High Plains Book Awards

2013 Award Criteria

The High Plains Books Awards recognize regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains. The High Plains region includes Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

BOOK AWARDS

Awards will be given in nine categories in 2013:

- The Best Fiction Award recognizes longer works of fiction in novel or novella form:
- The Best Nonfiction Award recognizes works of prose in collected essay or book form;
- The Best Poetry Award recognizes poetry by one author or a collection of poetry from a variety of authors;
- The Best First Book Award honors a writer's first published book in any category;
- The Best Woman Writer Award honors the best book by a woman writer in any category;
- The Best Art & Photography Award recognizes the best collection of art and photography by one artist or a collection of artists;
- The Best Short Stories Award recognizes short fiction by a single author or a collection of authors:
- The Best Young Adult Book Award honors works written for readers between 12 and 18 years of age, and
- The Best Culinary Award honors writing about food, wine and beverages in any category.

The High Plains Book Award Committee (the Committee) reserves the right to determine there is no winning entry in a given category.

BOOK AWARD ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Nominated books must have been published for the first time in 2012 in any format.
- All entries must have an ISBN.
- Nominated works must be written by an author or writing team with significant ties to the High Plains region or a literary work which examines and reflects life on the High Plains.
- In works containing contributions from several writers, photographers or artists (i.e.,collections or anthologies) the majority of the contributors must have significant ties to the High Plains region or the subject matter must reflect life on the High Plains.
- Revised editions or new translations of previously published works are not eligible.

- All nominations must be accompanied by the requisite number of reading copies in a print format.
- Self-published works are eligible for all awards.

EMERITUS AWARD

The Emeritus Award recognizes the body of work of a living author and/or writing team who have made a significant contribution to High Plains literature.

Nominations for the Emeritus Award do not require an application fee or reading copies and are encouraged from readers, booksellers, educators, librarians, library associations, writers, and publishers.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations for the Book Awards and the Emeritus Award must be submitted on the High Plains Book Awards website, http://highplainsbookawards.org between January 14, 2013 and March 15, 2013.

Book Award Nomination Process, Deadline and Fees:

- 1. Each Book Award nomination must include a completed nomination form.
- 2. Nomination forms, fees, and accompanying reader copies must be received at Parmly Billings Library by Friday, March 15, 2013 at 5:00 pm Mountain Standard Time. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. Failure to meet the deadline will disqualify a nomination from consideration. It may be desirable for nominators to use express shipping to ensure timely delivery, especially for shipments that involve crossing international borders.
- 3. Nominations for all Book Awards must be accompanied by a \$30 fee and four (4) copies of the nominated work.
- 4. Nomination fee payments may be made on the website or by check. Checks should be made payable to The Friends of the Parmly Billings Library. W-9 forms are available upon request.
- 5. Books may be nominated in more than one Award category. For example, a work of fiction may also be the writer's first book. The fee to nominate the same book in two categories is \$50. The fee to nominate the same book in three categories is \$70. Separate nomination forms and four (4) additional reader copies are required for each additional category in which a book is nominated

Reader copies should be shipped to:

Dee Ann Redman, Assistant Director Parmly Billings Library 510 N 28th St Billings, MT 59101 redmand@ci.billings.mt.us The High Plains Book Awards Committee selects the recipient of the Emeritus Award. It selects readers to evaluate all nominations and it identifies finalist books based upon reader evaluations. It selects judges to determine the winning entry in each category. It resolves any issues that may arise in the nomination, evaluation, finalist selection and judging process. All decisions of the Committee are final.

Winners for all Book Awards will be announced at an Awards Banquet held in conjunction with the High Plains BookFest in October 2013 in Billings, Montana. The Emeritus Award winner will deliver the keynote address at the Awards Banquet.

Each Book Award winner and the Emeritus Award winner will receive a \$500 award and commemorative plaque.