

ALBERTA BOOK AWARDS

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Winners are announced at the 2010 Alberta Book Awards Gala

Edmonton – On Friday, May 14, 2010 the Writers Guild of Alberta (WGA) and the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA) announced the winners of the 2010 Alberta Book Publishing Awards, the Alberta Literary Awards, and the highly anticipated Alberta Readers' Choice Award tonight. About 300 people attended the 2010 Alberta Book Awards Gala, a joint celebration that celebrated excellence and innovation in Alberta writing and book publishing.

Author Thomas Wharton gave an entertaining keynote address, and many authors and publishers were celebrated for their achievements during the past year.

Lois Hawkins, Deputy Minister of Culture and Community Spirit was among the attendees, as well as members of the Alberta Legislature and Edmonton City Council.

The inaugural \$10,000.00 Alberta Readers' Choice Award was presented to Michael Davie for his first novel, *Fishing For Bacon*, published by Edmonton's NeWest Press.

Please see attached for detailed information on the recipients. For complete information, please contact the Book Publishers Association of Alberta at info@bookpublishers.ab.ca or (780) 424-5060.

The logo for Friesens, featuring the word "Friesens" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a small yellow diamond shape above the letter 'i'.The logo for islay AGENCIES. The word "islay" is in a green, lowercase, cursive font. To its right, "AGENCIES" is in a bold, blue, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below "AGENCIES" are the words "PRINTING AND PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS" in a smaller, blue, uppercase, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the tagline "image innovation integrity" is written in a green, lowercase, cursive font.

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Recipients of the 2010 Alberta Book Publishing Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is presented in recognition of an individual's contribution to Alberta's book publishing community. We are pleased to announce this award went to **Katherine Shute**, for her outstanding work and service within Alberta's book publishing industry.



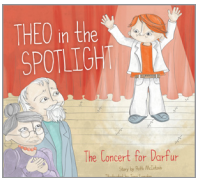
Alberta Book Design Awards

Book Cover/Jacket

Freehand Books (imprint of Broadview Press) (Calgary)—*Buying Cigarettes for the Dog* by Stuart Ross, cover design by Fidel Pena, Underline Studio

Jury comments: *Overall, the quality of book cover design was very good this year, making our decision very challenging. The winner was understated, but thoughtful in its resolution. The design was appropriate, engaging and smart.*

Book Illustration



Maggie & Pierrot: A Children's Book Publisher (Edmonton)—*Theo in the Spotlight* by Patti McIntosh, illustrated by Tara Langlois

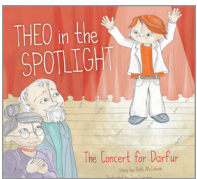
Jury comments: *The challenge in this category is often the variety in mediums, and the definition of what is "illustration". The final choice demonstrates an excellent understanding of its medium, a flow and continuity to the story, and an artistic sense of proportion, colour, and character.*



Book Design

RMB (Rocky Mountain Books) (Calgary)—*The Incomparable Honeybee* by Reese Halter, book design by Chyla Cardinal

Jury comments: *The jury loved this book. The design both inside and out are married so well, creating a charming whole that entices the reader into the content. The illustrative use of typographic characters on the front and back cover was clever.*

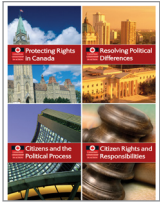


Children's & Young Adult Book Award

Maggie & Pierrot: A Children's Book Publisher (Edmonton)—*Theo in the Spotlight* by Patti McIntosh, illustrated by Tara Langlois

Jury comments: *Congratulations for creating a book that raises children's awareness about social justice issues while actually demonstrating to kids how they can do something to make the world a better place.*

Educational Book Award



Weigl Educational Publishers Limited (Calgary)—*Canadian Citizenship in Action Series: Protecting Rights in Canada, Resolving Political Differences, Citizens and the Political Process, citizens Rights and Responsibilities* Production Coordinators Heather C. Hudak and Heather Kissock

