Announcing Winners and Finalists for the Independent Publisher Book Awards 2003

Winners and Finalists in the seventh annual Independent Publisher Book Awards have been chosen, the Ten Outstanding Books of the Year have been named, and awards will be presented to winning publishers at BookExpo America 2003 in Los Angeles. Congratulations to all participants for their fine work!

Judging this year’s Book Awards entries was as demanding as ever, because the quality of independently published work just keeps getting better and better. In many categories there could have been ten winners – in fact, we added an extra finalist in both the General Fiction and Mystery/Suspense/Thriller categories, because in both cases there were so many great entries and it was just too close to call. These award-winning books exhibit an amazing level of excellence, and offer further proof that independent publishing is where the action is when it comes to creativity and innovation.

The Ten Outstanding Books of the Year

For 21 years our mission at Independent Publisher has been to recognize and encourage the work of independent authors, artists and publishers. We applaud those out there on the front lines producing what it takes to get noticed and to impress readers in a world of superstores and publishing conglomerates. This year’s Ten Outstanding Books were chosen for exemplifying this kind of courage, creativity, and independent spirit. Each will receive a $500 cash award.

Most Inspirational to Youth

Dreams To Grow On by Christine Hurley Deriso; illus. by Matthew Archambault (illumination Arts)

Business Breakthrough of the Year

The Personal Branding Phenomenon, by Peter Montoya (Personal Branding Press)

Most Likely To Save the Planet

Live Safely in a Dangerous World: How To Beat the Odds of Dying in an Accident, by John C. Myre (Safety Times)

Best Health Book

The John Hopkins Medical Guide to Health After 50 (REBUS Inc.)

Best Book Arts Craftsmanship

Antarctica: Explorer Series, Volume 1, by Pat & Rosemarie Keough; hand binding by Felton Bookbinding (Nahanni Productions)

Best Corporate Branding Book

Museum of Flight: 100 Years of Aviation History, by Museum of Flight, Seattle (Elton-Wolf Publishing)

Most Life-Changing

The Intersection of Joy and Money, by Mackey Miriam McNeill, CPA/PFS (Prosperity Publishing)

Most Original Concept

The High Sierra of California, by Gary Snyder and Tom Killion (Yosemite Association/Heyday Books)

Story Teller of the Year

Dave Eggers, author of You Shall Know Our Velocity and founder of McSweeney’s Books

Most Unique Design

Macy’s On Parade, written and illustrated by Pamela Pease (Paintbox Press)

Independent Publisher Book Awards 2003 winners and finalists by category:

1. Fine Art

Winner: Contemporary Chicano and Chicana Art (Bilingual Press/Editoral Bilingüe)


Stained Glass in Catholic Philadelphia (St. Joseph’s Univ)

2. Performing Arts

Winner: Debussy: Pelleas et Melisande (Andante)

Finalists: Russ Columbo and the Crooner Mystique (Feral House)

Pixerecourt: Four Melodramas (Martin E. Segal Theater Center)

3. Photography

Winner: Abandoned America, Photographs and Text by Steve Gottlieb (Sleeping Bear Press)

Finalists: Quizzical Eye: The Photography of Rondal Partridge (Heyday Books)

Reefs and Rain Forests, Murray S. Kaufman (Reefs and Rain Forests Publications)

4. Architecture


Finalists: Architecture Canada 2002 (Tuns Press / Dalhousie University)

PREFAB (Gibbs Smith, Publisher)

5. Fiction - General

Winner: The God File, by Frank Turner Hollon (MacAdam/Cage)

Finalists: Avoidance, by Michael Lowenthal (Graywolf Press)

One Foot in Eden, by Ron Rash (Novello Festival Press)

Cloud Cuckoo Land, by Lisa Borders (River City Publishing)

6. Short Story Fiction

Winner: Coal Miner’s Holiday, by Kiki DeLancey (Sarabande Books)

Finalists: Small Accidents, by Andrew Gray (Raincoast Books)

McSweeney’s 7, various authors (McSweeney’s Books)
7. Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction

Winners: The Raging Dragon, by Lem Lamensdorf (Seascape Press)

Finalists: Partners in the Wilderness: Travis’s Choice, by Ed Kienzle (Jetbak Publishing)
The Hero Perseus: A Mad Math Mystery, by Robin and Tony DiTocco (BrainStorm Publications)

8. Fantasy/Sci-Fi

Winner: an end., by Paul Evan Hughes (BookSurge, LLC)

Finalists: Enoch’s Portal, by A.W. Hill (Champion Press Ltd.)

Cuqui, by David L. Kilpatrick (1st Books Library)

9. Historical/Military Fiction

Winner: Speak the Nightbird, by Robert McCammon (River City Publishing)

Finalists: The River Is Mine, by Arian Gill (Local Color Press)

A Bloodline of Kings, by Thomas Sundell (Crow Woods Pub.)

10. Horror

Winner: The Craving, by A.K. Shiels (LTDBooks)

Finalists: When the Autumn Moon is Bright, by Brian Easton (Writer’s Club Press/Universe)

Cries from the Cradle, by Bonita Wagner (Writer’s Club Press/Universe)

11. Multicultural Fiction

Winner: Soy la Avon Lady and Other Stories, by Lorraine López (Curbstone Press)

Finalists: Not My Bowl of Rice, by E.R. Escobér (1st Books Library)

Red Thunder, by David Matheson (Media Weavers LLC)

12. Multicultural Fiction - Juv/Young Adult

Winner: Pájaro Verde (The Green Bird) by Joe Hayes; illus by Antonio Castro L. (Cincopuntos Press)

Finalists: The Hoopster by Alan Lawrence Sitomer (Milk Mug Publishing)

Lucas and His Loco Beans, by Ramona Moreno Winner; illus by Nicole Velasquez (BrainStorm 3000)

13. Mystery/Suspense/Thriller

Winner: The Holy, by Daniel Quinn (Context Books)

Finalists: Restless Spirit, by S.D. Tooley (Full Moon Publishing)

The Kokopelli Theory, by Kevin Correa (Lone Peak Press)

A Fine and Private War, by Stuart M. Van Tine (Force Books)

14. Romance

Winner: Another Chance, Another Time, by Catherine Snodgrass (LTDBooks)

Finalists: Styx’s Initiative, by Barbara Casey (Crossquarter Publishing Group)

Scandal’s Daughter, by Mallory Don Hart (John James Co.)

15. Visionary Fiction

Winner: The Lapsit Chronicles, by Edith Shaw (Dealen-dé Publishing)

Finalists: Sunrise At Two Lions, by Jeff Belyea, PhD (Suite One Design Group)

We Came As Angels, by Kenneth W. Brown (Waterwoods Press)

16. Children’s Picture Book (6 & under)

Winner: Sweet Dreams Douglas by Regan Dunnick (Junior League of Houston)

Finalists: Alphabeasts by Wallace Edwards (Kids Can Press)

Just You And Me by P. Taylor Copeland; illus by suzi kyle (Grammy Time Books)

17. Children’s Picture Book (7 & over)

Winner: Faerie by Jody Bergsma (Gallery Press)

Finalists: Rip Squeak and His Friends Discover the Treasure by Susan Yost-Filgate; illus. by Leonard Filgate (Rip Squeak Press)

In English, of Course by Josephine Nobisso; illus by Dasha Ziborova (Gingerbread House)

18. Aging/Death & Dying

Winner: Remembering the Death of a Child (Sugarloaf Publishing House)

Finalists: Anna’s Friends (Rogue River Books)

A Good Enough Life: The Dying Speak (Goose Lane Editions)

19. Essay/Creative Non-Fiction


Finalists: The Story of My Typewriter by Paul Auster and Sam Messer (Distributed Art Publishers)

Ohio States: A Twentieth-Century Midwestern by Jeffrey Hammond (Kent State University Press)

20. Juv/Young Adult Non-Fiction

Winner: Ten Amazing People and How They Changed the World (Skylight Paths)

Finalists: Secrets of Space (innovative KIDS)

Exploring Chinatown (Pacific View Press)

21. Multicultural Non-Fiction

Winner: Sun Tzu’s THE ART OF WAR: Plus the Ancient Chinese Revealed (Clearbridge Publishing)

Finalists: These Hands I Know (Sarabande Books)

Ojibwe Waasa Inaabidaa (We Look in All Directions) (Afton Historical Society Press)

22. Multicultural Non-Fiction – Juv/Young Adult

Winner: If the World Were a Village (Kids Can Press)

Finalists: A Mexican Christmas (Carrolrhoda Books)

Juan Quezada (Norman Books)

23. Autobiography/Memoir

Winner: Negotiating with the Dead: A Writer on Writing, by Margaret Atwood (Cambridge University Press)

Finalists: Epicurean Simplicity, by Stephanie Mills (Island Press)

Copywriter: A Life of Making Ads and Other Mistakes (Hot House Press)
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Finalists: Dangerous Kitchen: The Subversive World of Frank Zappa (ECW Press)</td>
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<td>The Odyssey of Billy Mitchell (A.K. Peters)</td>
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<td>25. Business/Career</td>
<td>Winner: The 9 Super Simple Steps to Entrepreneurial Success (Gatekeeper Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Investigating Workplace Harassment (Society for Human Resource Management)</td>
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<td>Due North! Strengthen Your Leadership Assets (Crystal Stairs Publishers)</td>
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<td>26. Coffee Table Books</td>
<td>Winner: Cowboy Artists of America (Greenwich Workshop)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Masking and Madness: Mardi Gras in New Orleans (Visi d’Arte Books)</td>
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<td>27. Computer/Internet</td>
<td>Winner: The Blankenhorn Effect (Trafford/A-Clue.com)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Arc the Lad Official Strategy Guide (Working Designs Inc.)</td>
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<td>Leonardo’s Laptop (The MIT Press)</td>
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<td>28. Cookbooks</td>
<td>Winner: Into the Sauce! From Our Cucina to Your Kitchen (Buca di Beppo)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Retro Diner (Collectors Press)</td>
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<td>Texas on the Plate (Shearer Publishing)</td>
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<td>29. Current Events</td>
<td>Winner: The Lion’s Grave: Dispatches from Afghanistan (Grove/Atlantic)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Evidence: The Case Against Milosevic (de.MO)</td>
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<td>Misplaced: New York City’s Street Kids (Xenium Press)</td>
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<td>30. Education/Academic/Teaching</td>
<td>Winner: Jim’s Book of Japanese (PB&amp;J Omnimedia)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Disarming the Playground: Violence Prevention Through Movement and Social Skills (Wood ‘n’ Barnes)</td>
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<td>Expecting Good Things of All (The Blake School)</td>
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<td>31. Environment/Ecology/Nature</td>
<td>Winner: There’s A Porcupine in My Outhouse (Capital Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Northeastern Wilds (AMC Books)</td>
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<td>The Sacred Balance (Greystone Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Nocturnal Admissions (Tiptree Press)</td>
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<td>Making Love Again (Ant Hill Press)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Gift of the Soul (Rainbow Pride Press)</td>
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<td>34. Health/Medicine/Nutrition</td>
<td>Winner: The Ultimate Healthy Eating Plan: that still leaves room for chocolate (Whitecap Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: The Kids’ Guide to First Aid (Williamson Publishing)</td>
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<td>The Little Big Book of Pregnancy (Welcome Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Secrets of the Magic Valley and Hagerman’s Remarkable Horse (Black Canyon Communications)</td>
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<td>Heaven On Earth: The Rise and Fall of Socialism (Element Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: The Intuitive Gardner (Fulcrum Publishing)</td>
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<td>Wildflowers of Monterey County (Carmel Publishing Co.)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Carving Found Wood (Fox Chapel Publishing)</td>
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<td>Handpaint Country (XRX Books)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Words of Common Sense (Templeton Foundation Press)</td>
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<td>Consider the Butterfly (Gibbs Smith, Publisher)</td>
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<td>40. New Age</td>
<td>Winner: You’re Every Sign! (Health Communications)</td>
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<td>Finalists: The Myths of Aging (Free Spirit Publishing)</td>
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<td>41. Parenting</td>
<td>Winner: Talking To Your Kids About Sex (Nomad Press)</td>
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<td>Finalists: Together: Creating Family Traditions (Nine Twenty Press)</td>
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<td>Our Family Meeting Book (Free Spirit Publishing)</td>
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<td>42. Poetry</td>
<td>Winner: Ebbing and Flowing Springs, by Jeff Daniel Marion (Celtic Cat Publishing)</td>
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<td>Finalists: No Sign of Ceasefire: An Anthology of Contemporary Israeli Poetry, edited and translated by Warren Bargad and Stanley F. Chyet (Skirball Cultural Center)</td>
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<td>Either/Ur, by Shawn Sturgeon (River City Publishing)</td>
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43. Popular Culture
Winner: Trailer Travel: A Visual History of Mobile America (Gibbs Smith, Publisher)
Finalists: Analog Days: The Invention and Impact of the Moog Synthesizer (Harvard University Press)
Hal Foster: Prince of Illustrators (Vanguard Productions)

44. Psychology/Mental Health
Winner: The Science of Romance: Secrets of the Sexual Brain (Prometheus Books)
Finalists: The Illusion of Conscious Will (MIT Press)
The Road to Malpsychia (Element Books)

45. Sports/Recreation
Finalists: Barney Oldfield: The Life and Times of America’s Legendary Speed King (Brown Fox Books)
Castwork: Reflections of Fly Fishing Guides and the American West (Willow Creek Press)

46. Reference
Finalists: On My Own: The Ultimate How-To Guide for Young Adults (Silly Goose Productions, LLC)
Religions of the World (ABC-CLIO)

47. Religion
Winner: Mystics and Miracles: True Stories of Lives Touched By God (Loyola Press)
Finalists: Girl Meets God: On the Path to a Spiritual Life (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill)
Sacred Stone: The Temple at Nauvoo (Covenant Communications, Inc.)

48. Science
Winner: That’s the Way the Cookie Crumbles (ECW Press)
Finalists: Our Molecular Future (Prometheus Books)
Copper and Bronze in Art (Getty Publications)

49. Self Help
Winner: Tips & Tools to Speak with Confidence: Keys to Finding Your Voice (Fingertip Solutions)
Finalists: The Courage to Be Brilliant (Vittorio Media)
Answering Your Call: A Guide for Living Your Deepest Purpose (Berrett Koehler Publishers)

50. Travel - Essay
Winner: American Countryside (Blake & King Publishers)
Finalists: Ireland’s Eye (House of Anansi Press)
Holmespun: An Intimate Portrait of an Amish and Mennonite Community (Eaglemont Press)

51. Travel - Guidebook
Winner: Napa Valley Expedition Guide (TravelBrains)
Finalists: Paddling in Paradise: Sea Kayak Adventures in Atlantic Canada (Goose Lane)
Yellowstone Treasures (Granite Peak Publications)

52. Women's Issues
Winner: Vermont Farm Women (Silver Print Press)
Finalists: Monster Lies: A Woman’s Guide to Controlling Her Destiny (Beagle Bay Books)
Tales from the Boom-Boom Room (Bloomberg Press)

See upcoming issues of INDEPENDENT PUBLISHER ONLINE www.independentpublisher.com for articles and more info on this year’s IPPY Awards.

The Independent Publisher Book Awards (aka IPPYs) were launched in 1996 to bring increased recognition to unsung titles published by independent authors and publishers. Each year the Awards recognize Ten Outstanding Books of the Year and a winner and two finalists in 58 different categories. See more at http://www.independentpublisher.com/ipaward.lasso

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