dues cover mailings and other organizational expenses, but the Midland

Authors always needs additional money for programs such as the awards at the annual book awards banquet which will be held Sept. 14 this year at the Cliff

Dwellers Club in Chicago, instead of the usual May date.

Thanks to **Jamila Ra**, and **Christine Rice**, who made a recent contributions.

# *Midland Authors*

## *Dinner Registration Form*

The Midland Authors annual awards banquet will be held Sept. 14 at the Cliff Dwellers Club, 22nd floor, 200 S. Michigan, Chicago.

The reception with a cash bar will start at 6 p.m. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be **Carol Marin**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of medallions of pork tenderloin dinners at \$75 each. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Number of vegetarian (wild mushroom ravioli) dinners at \$75 each. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Number of grilled filet of salmon dinners at \$75 each. \_\_\_\_\_

Donation. . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Dinner Sponsorship (includes two dinner tickets and a mention in the awards dinner program). \$250. \_\_\_\_\_

Total . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip above form and mail to: Dinner Reservation, Society of Midland Authors, P.O. Box 10419, Chicago IL 60610  
 You may also download a similar form at our website, [www.midlandauthors.com](http://www.midlandauthors.com) or pay via PayPal.

Address Service Requested

Chicago IL 60610

P.O. Box 10419

Society of Midland Authors

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