

Oregon Book Award Winners & Finalists in Fiction

1987 – 2026

2008 - present | **Ken Kesey Award in Fiction**
 2003 - 2007 | **Ken Kesey Award for the Novel**
 1998 - 2007 | **H.L. Davis Award in Short Fiction***
 1987- 2002 | **Award in Fiction**

*Starting in 1998, the Fiction category awarded two prizes for both short fiction and the novel. This was discontinued in 2007.

YEAR	FINALISTS	WINNER
2026	Olufunke Grace Bankole of Portland, <i>The Edge of Water</i> (Tin House) Kevin Maloney of Portland, <i>Horse Girl Fever</i> (Clash Books) Madeline McDonnell of Corvallis, <i>Lonesome Ballroom</i> (Rescue Press) Karen Thompson Walker of Portland, <i>The Strange Case of Jane O.</i> (Random House)	Ling Ling Huang of Portland, <i>Immaculate Conception</i> (Dutton)
2025	Miriam Gershow of Eugene, <i>Survival Tips: Stories</i> (Propeller Books) Victor Lodato of Ashland, <i>Honey</i> (Harper/HarperCollins Publishers) Charlie J. Stephens of Port Orford, <i>A Wounded Deer Leaps Highest</i> (Torrey House Press) Willy Vlautin of Scappoose, <i>The Horse</i> (Harper/HarperCollins Publishers)	Kimberly King Parsons of Portland, <i>We Were the Universe</i> (Knopf/Penguin Random House)

2024	Marcelle Heath of Portland, <i>Is That All There Is?</i> (Awst Press) Lydia Kiesling of Portland, <i>Mobility</i> (Crooked Media Reads/Zando) Rachel King of Portland, <i>Bratwurst Haven: Stories</i> (West Virginia University Press) Jen Wheeler of Portland, <i>The Light on Farallon Island</i> (Lake Union Publishing, Amazon Publishing)	Patrick deWitt of Portland, <i>The Librarianist</i> (Ecco/HarperCollins)
2023	Cai Emmons of Eugene, <i>Sinking Islands</i> (Red Hen Press) Emme Lund of Portland, <i>The Boy with a Bird in His Chest</i> (Atria Books) Jon Raymond of Portland, <i>Denial</i> (Simon & Schuster) Lidia Yuknavitch of Otis, <i>Thrust</i> (Riverhead Books)	Sindya Bhanoo of Corvallis, <i>Seeking Fortune Elsewhere: Stories</i> (Catapult)
2022	Callum Angus of Portland, <i>A Natural History of Transition</i> (Metonymy) Tracey Lange of Bend, <i>We Are the Brennans: A Novel</i> (Celadon Books) A.E. Osworth of Portland, <i>We Are Watching Eliza Bright: A Novel</i> (Grand Central Publishing) Chris Stuck of Portland, <i>Give My Love to the Savages: Stories</i> (Amistad, HarperCollins)	Omar El Akkad of West Linn, <i>What Strange Paradise: A Novel</i> (Alfred A. Knopf)
2021	Chelsea Bieker of Portland, <i>Godshot</i> (Catapult Press) Genevieve Hudson of Portland, <i>Boys of Alabama</i> (Liveright Publishing, W.W. Norton) Mark Savage of Portland, <i>Fictional Film Club</i> (Deep Overstock) Lidia Yuknavitch of Milwaukie, <i>Verge</i> (Riverhead Books, Penguin Random House PPG)	Vanessa Veselka of Portland, <i>The Great Offshore Grounds</i> (Alfred A. Knopf)
2020	Kimberly King Parsons of Portland, <i>Black Light: Stories</i> (Vintage) Peter Rock of Portland, <i>The Night Swimmers</i> (Soho Press) Karen Thompson Walker, <i>The Dreamers</i> (Random House) Gabriel Urza of Portland, <i>The White Death: An Illusion</i> (Nouvella)	Kesha Ajose Fisher of Portland, <i>No God Like the Mother</i> (Inkwater Press)
2019	Patrick deWitt of Portland, <i>French Exit</i> (Ecco) Nick Dybek of Corvallis, <i>The Verdun Affair</i> (Scribner)	Leni Zumas of Portland, <i>Red Clocks</i> (Little, Brown)

	John Larison of Monroe, <i>Whiskey When We're Dry</i> (Penguin Random House) Taylor Zajonc of Portland, <i>The Maw</i> (Skyhorse Publishing)	
2018	Wayne Harrison of Springfield, <i>Wrench and Other Stories</i> (New American Press) Victor Lodato of Ashland, <i>Edgar and Lucy</i> (St. Martin's Press) Matthew Robinson of Portland, <i>The Horse Latitudes</i> (Propeller Books) Lidia Yuknavitch of Portland, <i>The Book of Joan</i> (Harper Collins)	Omar El Akkad of Portland, <i>American War</i> (Knopf)
2017	Mo Daviau of Portland, <i>Every Anxious Wave</i> (St. Martin's Press) Mary Emerick of Joseph, <i>The Geography of Water</i> (University of Alaska Press) Scott Nadelson of Salem, <i>Between You and Me</i> (Engine Books) Gina Ochsner of Keizer, <i>The Hidden Letters of Velta B.</i> (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)	Joyce Cherry Cresswell of Portland, <i>A Great Length of Time</i> (Mountain View Press)
2016	Arthur Bradford of Portland, <i>Turtleface and Beyond</i> (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) Gail Chehab of Portland, <i>The Tunnel</i> (Media Aria) Valerie Geary of Portland, <i>Crooked River</i> (William Morrow) Molly Gloss of Portland, <i>Falling from Horses</i> (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)	Lidia Yuknavitch of Portland, <i>The Small Backs of Children</i> (HarperCollins)
2015	Smith Henderson of Portland, <i>Fourth of July Creek</i> (Ecco) Lindsay Hill of Portland, <i>Sea of Hooks</i> (McPherson and Co.) Amy Schutzer of Portland, <i>Spheres of Disturbance</i> (Arktoi Books) Willy Vlautin of Scappoose, <i>The Free</i> (Harper Perennial)	Cari Luna of Portland, <i>The Revolution of Every Day</i> (Tin House Books)
2014	Whitney Otto of Portland, <i>Eight Girls Taking Pictures</i> (Scribner) Amanda Coplin of Portland, <i>The Orchardist</i> (Harper Perennial) Roger Hobbs of Portland, <i>Ghostman</i> (Knopf)	Ursula K. Le Guin of Portland, <i>The Unreal and The Real: Collected Stories: Volume 1 and 2</i> (Small Beer Press)
2013	Brian Doyle of Portland, <i>Bin Laden's Bald Spot</i> (Red Hen Press) Carter Sickels of Portland, <i>The Evening Hour</i> (Bloomsbury)	Ismet Prcic of Portland, <i>Shards</i> (Grove/Atlantic)

