



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 16, 2022

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Library of Virginia Announces Nine Finalists for the 25th Annual Literary Awards

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA - Nine finalists have been selected for the 25th Annual [Library of Virginia Literary Awards](#), the commonwealth's premier celebration honoring Virginia writers and their contributions to literature. The finalists were chosen by an independent panel of judges from more than 108 submissions. The winner in each category will be selected from among these finalists and announced during a celebration at the Library of Virginia on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

This year's book finalists include an extraordinary historical fiction debut, an intimate account of the devastating effects of gun violence on our nation's children, the latest volume of poems from a Pulitzer Prize winner and former U.S. Poet Laureate, and much more.

"We are thrilled to celebrate diverse works by Virginia authors or about Virginia topics for the 25th year," said Librarian of Virginia Sandra Treadway, Ph.D. "This event has become a highly anticipated annual tradition for both book lovers and authors enthused about recognizing literary excellence in our commonwealth."

The 2022 award finalists are:

FICTION

JOCELYN NICOLE JOHNSON | My Monticello

JOANNA PEARSON | Now You Know It All

SHERI REYNOLDS | The Tender Grave

Honorable Mention

ANGEL KHOURY | Between Tides

NONFICTION

JOHN WOODROW COX | Children Under Fire: An American Crisis

CAROLYN EASTMAN | The Strange Genius of Mr. O: The World of the United States' First Forgotten Celebrity

CAROLINE E. JANNEY | Ends of War: The Unfinished Fight of Lee's Army after Appomattox

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POETRY

SANDRA BEASLEY | Made to Explode

RITA DOVE | Playlist for the Apocalypse

TINA PARKER | Lock Her Up

The finalists for the Library's [People's Choice Awards](#) for fiction and nonfiction were announced in a [previous news release](#). They will also be honored at the Literary Awards event. Kicking things off is the [Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award](#), presented with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, on Friday, Oct. 14, 2022.

In addition to the award and distinguished recognition, winners in each category receive a monetary prize of \$2,500. For awards information and a list of past winners and finalists, please visit www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/sponsorship.htm.

For information on tickets, sponsorship, or other ways to support the 25th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration honoring Virginia authors and friends, click [here](#) or call 804.692.3813.

About the Virginia Literary Awards:

Hosted by award-winning author Adriani Trigiani, the 25th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration will be held on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, with nominated authors, presenters, and special guests. This annual event, sponsored by Amazon and Dominion Energy, attracts those who enjoy the written word and support literature.

About the Library of Virginia:

The Library of Virginia is one of the oldest agencies of Virginia government, founded in 1823 to preserve and provide access to the state's incomparable printed and manuscript holdings. Its collection, which has grown steadily through the years, is the most comprehensive resource in the world for the study of Virginia history, culture, and government with over 130 million items in the collections. The Library also engages the public through in-person and virtual events, education programs, and online resources that reach nearly 4 million individuals each year throughout the commonwealth and beyond. Learn more at www.lva.virginia.gov.

About the Library of Virginia Foundation:

Founded in 1984, the Library of Virginia Foundation supports the Library of Virginia and its mission by raising private financial support, managing its endowment, and overseeing programming that brings Virginia's history and culture to life.

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