



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing the 2019 Colorado Book Awards

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO (March 26, 2019) Colorado Book Awards finalists in the Mystery, Science Fiction/Fantasy, and Thriller categories will read on Friday, April 5 at 7 p.m. at BookBar, 4280 Tennyson Street, Denver, 80212. For added thrills, attendees can enjoy \$5 Blood Orange Sangrias while supplies last. Complimentary snacks will also be provided.

See below for a complete list of finalists and readings.

Margaret Mizushima will read from her mystery *Burning Ridge: A Timber Creek K-9 Mystery*. Her first novel, *Killing Trail*, was named Debut Mystery of the Month by Library Journal and was an RT Book Reviews Reviewers' Choice Award nominee. She balances writing with assisting her husband with their veterinary clinic and Angus cattle herd. This is her fourth mystery.

C. C. Harrison will read from her mystery *Death by G-String: A Coyote Canyon Ladies Ukulele Club Mystery*. Harrison has won national recognition for her suspense novels. *Death by G-String* is a finalist in the 2018 American Fiction Awards and on the short list for a 2018 Mystery and Mayhem Award. The book is set in Coyote Canyon, Colorado, a town inspired by the real Crested Butte.

Jeanne Winer will read from her mystery *Her Kind of Case: A Lee Isaacs, Esq., Novel*. A Colorado-based criminal defense attorney for 35 years, Winer is not unlike Lee Isaacs, the protagonist in *Her Kind of Case*. As a novelist, Winer uses her experience representing hundreds of defendants accused of kidnapping, sexual assault, robbery, and more and weaves in LGBTQ and feminist themes. Winer received the Dan Bradley Award from the National LGBT Bar Association for her trial work in *Romer v. Evans*, a landmark civil rights case that paved the way for the Obergefell decision in 2015, which legalized same-sex marriage throughout the United States.

Warren Hammond and Joshua Viola will read from their science fiction/fantasy novel *Denver Moon: The Minds of Mars*. Hammond is known for his gritty, futuristic KOP series. *KOP Killer* won the 2012 Colorado Book Award in Mystery. His novel *Tides of Maritima*, published in 2014, is a spy novel set in a science fictional world.

Viola is a Colorado Book Award finalist and the author of *The Bane of Yoto* and *Blackstar*. He edited the Denver Post best-selling anthologies, *Blood Business* and *Nightmares Unhinged*, and co-edited *Cyber World*, named one of the best science fiction anthologies of 2016 by Barnes & Noble.

Alex Acks will read from *Murder on the Titania and Other Steam-Powered Adventures*. Acks is a writer, geologist, and sharp-dressed sir. Their biker gang space witch novels, *Hunger Makes the Wolf* (winner of a 2017 Kitchie Award) and *Blood Binds the Pack*, were published by Angry Robot

Books under the pen name Alex Wells. They've had short fiction in *Strange Horizons*, *Crossed Genres*, *Daily Science Fiction*, *Lightspeed Magazine*, and more, and written movie reviews for *Strange Horizons* and *Mothership Zeta*.

L. D. Colter will read from her fantasy novel *While Gods Sleep*. Writing contemporary fantasy novels as L. D. Colter and epic fantasy as L. Deni Colter, Colter is also an active SFWA member with multiple short story publications. Her debut novel *A Borrowed Hell* was the winner of the 2018 Colorado Book Award for Science Fiction/Fantasy.

J.M. Mitchell will read from his thriller *Killing Godiva's Horse: A Novel*. Mitchell's novels of mystery and political intrigue borrow from his experiences in Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Zion National Parks, and as Chief of the National Park Service's Biology Division.

Carter Wilson will read from his thriller *Mister Tender's Girl*. Wilson is the USA Today-bestselling author of *The Comfort of Black*, which won the Colorado Book Award, the International Book Award, and the National Indie Excellence Award. His thrillers have received critical acclaim, including multiple starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*. He resides outside of Boulder.

Mark Stevens will read from the thriller *The Circumstantial Man* on behalf of **Gary Reilly**. Reilly's first published short story was included in *The Iowa Review* and the fourth volume of *The Pushcart Prize* in 1978. When he died in 2011, Reilly left behind 25 novels. Eleven have been published posthumously, including eight comic novels in *The Asphalt Warrior* series and a trilogy based on Reilly's experiences during the Vietnam War.

2019 Colorado Book Award Finalists

Anthology/Collection

False Faces: Twenty Stories About the Masks We Wear, edited by Warren Hammond and Angie Hodapp (RMFW Press)

Mechanical Animals: Tales at the Crux of Creatures and Tech, edited by Selena Chambers and Jason Heller (Hex Publishers)

Mile High Stories: 25 Years of Our Best Writing, edited by Geoff Van Dyke (Bower House)

Children's Literature

An Inconvenient Alphabet: Ben Franklin & Noah Webster's Spelling Revolution by Beth Anderson, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

The Little i Who Lost His Dot by Kimberlee Gard, illustrated by Sandie Sonke (Familius)

Mela and the Elephant by Dow Phumiruk, illustrated by Ziyue Chen (Sleeping Bear Press)

Creative Nonfiction

Bitterroot: A Salish Memoir of Adoption by Susan Devan Harness (University of Nebraska Press)

River of Lost Souls: The Science, Politics, and Greed behind the Gold King Mine Disaster by Jonathan P. Thompson (Torrey House Press)

