

Oklahoma Book Awards



2002

A Celebration of
Oklahoma Books and Authors

Welcome
to the
13th Annual
Oklahoma Book
Awards
Ceremony



March 9, 2002

Petroleum Club
Oklahoma City

Oklahoma Book Awards 2002

Welcome.....	B.J. Williams President, Oklahoma Center for the Book
Master of Ceremonies.....	Michael Wallis 1999 Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient
Comments	Susan McVey Oklahoma Department of Libraries
Greetings from Washington	John Cole Center for the Book in the Library of Congress
Distinguished Service Award Presentation..... Presented to Daniel Blanchard	Laurie Sundborg Chair, Awards Committee Oklahoma Center for the Book
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man	M. Scott Carter Metropolitan Library System
Ralph Ellison Award Presentation	David Clark <i>World Literature Today</i>
Honoring John Berryman Presented to Kate Donahue	
Non-Fiction Award Presentation	Bob Burke Recipient of 1999 Oklahoma Book Award for Non-Fiction
Poetry Award Presentation	Sandra Soli Poet
Children/Young Adult Award Presentation	Bettie Estes-Rickner Board Member, Oklahoma Center for the Book
Design/Illustration Award Presentation.....	Bill Wallace 2000 Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient
Fiction Award Presentation	Joanie Stephenson Steve's Books, Tulsa
2002 Lifetime Achievement Award..... Presented to World Literature Today	Jim Tolbert Full Circle Bookstore, Oklahoma City Chair, <i>WLT</i> Board of Visitors
Announcements.....	Glenda Carlile Executive Director, Oklahoma Center for the Book

The book sale and signing continues following the dinner and ceremony. Please enjoy visiting with Book Award Finalists and Recipients.

John Berryman

Recipient of the 2002 Ralph Ellison Award

The 2002 recipient of the Ralph Ellison Award is John Berryman, poet, biographer, and editor. Born October 25, 1914, Berryman spent the first ten years of his life near McAlester, Oklahoma.

He earned an A.B. degree from Columbia University and a B.A. in 1938 from Clare College, Cambridge. Considered by many to be a brilliant teacher, Berryman taught literature at Wayne State, Harvard, Princeton, the University of Washington, and the University of Cincinnati. In 1955, he was appointed Regents Professor of Humanities at the University of Minnesota, where he spent the last years of his life.

With the publishing (in book form) of *Homage to Mistress Bradstreet* in 1956, John Berryman gained wide recognition and praise for originality as he began working within the voices of diverse personae. In *Bradstreet*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, he imagines and inhabits the dramatic voice of Early American poet Anne Bradstreet.

77 Dream Songs, for which he won the 1965 Pulitzer Prize, is widely considered a masterpiece—an essential work that continues to set him apart from any other poet. A series of sonnet-like poems, this book is a harrowing and intimate exploration of the depths of a human soul using a number of memorable and sometimes comic alter egos (including “Henry” and “Mr. Bones”). Berryman continued to add to this sequence of poems, and the complete *Dream Songs* eventually numbered nearly 400.

His Toy, His Dream, His Rest (a companion piece to *77 Dream Songs*) won the National Book Award (1969) and the Bollingen Prize. Other important works include *Berryman's Sonnets*, *Love and Fame*, and his novel *Recovery*.

Berryman received two Guggenheim Fellowships (1952 and 1966) during his career. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy of American Poets in 1966 and served as a Chancellor from 1968 until his death.

Berryman, who never recovered from the childhood shock of his father's suicide, was prone to emotional instability and heavy drinking throughout his life. Tragically, he ended his own life on January 7, 1972.

The Ralph Ellison Award

From time to time, the Ralph Ellison Award, honoring a deceased Oklahoma writer, is presented. The award is named after the first recipient, Ralph Ellison, who received the award in 1995. The 1997 recipient was Angie Debo. Melvin B. Tolson was honored in 1998. In 2000, Jim Thompson received the award.

