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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Colorado Book Awards Online Finalists Reading  
Anthology/Collection, Creative Nonfiction, Short Story

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO (May 5, 2020) Finalists in the Anthology/Collection, Creative Nonfiction, and Short Story categories will read and answer questions at a Zoom and Facebook Live event hosted by Colorado Humanities & Center for the Book on Friday, May 15, 2020 at 7 p.m. Zoom participants (details at [coloradohumanities.org](http://coloradohumanities.org)) may converse live with the authors. Helen Thorpe, 2018 winner in Creative Nonfiction, will MC. [Facebook Live](#) attendees can send in questions and comments. Books can be ordered online at [BookBar](#).

**Dan Manzanares** will introduce his anthology, ***All the Lives We Ever Lived: A Lighthouse Writers Workshop Community Anthology Vol. 1*** During his time at Lighthouse Writers Workshop, he won a Mayor's Award for Excellence in Arts and Culture in 2016. He currently works at the University of Denver's Prison Arts Initiative. Contributing author, Michael Sindler will read.

**Becky Jensen** will read from the Northern Colorado Writers anthology, ***Rise: An Anthology of Change***. Her entry "Follow the Hula Girl" is one of the 38 works by authors and poets featured in the Northern Colorado Writers anthology.

**David Boop** will read from his anthology, ***Straight Outta Deadwood***. An author, screenwriter and award-winning essayist, David worked as a DJ, film critic, journalist, and actor before his releasing his debut novel, the sci-fi/noir *She Murdered Me with Science*. Contributing authors Mario Acevedo and Travis Heermann will read.

**John Nizalowski** will read from his creative nonfiction book, ***Chronicles of the Forbidden: Essays of Shadow and Light***. The author of five books, including a recent volume of poetry, *East of Kayenta*, John teaches mythology, creative writing, and composition at Colorado Mesa University.

**Jenny Forrester** will read from her creative nonfiction book, ***Soft Hearted Stories: Seeking Saviors, Cowboy Stylists, and Other Fallacies of Authoritarianism***. Published in a variety of periodicals, her work is included in Putnam's *Listen to Your Mother* anthology. She also published a memoir, *Narrow River, Wide Sky*.

**Sarah Adleman** will read from her creative nonfiction book, ***The Lampblack Blue of Memory: My Mother Echoes***. A Peace Corps Volunteer in Bangladesh, she studied yoga in India, taught English in China, and earned her MFA from The University of Texas at El Paso. She lives in Denver.

**Mark Pleiss** will read from his short story collection, ***April Warnings***. A Denver writer, he publishes fiction, book reviews, scholarly criticism, and essays. A former freelance journalist, he holds a PhD in Spanish Literature and teaches at St. Olaf College, the University of Colorado Boulder, and Metro State University Denver.

**Emily Wortman-Wunder** will read from her short story collection, ***Not a Thing to Comfort You***. An award-winning essayist and fiction writer, she has been published in *Kenyon Review*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Nimrod*, and *High Country News*, and is the winner of the 2019 Iowa Short Fiction Award.

**Jennifer Wortman** will read from her short story collection, ***This. This. This. Is. Love. Love. Love.*** A National Endowment of the Arts fellow, her work appears in *TriQuarterly*, *Glimmer Train*, *Electric Literature*, *Copper Nickel*, among others. An associate fiction editor for *Colorado Review*, she teaches at Lighthouse Writers Workshop.

The **2020 Colorado Book Awards** will be broadcast live from the historic Evans School in Denver on **Saturday, May 30, 2020, at 4 p.m.** Maggie Coval, Executive Director of the Colorado Humanities and Center for the Book, will present awards with the help of our dedicated sponsors, Outskirts Press and *The Colorado Sun*. Winners in 16 categories will be announced and read briefly.

Please visit [coloradohumanities.org](http://coloradohumanities.org) and follow us on Instagram and [@cohumanities](https://www.facebook.com/cohumanities) on Facebook and Twitter for updated invitations and details about how to join in the celebration.

## **2020 Colorado Book Award Finalists**

### **Anthology/Collection**

*All the Lives We Ever Lived: A Lighthouse Writers Workshop Community Anthology* Vol. 1 edited by Dan Manzanares and Suzi Q. Smith (Lighthouse Writers Workshop)

*Rise: An Anthology of Change* edited by Northern Colorado Writers (Northern Colorado Writers, LLC)

*Straight Outta Deadwood* edited by David Boop (Baen Publishing Enterprises)

### **Children's Literature**

*Pup 681: A Sea Otter Rescue Story* by Jean Reidy, illustrated by Ashley Crowley (Henry Holt and Company)

*The Fisherman and the Whale* by Jessica Lanan (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

*Truman* by Jean Reidy, illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, Simon & Schuster)

### **Creative Nonfiction**

*Chronicles of the Forbidden: Essays of Shadow and Light* by John Nizalowski (Irie Books)

*Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country* by Pam Houston (W.W. Norton & Company)

