

News Release
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Connecticut Center for the Book Reinstates Connecticut Book Awards

Middletown, Conn – The Connecticut Center for the Book (CCB) at Connecticut Humanities has reinstated the Connecticut Book Awards, which have been on hiatus since 2011. The awards are designed to recognize and honor those authors and illustrators who have created the best books in or about our state.

The Connecticut Book Awards celebrate the state's rich history of authors and illustrators by recognizing writers who follow in the footsteps of literary legends like Mark Twain, Arthur Miller, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Clare Boothe Luce – and more recently, Connecticut-connected authors such as Annie Proulx, Suzanne Collins, Elizabeth Gilbert, Maurice Sendak and Luanne Rice.

“There is a void in the Connecticut literary landscape for this kind of recognition of home grown authors and illustrators,” said Lisa Comstock, director of the Connecticut Center for the Book. “The Connecticut Book Awards provide important statewide recognition of Connecticut authors who craft words and convey ideas in a compelling way.”

The 2017 Connecticut Book Awards will honor authors in Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry. There will also be awards open to authors and illustrators in the category of Books for Young Readers (Juvenile, Young Adult, and Teen).

Eligibility Requirements for Book Awards to be made in 2017:

- Author must currently reside in Connecticut and must have lived in the state at least three successive years or have been born in the state. Alternatively, the work may be substantially set in Connecticut.
- Titles must have been first published between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016.
- All submitted books must have a valid ISBN.
- Authors may enter more than one book per year.
- Anthologies are acceptable. Author(s) must have resided in Connecticut for at least three years or have been born in the state. Alternatively, the works must be substantially set in Connecticut.

- Books by deceased authors will be accepted only if the author was still living at the beginning of the eligibility year (January 1, 2016).

The deadline for submission for the 2017 Connecticut Book Awards is April 21, 2017. Winners will be announced in October. For more information, visit:

<http://ctcenterforthebook.org/submission-guidelines/>.

About Connecticut Humanities

Connecticut Humanities, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and administrator of the Connecticut Center for the Book. Through its website and social media channels, CTH highlights cultural and educational events and is an advocate for the humanities. The organization also manages and develops content for *ConnecticutHistory.org*, promotes literature and reading through its *Book Voyagers* community workshops for families, and administers Connecticut's *Poetry Out Loud* program, in conjunction with the Connecticut Office of the Arts. Visit <http://www.cthumanities.org>

About the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress:

Established by Congress in 1977 to “stimulate public interest in books and reading,” the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress is a national force for reading and literacy promotion. It sponsors educational programs that reach readers of all ages through its affiliated state centers and collaborations with nonprofit reading-promotion partners and through the Young Readers Center and Poetry and Literature Center at the Library of Congress. The Center for the Book is part of the Library’s National and International Outreach service unit. **For more information, visit Read.gov.**