



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Sandra Gioia Treadway
Librarian of Virginia

Library of Virginia Announces Finalists for the 20th Annual Literary Awards

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Richmond, Virginia) – Nine authors are the finalists for the Library of Virginia’s 20th 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 hundreds of books nominated for the awards. The winner in each category will be selected from among these finalists and announced at a gala celebration on Saturday, October 14, 2017, at the Library of Virginia.

FICTION FINALISTS

JOHN GREGORY BROWN | *A Thousand Miles from Nowhere*

KELLY KERNEY | *Hard Red Spring*

LEE CLAY JOHNSON | *Nitro Mountain*

NONFICTION FINALISTS

MARGOT LEE SHETTERLY | *Hidden Figures:*

The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race

ANNETTE GORDON-REED & PETER S. ONUF | *“Most Blessed of the Patriarchs”:*

Thomas Jefferson and the Empire of the Imagination

BELLE BOGGS | *The Art of Waiting: On Fertility, Medicine, and Motherhood*

POETRY FINALISTS

RITA DOVE | *Collected Poems: 1974–2004*

CATHRYN HANKLA | *Great Bear*

SALLY KEITH | *River House*

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POETRY HONORABLE MENTIONS

BRYNNE REBELE-HENRY | *Fleshgraphs*

LISA SPAAR, EDITOR | *Monticello in Mind: Fifty Contemporary Poems on Jefferson*

The finalists for the Library's **People's Choice Awards** for fiction and nonfiction were announced in a previous news release (www.lva.virginia.gov/news/press/2017peopleschoicevote.pdf).

New to the Literary Awards this year will be the inclusion of the **Young Adult Virginia Author (YAVA) Award**, in conjunction with the Richmond Public Library System. The YAVA Award recognizes the best work in the young adult genre by a Virginia author. It was created in 2013 by staff members of the Richmond Public Library as a teen program, and became a monetary prize award in 2015.

The Library of Virginia's annual literary awards were first given in 1998 to recognize the best books published the previous year by Virginia authors or on a Virginia theme. The winners in each of the three categories receive a monetary prize of \$2,500.

The winners of the fiction, nonfiction, and poetry awards—as well as the People's Choice Awards—will be announced on Saturday, October 14, 2017, at the 20th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration Honoring Virginia Authors & Friends. This gala event, sponsored by Dominion Energy, attracts authors, publishers, and those who enjoy the written word. Award-winning author Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for this event. As previously announced, **David Baldacci** will be honored this year as the recipient of the **Literary Lifetime Achievement Award**.

For ticket information, please call (804) 692-3813.

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