Dream Song 1

John Berryman

Huffy Henry hid the day,
unappeasable Henry sulked.
I see his point,—a trying to put things over.
It was the thought that they thought
they could do it made Henry wicked & away.
But he should have come out and talked.

All the world like a woolen lover
once did seem on Henry's side.
Then came a departure.
Thereafter nothing fell out as it might or ought.
I don't see how Henry, pried
open for all the world to see, survived.

What he has now to say is a long
wonder the world can bear & be.
Once in a sycamore I was glad
all at the top, and I sang.
Hard on the land wears the strong sea
and empty grows every bed.

From *The Dream Songs* by John Berryman,
published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc.
Copyright © 1959, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965,
1966, 1967, 1968, 1969 by John Berryman.

Daniel Blanchard

Recipient of the **2002
Distinguished Service Award**

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to Dan Blanchard in recognition of his outstanding service to the Oklahoma Center for the Book and Oklahoma's literary community.

Blanchard was a founding member of the Oklahoma Center for the Book and has served as president, award committee chairman, and judge. Dan was very instrumental in the development of the Oklahoma Book Award program. He has been the master of ceremonies for eleven of the thirteen award ceremonies.

Active in the book community, Dan was Director of the American Institute of Discussion for over forty years. He is co-owner of the Grapevine Gallery in Oklahoma City.

2002 Oklahoma Book Award **Finalists**

Nonfiction

He Made it Safe to Murder: The Life of Moman Pruiett

Howard K. Berry Sr.—Oklahoma Heritage Association, Oklahoma City

As a young lawyer, Berry met criminal attorney Moman Pruiett in the 1930s. For more than six decades the story of Pruiett remained untold. The publisher dropped this original 1940s manuscript because many of the participants were still living and the publisher feared legal action. It is the story of the time when justice often took a backseat to courtroom antics, and when knowledge of the law was secondary to showmanship. Berry died on March 9, 2001, a few weeks prior to publication of his book.

Gifts of Pride and Love: Kiowa and Comanche Cradles

Edited by **Barbara A. Hail**—Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University

Hail has collected and contributed stories about the deep connection of the Kiowa and Comanche people to their traditional cradles. A unique art form, both beautiful and functional, cradles were often exquisitely beaded and prepared by the grandmothers, mothers, aunts and male relatives. Hail investigates the cultural significance of the cradles with the descendants of and current cradle makers. She is deputy director and curator of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology.

Seldom Disappointed: A Memoir—**Tony Hillerman**—Harper-Collins, New York

Looking back 76 years, Hillerman provides a wry and whimsical memoir, offering glances of the places and events that have provided plots, characters and contexts for his many novels. Stories about his upbringing, education, military and journalism experience, and family life are humorous, humbling, and heartwarming. Hillerman is past president of the Mystery Writers of America. He received the Oklahoma Center for the Book's Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award in 1991.

Indian Orphanages—**Marilyn Irvin Holt**—University Press of Kansas, Lawrence

Holt weaves Indian history with educational history, family history, and child welfare policy to tell the story of Indian orphanages. Engaging the larger context of the orphan asylum in America, Holt relates the cultural factors that produced and sustained the institution, and shows how orphans became a part of native experience after Euro-American contact. Holt is former director of publications at the Kansas Historical Society and has served as a research consultant for the PBS *American Experience* series.

The Unfinished Bombing: Oklahoma City In American Memory

Edward T. Linenthal—Oxford University Press, New York

A poignant and provocative look at the ways Oklahomans and American culture at large have responded to, and tried to make sense of, the Oklahoma City Bombing tragedy. Linenthal writes about bonds of affection and acts of compassion that joined people locally and globally in the wake of the bombing. Linenthal is professor of religion and American culture at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh.

