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## Library of Virginia Announces Finalists for the 12th Annual Literary Awards

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**For Immediate Release**

The Library of Virginia is pleased to announce the finalists for the 12th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards honoring Virginia authors or, in the case of nonfiction, works on a Virginia subject. The finalists were chosen by an independent panel of judges from 161 books nominated for the awards. The winners in each category will be selected from among these finalists and announced at a gala celebration on October 17, 2009, at the Library of Virginia.

### Poetry

- Claudia Emerson. *Figure Studies: Poems*. Louisiana State University Press.
- Eric Pankey. *The Pear as One Example: New & Selected Poems, 1984-2008*. Ausable Press.
- Lisa Russ Spaar. *Satin Cash*. Persea Books.

### Fiction

- Geraldine Brooks. *People of the Book*. Viking.
- Domnica Radulescu. *Train to Trieste*. Alfred A. Knopf.
- David A. Taylor. *Success: Stories*. Washington Writers' Publishing House.

### Nonfiction

- Drew Gilpin Faust. *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*. Alfred A. Knopf.
- Annette Gordon-Reed. *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*. W. W. Norton Company.
- Nancy Ross Hugo and Jeff Kirwan. *Remarkable Trees of Virginia*. Albemarle Books.

### Nonfiction Honorable Mention

- Paul A. Lombardo. *Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court, and Buck v. Bell*. The John Hopkins University Press.

The Library of Virginia's annual literary awards were first given in 1998 to recognize the best books published the previous year by a Virginia author or, in the case of nonfiction, on a Virginia theme.

This year's finalists include two authors who have previously won the Library of Virginia's literary award: Eric Pankey, who received the poetry prize in 2001 for *Cenotaph: Poems*, and Geraldine Brooks, who received the fiction prize in 2006 for *March: A Novel*.

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The authors whose works have been singled out as finalists have received numerous honors including the Pulitzer Prize, National Endowment for Humanities and the Witter Bynner fellowships, Francis Parkman Prize, the Bancroft Prize, and the Walt Whitman Award.

The winners of the fiction, nonfiction, and poetry awards will be announced on Saturday, October 17, 2009, at the 12th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration Honoring Virginia Authors & Friends. Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for this event. John Grisham will be honored this year as the recipient of the Literary Lifetime Achievement Award.

The winners of the People's Choice Award and the Whitney & Scott Cardozo Award for Children's Literature also will be announced that evening. Winners of the literary awards will receive a \$3,500 monetary award and a crystal replica of a book.

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