*Soft Hearted Stories: Seeking Saviors, Cowboy Stylists, and Other Fallacies of Authoritarianism* by Jenny Forrester (Lit Kit Collective)

*The Lampblack Blue of Memory: My Mother Echoes* by Sarah Adleman (Tolsun Books)

### **General Fiction**

*Girls on the Line* by Aimie K. Runyan (Lake Union Publishing)

*Light in the Shadows* by Linda Lafferty and Andy Stone (Lake Union Publishing)

*The Gifted School* by Bruce Holsinger (Riverhead Books/Penguin Random House)

### **General Nonfiction**

*Good to Go: What the Athlete in All of Us Can Learn from the Strange Science of Recovery* by Christie Aschwanden (W. W. Norton & Company)

*Taste the Sweetness Later: Two Muslim Women in America* by Connie Shoemaker (Amity Bridge Books)

*The Land of Flickering Lights* by Michael Bennet (Atlantic Monthly Press/Grove Atlantic)

### **History**

*Nighthawk Rising: A Biography of Accused Cattle Rustler Queen Ann Bassett of Brown's Park* by Diana Allen Kouris (High Plains Press)

*Scholars of Mayhem: My Father's Secret War in Nazi-Occupied France* by Daniel C. Guiet and Timothy K. Smith (Penguin Press)

*The Storm on Our Shores: One Island, Two Soldiers, and the Forgotten Battle of World War II* by Mark Obmascik (Atria Books)

### **Juvenile Literature**

*Spotted Tail* by David Heska Wanbli Weiden, illustrated by Jim Yellowhawk and Pat Kinsella (Reycraft Books)

*Tree of Dreams* by Laura Resau (Scholastic Press)

*The Cryptid Keeper* by Lija Fisher (Farrar Straus & Giroux)

## **Literary Fiction**

*Burn Fortune* by Brandi Homan (CLASH Books)

*If the Ice Had Held* by Wendy J. Fox (Santa Fe Writers Project)

*You Who Enter Here* by Erika T. Wurth (Ecelsior Editions, State University of New York Press, Albany)

## **Mystery**

*Celtic Empire* by Clive Cussler and Dirk Cussler (G.P. Putnam's Sons)

*Lost Lake* by Emily Littlejohn (Minotaur Books)

*Tracking Game* by Margaret Mizushima (Crooked Lane Books)

## **Pictorial**

*Bird Parade* by Patrick Loehr (Centipede Press)

*Flatland* by Teague von Bohlen, photographer Britten Leigh Traugher (Bronze Man Books)

*Hollywood: Her Story, An Illustrated History of Women and the Movies* by Jill S. Tietjen and Barbara Bridges (Lyons Press)

## **Poetry**

*How To Dress a Fish* by Abigail Chabitnoy (Wesleyan University Press)

*My Brother's Keeper* by David J. Rothman (Lithic Press)

*Variations on Dawn and Dusk* by Dan Beachy-Quick (Omnidawn Publishing)

## **Romance**

*Remembering a Witch* by Lauren Connolly (Lauren Connolly)

*Stolen Heart, Book 2: North Fork Series* by K.L. McKee (Cameo Mountain Press)

*Zapata, Book 1: The Border Series* by Harper McDavid (Soul Mate Publishing)

## **Science Fiction/Fantasy**

*An Illusion of Thieves* by Cate Glass (Tor Books)

*Denver Moon, Book II: The Saint of Mars* by Warren Hammond and Joshua Viola (Hex Publishers)

*The Blood of Seven* by Claire L. Fishback (Dark Doorways Press, LLC)

*The Legend of Carl Draco* by Gary Reilly (Running Meter Press)

## **Short Story Collection**

*April Warnings* by Mark Pleiss (Veliz Books)

*Not a Thing to Comfort You* by Emily Wortman-Wunder (University of Iowa Press)

*This. This. This. Is. Love. Love. Love.* by Jennifer Wortman (Split Lip Press)

## **Thriller**

*Black Pearl, A Cold Case Suspense* by Donnell Ann Bell (Bell Bridge Books, Belle Books)

*The Extinction Agenda* by Michael Laurence (St. Martin's Press)

*The Dead Girl in 2A* by Carter Wilson (Sourcebooks)

### **Young Adult Literature**

*Fake* by Donna Cooner (Point, Scholastic, Inc.)

*Merged* by Jim Kroepfl and Stephanie Kroepfl (Month9Books)

*There's Something About Sweetie* by Sandhya Menon (Simon Pulse, Simon & Schuster Children's Division)

**Colorado Humanities** is the only Colorado organization exclusively dedicated to supporting humanities education for adults and children statewide. Celebrating its 46th year and its **16th 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 100 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](http://coloradohumanities.org) or call 303.894.7951.

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For more information, author headshots, book covers, and interviews, please contact Colorado Book Awards Program Coordinator Chris Goff at [goff@coloradohumanities.org](mailto:goff@coloradohumanities.org) or 303.882-4910 cell