The Burning: Massacre, Destruction, and the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921

Tim Madigan—Thomas Dunne Books, St. Martin's Press, New York

Madigan explores the racism, hatred, and mistrust that contributed to the tragic Tulsa Race Riot of 1921. The author recreates the Greenwood community (the "Negro Wall Street of America") at the height of its prosperity, and recounts events leading to and including the riot, and the subsequent silence that surrounded the tragedy for decades. Madigan, named Texas Reporter of the Year in both 1996 and 1997, writes for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

***Winning the Dust Bowl*—Carter Revard**—University of Arizona Press, Tucson

A memoir in prose and poetry, Revard weaves bootleggers, bank robbers, activists and agitators in this work, described as lyrical in one breath and stinging political in the next. An award-winning poet and scholar, Revard was born on the Osage reservation, was a Rhodes scholar, holds a Ph.D. from Yale University, and is professor emeritus of English at Washington University in St. Louis.

Nothing Personal, Just Business: A Guided Journey Into Organizational Darkness

Howard F. Stein—Quorum Books, Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., Westport, CT

Approaching the dark side of organizations through use of symbol and metaphor, Stein reveals emotional savagery, brutality and psychological forms of violence, specifically intimidation, degradation, and dehumanization in today's organization. Stein succeeds in countering "all is well" pronouncements based on the narrow parameters of low unemployment and high productivity. Stein is a professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

***Letters from the Dust Bowl*—Caroline Henderson**

Edited by **Alvin O. Turner**—University of Oklahoma Press, Norman

Caroline Henderson moved to Oklahoma's panhandle to homestead and teach in 1907. This collection of her letters and articles, written between 1908 and 1965, presents an intimate portrait of a woman's life in the Great Plains. Henderson, who died in 1965, was often published in *Atlantic Monthly* and her articles are frequently cited for vivid descriptions of the dust storms of the time. Turner is Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, East Central University, Ada.

Woven Worlds: Basketry from the Clark Field Collection

Edited by **Lydia L. Wyckoff**—Philbrook Museum of Art, Inc., Tulsa

The Clark Field Collection at the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa is recognized as one of the most comprehensive basketry collections in North America. Baskets reflect the social, cultural, and environmental experience of Native American peoples. Through the collection, the weavers, their baskets, and their traditions are highlighted. Wyckoff holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Yale University and served as curator of Native American art at Philbrook from 1991 to 1998.

Poetry

On a Wing of the Sun: Three Volumes of Poetry

Jim Barnes—University of Illinois Press, Urbana and Chicago

Barnes, a native Oklahoman, is currently the writer-in-residence and professor of comparative literature at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. He is the winner of the American Book Award, the Pushcart Prize, the Stanley Hanks Memorial Poetry award, and the 1993 Oklahoma Book Award for poetry. This book brings together three acclaimed collections of Barnes's poetry.

The Scent of Water: New and Selected Poems

Ivy Dempsey—La Alameda Press, Albuquerque

The Scent of Water maps a pilgrimage from a child's puzzled awakening, through the shock of adult despair, toward the humbling wisdom of acceptance. It provides a wide range of landscapes—the trees, skies, and waters of Oklahoma, Kansas, California, and New Mexico. Dempsey lives in Tulsa.

The Stones for a Pillow—Diane Glancy

National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) Press, Rochester, MI

Glancy's writings are familiar to Oklahomans as she has previously been a finalist in fiction, non-fiction and poetry categories of this competition. She lived in Oklahoma for many years, and is now associate professor at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. These poems, which open our eyes to the possibilities in a troubled and beautiful world, add to her already impressive work. *The Stones for a Pillow* is winner of the 2000 NFSPS Stevens Poetry Manuscript competition.

The Penultimate Suitor—Mary Leader—University of Iowa Press, Iowa City

Mary Leader teaches at the University of Memphis and in the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. She was formerly a referee for the Oklahoma Supreme Court and an assistant attorney general for the state. Her first book, *Red Signature*, was a finalist for the Oklahoma Book

Award. The poems in *The Penultimate Suitor* turn upon and return to the infuriating and glorious correlations between love and art.