Jury comments: *The winner in this category brings together key elements of a successful educational resource that has been well received by the education market. The series shows Canada's mosaic of cultures actively participating and cooperating in the political process, and gaining an understanding that being a citizen of Canada means learning about rights and responsibilities. Children are provided with opportunities and encouraged to look at a variety of viewpoints, pursue further research, and do personal reflection on their choices and actions. This series would be a welcome addition to any school resource collection.*

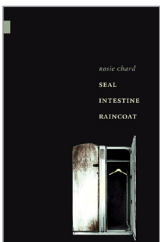
Scholarly & Academic Book Award



The University of Alberta Press (Edmonton)—*People of the Lakes* by Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and Shirleen Smith

Jury comments: *The winner of this award has published an outstanding book, both in content and in presentation, and is a ground-breaking work in the historiography of Canada's North. In a real sense, the book is a gift and it is told eloquently and in a way that weaves past and present into a seamless whole. The result is a magnificent work that will have a tremendous impact not only on members of the Gwich'in community, but also on the contemporary study of Aboriginal history, politics, and cultural studies.*

Trade Fiction Book Award



NeWest Press (Edmonton)—*Seal Intestine Raincoat* by Rosie Chard

Jury comments: *The winning book in this category is a riveting and beautifully written story echoed by thoughtful, clear, and appealing design and production. Regionally targeted events and media were cleverly executed. This debut novel meets and even exceeds the highest standards of Canadian fiction, marking a great achievement for publisher that will undoubtedly be further admired and recognized as its readership continues to grow into the future.*

Trade Non-Fiction Book Award



Glenbow Museum (Calgary)—*Vistas: Artists on the Canadian Pacific Railway* by Roger G. Boulet

Jury comments: *The books on the Alberta Trade Non-fiction Book Award shortlist are a testament to the vibrancy of Alberta's publishing landscape. The variety of subjects explored and the calibre of their delivery rendered the jury's choice very difficult; as a result, we have a long shortlist and one honourable mention, to Rocky Mountain Books' *The Incomparable Honeybee*, a smart little book that excels in bringing a complex subject to its audience in an intelligent, accessible way. The winning book illuminates a rich and little-known period in Canadian art history with beautiful reproductions and fascinating contextualizing text. It combines excellence in editing, production and sales; it is an outstanding example of what publishing projects should aspire to be.*

Lois Hole Award for Editorial Excellence



University of Alberta Press (Edmonton)—*People of the Lakes* by Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, production editor Mary Lou Roy, copy editor Meaghan Craven

Jury comments: *The production editor went beyond the call of duty. Not only did she coordinate many facets of a complex process, she balanced cultural sensitivities with scholarly conventions and offered solutions to challenges presented by Gwich'in orthography. Through it all, she demonstrated professionalism and a fastidious attention to detail. The editor's contribution helped make this book an accurate and important collection of stories honouring the peoples with whom they originated.*



Poetry Book Award

Freehand Books (imprint of Broadview Press) (Calgary)—*subUrban Legends* by Joan Crate

Jury comments: *The jurors found considerable merit in all the submissions for this award, and wish to applaud the publishers for doing their poets proud. Any one of the shortlisted books was worthy as a poetry book of the year, and while it was a close call, the winning book stood above the rest as a complete package. It had literary merit, was well edited, and the design and promotional activity were sympathetic to and consistent with the book's ambition.*



Publisher of the Year

NeWest Press (Edmonton)

Jury comments: *NeWest Press boasts a diverse editorial list, packaged in a contemporary, finely designed style. This press has done an impressive job of repositioning itself in the literary publishing world and has successfully launched a new look over the past few years. There is a strong sense of revitalization and a forward-looking attitude to the press as they move into the age of digitization, podcasts, blogs, YouTube trailers, and the stream of social media here now and yet to come. All this--along with their award nominations, ongoing community outreach, volunteer program, four established signature series--demonstrates a perseverance and determination to keep their publishing vision alive and vital. And it is exactly this kind of tenacity and drive and care that makes independent publishing in Canada worth talking about and the books worth reading.*

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of:

