

# PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Fran Vick

The Texas Institute of Letters announces the finalists for \$22,000 in awards to be presented at their 69th annual meeting to be held Saturday, April 30 at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel in Austin.

## FINALISTS FOR TIL 2004 BOOK AWARDS

**Carr P. Collins Award for Best Book of Nonfiction (\$5000):** *Huck's Raft* by Steven Mintz, Harvard University Press; *Indomitable Sarah: Life of Judge Sarah T. Hughes* by Darwin Payne, SMU Press; *Texas Post Office Murals* by Philip Parisi, Texas A&M University Press; *Harder Than Hardscrabble* by Thad Sitton, University of Texas Press

**Jesse Jones Award for Best Work of Fiction (\$6000) and Steven Turner Award for Best Work of First Fiction (\$1000):** *Anything You Say Can and Will Be Held Against You* by Laurie Lynn Drummond, HarperCollins Publishers; *Wanted* by Kim Wozencraft, St. Martin's Press; *Corpus Christi* by Bret Anthony Johnston, Random House; *In the River Province* by Lisa Sandlin, SMU Press

**Natalie Ornish Best Book of Poetry Award (\$1000):** *Hospital Poems* by Jim Ferris, Main Street Rag Press; *Black Butterflies* by Kurt Heinzelman, Mulberry Press; *Hearsay* by Lee Robinson, Fordham University Press; *Not Till We Are Lost* by William Wenthe, LSU Press

**Friends of the Dallas Public Library Award for Book Making the Most Significant Contribution to Knowledge (\$1000):** *New Orleans and the Texas Revolution* by Edward L. Miller, Texas A&M University Press; *Changing National Identities at the Frontier: Texas and New Mexico, 1800-1850* by Andres Resendez, Cambridge University Press; *The Texas Rangers and the Mexican Revolution* by Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler, University of New Mexico Press

**Soeurette Diehl Fraser Award for Best Book of Translation (\$1000):** *The Space of Light* translated by Elizabeth Miller, Broken Jaw Press; *Death in Danzig* translated by Philip Boehm, Harcourt Brace

**John Bloom Humor Award for the Funniest Texas Book (\$1000):** *Ars Poetica: A Postmodern Fable* by Clay Reynolds, Texas Review Press; *Slouching Toward Zion and More Lies* by Robert Flynn, University of North Texas Press; *The Prisoner of Vandam Street* by Kinky Friedman, Simon & Schuster; *Balaam Gimble's Gumption* by Mike Nichols, John M. Hardy Publishing

**Kay Cattarulla Award for Best Short Story Award (\$750):** "The Skull Gatherer" by Rick Bass, published in *Zoetrope*; "What You're Walking Around Without" by Bruce Machart, published in *One Story*; "Bouki and the Cocaine" by Ben Fountain, published in *Zoetrope*

**Stanley Walker Award for Best Work of Newspaper Journalism Appearing in Newspaper or Sunday Supplement (\$1000):** "The Search for Edde Peabody" by Zanto Peabody, *Houston Chronicle*; "Thrilled to Death" by Josh Harkinson, *Houston Press*

**Fred Whitehead Award for Best Design of a Trade Book (\$750):** *Art Guide Texas*, University of Texas Press; *Maps of the Imagination*, Trinity University Press; *Is This Forever, or What*, Greenwillow Books

**O’Henry Award for Best Work of Magazine Journalism (\$1000):** “The Kingdom of Silence” by Lawrence Wright, *New Yorker*; “The Good Doctor” by Jan Reid, *Texas Monthly*; “The Shot Not Heard Round the World” by John Spong, *Texas Monthly*

**Friends of the Austin Public Library Award for Best Children’s Book (\$500) and Best Young Adult’s Book (\$500):** *How Many Kisses Do You Want Tonight?* by Varsha Bajaj, Little Brown & Co.; *Jack and the Beanstalk* by Diane Stanley, HarperCollins Publishers; *Family Reunion* by Mary Quattlebaum, Eerdman’s Books; *Cecilia’s Year* by Susan Abraham and Denise Gonzales, Cinco Puntos Press

**The Lon Tinkle Award (\$1,500)** given by James Early and Marshall Terry for excellence sustained throughout a career will go to T. R. Fehrenbach best known for his history: Lone Star.

New members to be inducted into membership in the Institute are: Hugh Aynesworth, Stephen Michaud, John Blair, Mary Margaret Farabee, Gregg Garrett, Palmer Hall, Kurt Heinzelman, James Hynes, Steven Kellman, Gary Lavergne, Darwin Payne, David Searcy.