Playing the Messages Twice: Poems and Collaborations

Ann E. Weisman—Rose Rock Press, Lawton

Weisman has been a poet or artist-in-the-schools for the state arts councils of Montana, Oklahoma, and South Carolina. She was born in Tulsa and lived in Oklahoma at the time of publication of this book. She now lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. *Playing the Messages Twice* brings together poetry written, published, performed and “collaborated” during the past two decades. One piece, “Good Pieces of Advice I’ve Been Given,” is a collaboration between the author and audiences in Tulsa and Lawton.

Children/Young Adult

Woody Guthrie: Poet of the People—Bonnie Christensen—Alfred A. Knopf, New York

This book celebrates the life and spirit of an American original—the great folk musician Woody Guthrie. Christensen is a fine artist and printmaker who teaches at St. Michael’s College in Vermont, and in the summer teaches in Venice, Italy. The author created the illustrations in this book. Christensen lives in Colchester, Vermont with her daughter Emily.

The Rachel Resistance—Molly Levite Griffis—Eakin Press, Austin

Griffis begins her book on a day that will live in infamy—Pearl Harbor Day. The heroine, Rachel, listens to Captain Midnight on the radio, becomes a member of his secret squadron, and becomes convinced there are spies in her hometown of Apache, Oklahoma. The author of three books, Griffis is a publisher, bookseller, former English teacher, and a master storyteller. She lives in Norman.

The Million Dollar Kick—Dan Gutman—Hyperion Books for Children, New York

Oklahoma City seventh-grader Whisper Nelson hates sports. But she wins a chance to kick a goal past a professional soccer star for a million dollars! Should she try it, risking failure and humiliation, or forget the whole thing and save her dignity? Gutman is the author of many novels for young people, including the winner of the Oklahoma Library Association’s 2000 Sequoyah Children’s Book Award *The Million Dollar Shot*, a basketball story.

Stolen by the Sea—Anna Myers—Walker & Company, New York

Myers is a two-time winner of the Oklahoma Book Award in the children/young adult category. She won in 1993 for *Red Dirt Jessie* and in 1996 for *Graveyard Girl*. *Stolen by the Sea* is about a young girl’s fight for survival and struggle with jealousy during the Galveston hurricane. Myers is a former teacher. She lives in Chandler.

***Rain is Not My Indian Name*—Cynthia Leitich Smith**

HarperCollins Children's Books, New York

Smith was a finalist in the 2001 children/young adult category for *Jingle Dancer*. A mixed-blood member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Smith grew up in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. She currently lives in Austin, Texas. In this book, a grief-stricken teenager, who has isolated herself, begins to open up to the world again—via the lens of her camera.

Design/Illustration

Woven Worlds: Basketry from the Clark Field Collection

Design by **Carl Brune**—Philbrook Museum of Art, Inc., Tulsa

The Field collection reflects the diversity and resiliency of Native American peoples and their basketry traditions as they have responded to change over time. Brune weaves historical photos, maps, graphics, and photos of collection pieces to help tell this story. Brune is graphics and publication manager at the Philbrook.

***Traveling Route 66*—Design by Phillip Clucas—University of Oklahoma Press, Norman**

A colorful illustrated history of the fabled mother road and its landmarks. More than 240 full-color illustrations reveal the unique culture along the road, from neon signs and historic landmarks to favorite cars and recipes popular along the highway. Clucas resides in London, England

***The Philosophers' Club*—Illustration by Kim Doner—Tricycle Press, Berkeley**

When Doner is not busy illustrating her own writing, she is helping other authors with her warm and playful artwork. She received the Oklahoma Book Award for design/illustration in 1996 for *Green Snake Ceremony*. Her 2000 book *Buffalo Dreams* earned her finalist spots in both the Children/Young Adult and Design/Illustration categories. A native Oklahoman, Doner lives in Tulsa. In *The Philosophers' Club*, answers to questions just lead to other questions.

Gifts of Pride and Love: Kiowa and Comanche Cradles

Designed by **Barbara Hail**—Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University

Editor Barbara Hail also directed design of this book celebrating the Kiowa and Comanche cradles made by grandmothers and mothers, aunts, and other relatives. These works of art, passed down through generations, were gifts of pride and love. Hail is Deputy Director and Curator of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University. She is co-editor of *Collecting Native America, 1870-1960*, Smithsonian Press, 1999.

The House Oklahoma Built: A History of the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion

Designed by **Carol Haralson**—Oklahoma Heritage Association

Haralson is the recipient of a record five Oklahoma Book Awards. She has been honored for her design of *Cleora's Kitchens*, 1991; *Will Rogers: Courtship and Correspondence*, 1993; *Big Bluestem: A Journey into the Tall Grass*, 1997; *Visions and Voices: Native American Painting from the Philbrook Museum of Art*, 1998; and *Glory Days of Summer: The History of Baseball in Oklahoma*, 2000. Haralson now resides in Sedona, Arizona.

Fiction

***Fire in Beulah*—Rilla Askew**—Viking, New York

As modern day Oklahoma confronts the tragedy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot, a native daughter lends her voice. Askew's novel, although fictional, portrays actual events that occurred during the riot. Askew is a two-time winner of the Oklahoma Book Awards. She was honored in 1993 for a collection of stories, *Strange Business*, and in 1998 for her novel *The Mercy Seat*. She divides her time between the San Bois Mountains of southeastern Oklahoma and upstate New York.

***Clear Creek*—Don Ballew**—Writers Showcase, iUniverse.com, Lincoln, NE

A portrayal of two plebeian families, one Caucasian and one Cherokee, living in the Appalachian Mountains from 1790 to 1840. This was a period of crisis for the new nation called the United States of America. Ballew is a dentist in Oklahoma City. He grew up in rural Cherokee County, Oklahoma, where his father and grandmother are listed on the Cherokee rolls.

***An Uncommon Enemy*—Michelle Black**

A Forge Book, Tom Doherty Associates, LLC, New York

Before Little Big Horn, there was the Battle of the Washita. On the day after Thanksgiving, 1868, George Armstrong Custer and the Seventh Cavalry attacked the village of Chief Black Kettle, the peace chief of the Cheyenne Nation. Against this historical backdrop, the author tells the story of Eden, a white woman discovered living with the Cheyenne. Black is a former lawyer and bookstore owner from Overland, Kansas. Her novels have won book awards from the Colorado Independent Publishers Association.

***Resort to Murder*—Carolyn Hart**—William Morrow, New York

Henrietta O'Dwyer Collins, better known as Henrie O. has appeared in five other critically acclaimed Hart novels. An accomplished master of mystery, Hart is the author of twelve *Death on Demand* novels, which have won multiple Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity awards. One of the founders of Sisters in Crime, Hart lives in Oklahoma City. She is the recipient of the 2001 Oklahoma Book Award for fiction for *Sugar Plum Dead*.

***Flatbellies*—Alan B. Hollingsworth**—Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI

Flatbellies is a fictionalized memoir of Hollingsworth's teenage years. Set in a small Oklahoma town in the mid-1960s, the book is partly about the seemingly unreachable goal of a high school golf team to win the state championship. It is more about learning to deal with love, loss, friendships and coming of age. Hollingsworth is a surgeon and the Medical Director for the Women's Center at Mercy in Oklahoma City. This is his first published book of fiction. He is also a non-fiction author, and is currently writing more works of both fiction and non-fiction. He no longer plays golf.

***The Captain's Wife*—Douglas Kelley**—Dutton, Penguin Putnam, Inc., New York

This epic historical novel tells the story of Mary Patten, one of the only women in American history to take command of a full-rigged merchant sailing ship. In 1856, nineteen year old Patten sets sail from New York with her husband and a crew of thirty men to sail around Cape Horn to San Francisco. When her husband falls ill, she heroically takes charge of the ship. This is the first novel for Kelley who is a corporate pilot. He makes his home in the small town of Pocola, Oklahoma.

***Perhaps She'll Die*—Marcia K. Preston**—Intrigue Press, Philadelphia

A mystery/suspense novel set in a small Oklahoma town, this is the story of a young woman who returns home determined to discover the truth about her father's death and her mother's disappearance. She soon finds the town would like those secrets kept hidden. Preston currently edits and publishes *ByLine*, a small-press trade magazine for writers. Preston has written numerous short stories and magazine articles. This is her first novel. She lives in Edmond.

***A Sky for Arcadia*—Janet Taliaferro**—Xlibris, Philadelphia

Set in the early eighties, this is the story of Mary Ann, who awakens from the nightmare of an attempted suicide to what she considers the nightmare of daily life. The book chronicles her struggle to live without alcohol and drugs while trying to save a business, her surviving child, and her soul. Taliaferro was born in and grew up in Oklahoma City. She holds an MA from the University of Central Oklahoma in creative studies. She now lives in Alexandria, Virginia but maintains an office in Oklahoma City.

World Literature Today

Recipient of the **2002 Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award**

For the first time, the Oklahoma Center for the Book presents the annual Arrell Gibson Award not to an individual, but to an institution—*World Literature Today*, the world's oldest international literary quarterly in English. This year marks the 75th anniversary of this Oklahoma-born, world-renowned journal and its affiliated programs.

Scholar Roy Temple House founded the journal under the name *Books Abroad* in 1927. Dr. House directed the department of modern languages at The University of Oklahoma. A proponent of internationalism, he believed a non-ideological commentary on foreign literature could help counter America's trend toward isolationism, and promote international understanding.

From a modest seedling of thirty-two pages (January 1927), *Books Abroad* grew to 256 pages by the end of its 50th year (the Autumn 1976 issue). In January 1977, under the direction of Ivar Ivask, the journal became *World Literature Today*, reflecting the truly international range that its coverage and reputation had acquired.

Dr. Ivask, the journal's fifth director, was also responsible for initiating the journal's international award for literature in 1969. Today, the Neustadt International Prize for Literature, supported by an endowment from the Neustadt family of Ardmore and Dallas, remains one of the few international prizes for which poets, novelists, and playwrights are equally eligible.

Another journal-sponsored event, the Puterbaugh Conferences on World Literature, brings a prominent author to The University of Oklahoma each spring for free lectures. In conjunction with the lectures, *World Literature Today* sponsors a symposium featuring world-renowned scholars and specialists in the author's work. The conference series began in 1968 and was endowed in perpetuity in 1978 by the Puterbaugh Foundation of McAlester.

After 75 years, *WLT* continues to promote international understanding through the celebration of literature. A new award honoring children's literature will debut in 2003. In addition, the journal has begun a new venture: *WLT Magazine*, designed for both the general public and the scholar. In his introduction to the inaugural issue, current director Robert Con Davis-Undiano writes, "In creating a magazine that may reach a wider public, we are attempting to enlarge that circle of understanding, as has always been the goal at both *Books Abroad* and *WLT*."

The Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award

The Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award is presented each year to recognize a body of work. This award was named for the Norman historian who served as the first president of the Oklahoma Center for the Book.



Officers and Board of Directors

President—**B.J. Williams**—Oklahoma City
Vice-President—**Lynn McIntosh**—Ardmore
Secretary—**Glenda Madden**—Norman
Treasurer—**Bettie Estes-Rickner**—Mustang

The Oklahoma Center for the Book is a state affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and is organized to focus attention on the vital role of books and reading in our lives. The Center promotes the past, current, and future works of Oklahoma authors; promotes the literary heritage of the state; and encourages reading for pleasure by Oklahomans of all ages.

When the Library of Congress announced the granting of permission to States to become part of their program, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries assembled an advisory group and wrote a proposal. The Oklahoma Center for the Book became the fourth state center on February 28, 1986.

The Center is governed by a volunteer board of directors from across the state.