Rough Beauty: Forty Seasons of Mountain Living by Karen Auvinen (Scribner, Simon & Schuster)

Tragedy Plus Time: A Tragi-Comic Memoir by Adam Cayton-Holland (Touchstone, Simon & Schuster)

General Fiction

Daughters of the Night Sky by Aimie K. Runyan (Lake Union Publishing)

Go Ask Fannie by Elisabeth Hyde (G. P. Putnam's Sons, Penguin Random House)

Rosary without Beads by Diana Holguin-Balogh (Five Star/Cengage Publishing)

General Nonfiction

Bombs Away: Militarization, Conservation, and Ecological Restoration by David C. Havlick (The University of Chicago Press)

Doggie in the Window by Rory Kress (Sourcebooks)

Strange Stars: David Bowie, Pop Music, and the Decade Sci-Fi Exploded by Jason Heller (Melville House Publishing)

Tales from an Uncertain World: What Other Assorted Disasters Can Teach Us About Climate Change by L. S. Gardiner (University of Iowa Press)

History

Remembering Lucile: A Virginia Family's Rise from Slavery and a Legacy Forged a Mile High by Polly E. Bugros McLean (University Press of Colorado)

The Woolly West: Colorado's Hidden History of Sheepscapes by Andrew Gulliford (Texas A&M University Press)

WWI Crusaders: A Band of Yanks in German-Occupied Belgium Help Save Millions from Starvation as Civilians Resist the Harsh German Rule by Jeffrey B. Miller (Milbrow Press)

Juvenile Literature

Del Toro Moon by Darby Karchut (Owl Hollow Press)

The Lighthouse between the Worlds by Melanie Crowder (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, Simon & Schuster)

Nadya Skylung and the Cloudship Rescue by Jeff Seymour (G. P. Putnam's Sons)

Literary Fiction

Awayland: Stories by Ramona Ausubel (Riverhead Books)

Mad Boy: A Novel by Nick Arvin (Europa Editions)

Madam Velvet's Cabaret of Oddities by Nancy Stohlman (Big Table Publishing Company)

The Past Is Never: A Novel by Tiffany Quay Tyson (Skyhorse Publishing)

Mystery

Burning Ridge: A Timber Creek K-9 Mystery by Margaret Mizushima (Crooked Lane Books)

Death by G-String: A Coyote Canyon Ladies Ukulele Club Mystery by C. C. Harrison (Written Dreams Publishing)

Her Kind of Case: A Lee Isaacs, Esq., Novel by Jeanne Winer (Bancroft Press)

Poetry

Ghost Of by Diana Khoi Nguyen (Omnidawn Publishing)

Light Wind Light Light by Bin Ramke (Omnidawn Publishing)

Real Life: An Installation by Julie Carr (Omnidawn Publishing)

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Denver Moon: The Minds of Mars by Warren Hammond and Joshua Viola (Hex Publishers)

Murder on the Titania and Other Steam-Powered Adventures by Alex Acks (Queen of Swords Press)

While Gods Sleep by L. D. Colter (Tam Lin Publishing)

Thriller

The Circumstantial Man by Gary Reilly (Running Meter Press)

Killing Godiva's Horse: A Novel by J.M. Mitchell (Prairie Plum Press)

Mister Tender's Girl by Carter Wilson (Sourcebooks)

Young Adult Literature

500 Words or Less by Juleah Del Rosario (Simon Pulse, Simon & Schuster)

Crow Flight by Susan Cunningham (Amberjack Publishing)

Screenshot by Donna Cooner (Point, Scholastic)

2019 Finalist Reading Series

Mystery, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Thriller

April 5, 2019

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Children's Literature

April 11, 2019
4:30–5:30 p.m.

Anthology, Creative Nonfiction

April 19, 2019
7:00–9:00 p.m.

General Nonfiction, History

April 26, 2019
7:00–9:00 p.m.

Juvenile Literature, Young Adult Literature

April 28, 2019
11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

General Fiction, Literary Fiction, Poetry

May 3, 2019
7:00–9:00 p.m.

Winners will be announced and read briefly Saturday, May 18 at 4:30 p.m. at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, 80003. \$25 includes reception. Outskirts Press, a longtime sponsor of the Colorado Center for the Book, will be present to help recognize outstanding contributions by Colorado authors, editors, and illustrators in thirteen categories. We also thank The Colorado Sun and Shaw Construction for their sponsorship of the 2019 Colorado Book Awards.

Colorado Humanities is the only Colorado organization exclusively dedicated to supporting humanities education for adults and children statewide. Celebrating its 45th year and its **15th year as host for the Colorado Center for the Book**, Colorado Humanities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Library of Congress Center for the Book, the Smithsonian Institution, and the national award-winning educational nonprofit Motherhead, Inc. With offices in the Denver Technological Center in Greenwood Village, Colorado Humanities works with 150 program partners throughout the state to design and implement programs that best meet each community's needs. Colorado Humanities' goals are to improve education, strengthen cultural institutions, and enrich community life by inspiring the people of Colorado to explore ideas and appreciate our diverse heritage. To learn more, visit coloradohumanities.org or call 303.894.7951.

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For more information, author headshots, and interviews, please contact Colorado Book Award Program Coordinator Bess Maher at bess@coloradohumanities.org or 303.894.7951 x19.