Diane Canavan—Shawnee
David Clark—Norman
Liz Coddig—Edmond
Kim Doner—Tulsa
Julia Fresonke—Oklahoma City
Ann Hamilton—Edmond
Carol Hamilton—Midwest City
Mort Hamilton—Ardmore
Joe Holmes—Oklahoma City
Julie Hovis—Edmond
Angie Jackson—Tulsa
Jim Keith—Oologah
Susan McVey—Oklahoma City

Teresa Miller—Tulsa
Anna Myers—Chandler
Joyce PIPps—Shawnee
Marcia Preston—Edmond
Byron Price—Norman
Diane Seebass—Tulsa
Dean Sims—Tulsa
Sue Stees—Tulsa
Laurie Sundborg—Tulsa
M.J. Van Deventer—Oklahoma City
Gerry Willingham—Oklahoma City
William R. Young—Oklahoma City

Oklahoma Center for the Book

Project Highlights

The Oklahoma Center for the Book in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries has participated in several events in the past twelve months, and has made commitments for events later this year.

Kids Caught Reading is an annual activity of the Center, and is part of Oklahoma's *Celebration of Reading*. The Center will once again give \$25 prizes to ten students from across the state who are caught reading in their spare time. The prizes will be presented at the *Celebration of Reading* on April 12, 2002 at the Lloyd Nobel Center in Norman.

The Center is cosponsoring, for the eighth year, the *Letters about Literature* competition. Nationally promoted by *Weekly Reader* and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, students in grades 6 through 12 are asked to write letters to the author of a book that affected them in some way. The Center awards a total of \$350 to writers of the top six letters.

The Oklahoma Center of the Book is also providing funds to the Oklahoma Library Association to sponsor Oklahoma fiction writer and two-time winner of the Oklahoma Book Awards, William Bernhardt, as banquet speaker April 19, 2002.

The Center is working with the University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, and the Oklahoma Historical Society in the development of an Oklahoma Authors database.

The Oklahoma Center for the Book's website address is www.odl.state.ok.us/ocb

Fiction

- 1990, Robert Love Taylor, *The Lost Sister*
- 1991, Linda Hogan, *Mean Spirit*
- 1992, Robert L. Duncan, *The Serpent's Mark*
- 1993, Rilla Askew, *Strange Business*
- 1994, Eve Sandstrom, *Down Home Heifer Heist*
- 1995, William Bernhardt, *Perfect Justice*
- 1996, Billie Letts, *Where the Heart Is*
- 1997, Stewart O'Nan, *The Names of the Dead*
- 1998, Rilla Askew, *The Mercy Seat*
- 1999, Billie Letts, *The Honk and Holler Opening Soon*
- 2000, William Bernhardt, *Dark Justice*
- 2001, Carolyn Hart, *Sugarplum Dead*

Non-Fiction

- 1990, Leonard Leff, *Hitchcock & Selznick*
- 1991, Carl Albert and Danney Goble, *Little Giant*
- 1992, David Morgan, Robert England, and George Humphreys, *Oklahoma Politics & Policies: Governing the Sooner State*
- 1993, Henry Bellmon and Pat Bellmon, *The Life and Times of Henry Bellmon;* and Daniel Boorstin, *The Creators*
- 1994, J. Brent Clark, *3rd Down and Forever*
- 1995, Dennis McAuliffe Jr., *The Deaths of Sybil Bolton*
- 1996, William Paul Winchester, *A Very Small Farm*
- 1997, Annick Smith, *Big Bluestem: A Journey into the Tall Grass*
- 1998, John Hope Franklin and John Whittington Franklin, Editors, *My Life and an Era: The Autobiography of Buck Colbert Franklin*
- 1999, Bob Burke, *From Oklahoma to Eternity: The Life of Wiley Post and the Winnie Mae*
- 2000, Michael Wallis, *The Real Wild West: The 101 Ranch and the Creation of the American West*
- 2001, David LaVere, *Contrary Neighbors: Southern Plains and Removed Indians in Indian Territory*

Children/ Young Adult

- 1990, Helen Roney Sattler, *Tyrannosaurus Rex and His Kin*
- 1991, Stan Hoig, *A Capitol for the Nation*
- 1992, Jess and Bonnie Speer, *Hillback to Boggy*
- 1993, Anna Myers, *Red Dirt Jessie*
- 1994, Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith, *Cherokee Summer*
- 1995, Russell G. Davis and Brent Ashabraner, *The Choctaw Code*
- 1996, Anna Myers, *Graveyard Girl*
- 1997, Barbara Snow Gilbert, *Stone Water*
- 1998, S. L. Rottman, *Hero*
- 1999, Barbara Snow Gilbert, *Broken Chords*
- 2000, Harold Keith, *Brief Garland: Ponytails, Basketball, and Nothing But Net*
- 2001, Joyce Carol Thomas, *Hush Songs*

Poetry

- 1990, **William Kistler**, *The Elizabeth Sequence*
1992, **Carol Hamilton**, *Once the Dust*
1993, **Jim Barnes**, *The Sawdust War*
1994, **Carter Revard**, *An Eagle Nation*
1995, **Joy Harjo**, *The Woman Who Fell from the Sky*
1996, **Francine Leffler Ringold-Johnson**, *The Trouble with Voices*
1997, **Renata Treitel**, translation of **Rosita Copioli's** *The Blazing Lights of the Sun*
1998, **Betty Shipley**, *Somebody Say Amen*
1999, **Mark Cox**, *Thirty-Seven Years from the Stone*
2000, **N. Scott Momaday**, *In the Bear's House*
2001, **Carolyne Wright**, *Seasons of Mangoes and Brainfire*

Design/ Illustration

- 1990, **David E. Hunt**, *The Lithographs of Charles Banks Wilson*
1991, **Carol Haralson**, *Cleora's Kitchens*
1992, **Joe Williams**, *Woolaroc*
1993, **Carol Haralson**, *Will Rogers: Courtship and Correspondence;*
and **Kandy Radzinski**, *The Twelve Cats of Christmas*
1994, **Deloss McGraw**, *Fish Story*
1995, **Mike Wimmer**, *All the Places to Love*
1996, **Kim Doner**, *Green Snake Ceremony*
1997, **Carol Haralson** and **Harvey Payne**, *Big Bluestem: A Journey into the Tall Grass*
1998, **Carol Haralson**, *Visions and Voices:*
Native American Painting from the Philbrook Museum of Art
1999, **David Fitzgerald**, *Bison: Monarch of the Plains*
2000, **Carol Haralson**, *Glory Days of Summer: The History of Baseball in Oklahoma*
2001, **Lane Smith**, *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip*

Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award

- 1990, **Daniel Boorstin**, Librarian of Congress Emeritus, native of Tulsa
1991, **Tony Hillerman**, mystery writer, native of Sacred Heart
1992, **Savoie Lottinville**, Director of the University of Oklahoma Press for 30 years
1993, **Harold Keith**, Newbery Award winning children's author, Norman
1994, **N. Scott Momaday**, Pulitzer Prize winning Kiowa author, native of Lawton
1995, **R.A. Lafferty**, Hugo Award winning author, Tulsa
1996, **John Hope Franklin**, historian, native of Rentiesville
1997, **S.E. Hinton**, award winning author of young adult novels, Tulsa
1998, **Jack Bickham**, novelist, teacher and journalist, Norman
1999, **Michael Wallis**, award-winning historian and biographer, Tulsa
2000, **Bill Wallace**, prolific and popular writer of novels for young people, Chickasha
2001, **Joyce Carol Thomas**, children and adult fiction author and playwright, native of Ponca City

Ralph Ellison Award

- 1995, **Ralph Ellison**, National Book Award winner, Oklahoma City
1997, **Angie Debo**, "First Lady of Oklahoma History," Marshall
1999, **Melvin Tolson**, poet, journalist, and dramatist, Langston
2000, **Jim Thompson**, novelist and screenwriter, Anadarko

**The Oklahoma Center for the Book
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for the 2002 competition:**

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