	Alexis Smith of Portland, <i>Glaciers</i> (Tin House Books) Leni Zumas of Portland, <i>The Listeners</i> (Tin House Books)			
2012	Dan DeWeese of Portland, <i>You Don't Love This Man</i> (Harper Perennial) Brian Doyle of Portland, <i>Mink River</i> (Oregon State University Press) Matthew Stadler of Portland, <i>Chloe Jarren's La Cucaracha</i> (Publication Studio) Vanessa Veselka of Portland, <i>Zazen</i> (Red Lemonade)		Patrick deWitt of Portland, <i>The Sisters Brothers</i> (Ecco)	
2011	Emily Chenoweth of Portland, <i>Hello Goodbye</i> (Random House) K.B. Dixon of Portland, <i>A Painter's Life</i> (Inkwater Press) Jane Kirkpatrick of Moro, <i>A Flickering Light</i> (WaterBrook Press) Scott Sadil of Hood River, <i>Lost in Wyoming</i> (Barclay Creek Press)		Willy Vlautin of Portland, <i>Lean on Pete</i> (Harper Perennial)	
2009/2010	Miriam Gershow of Eugene, <i>The Local News</i> (Spiegel & Grau) Gina Ochsner of Keizer, <i>The Russian Dreambook of Color and Flight</i> (Portobello Books) Barbara Pope of Eugene, <i>Cezanne's Quarry</i> (Pegasus Books) Leslie What of Eugene, <i>Crazy Love: Stories</i> (Wordcraft of Oregon)		Jon Raymond of Portland, <i>Livability: Stories</i> (Bloomsbury)	
2008	K.B. Dixon of Portland, <i>The Sum of His Syndromes</i> (Inkwater Press) Molly Gloss of Portland, <i>The Hearts of Horses</i> (Houghton Mifflin) Lee Montgomery of Portland, <i>Whose World is This?</i> (University of Iowa Press)		Ehud Havazelet of Corvallis, <i>Bearing the Body</i> (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)	
2007	NOVEL Monica Drake of Portland, <i>Clown Girl</i> (Hawthorne Books) Robert Hill of Portland, <i>When All Is Said and Done</i> (Graywolf Press)	SHORT FICTION ---	NOVEL Alison Clement of Corvallis, <i>Twenty Questions</i> (Atria Books)	SHORT FICTION Charles D'Ambrosio , <i>The Dead Fish Museum</i> (Alfred A. Knopf)

2006	NOVEL Laila Lalami, <i>Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits</i> (Algonquin Books) Peter Rock, <i>The Bewildered</i> (MacAdam Cage)	SHORT FICTION Tracy Daugherty, <i>Late in the Standoff</i> (Southern Methodist University Press) Scott Nadelson, <i>The Cantor's Daughter</i> (Hawthorne Books) Geronimo G. Tagatac, <i>The Weight of the Sun</i> (Ooligan Press)	NOVEL Justin Tussing, <i>The Best People in the World</i> (HarperCollins)	SHORT FICTION Gina Ochsner, <i>People I Wanted to Be</i> (Houghton Mifflin)
2005	NOVEL Kassten Alonso of Portland, <i>Core</i> (Hawthorne Books) Phillip Margolin of Portland, <i>Lost Lake</i> (HarperCollins) Kris Nelscott of Lincoln City, <i>War at Home</i> (St. Martin's Minotaur) Michael Strelow of Salem, <i>The Greening of Ben Brown</i> (Hawthorne Books)	SHORT FICTION David Pinson of Portland, <i>A Moment To Organize My Face</i> (Helicon West)	NOVEL Marc Acito of Portland, <i>How I Paid for College</i> (Broadway Books)	SHORT FICTION Barry Lopez of Finn Rock, <i>Resistance</i> (Alfred A. Knopf)
2004	NOVEL David Farris of Portland, <i>Lie Still</i> (HarperCollins) Michael Curtis Ford of Salem, <i>The Last King</i> (St Martin's Publishing Group) Kris Nelscott of Lincoln City, <i>Stone Cribs</i> (Minotaur Books)	SHORT FICTION Marjorie Sandor of Corvallis, <i>Portrait of My Mother, Who Posed Nude in Wartime</i> (Sarabande Books)	NOVEL Tracy Daugherty of Corvallis, <i>Axeman's Jazz</i> (Southern Methodist University Press)	SHORT FICTION Scott Nadelson of Portland, <i>Saving Stanley</i> (Hawthorne Books)

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2003	April Henry of Portland, <i>Learning to Fly</i> (St. Martin's Press) Jane Kirkpatrick of Moro, <i>A Name of Her Own</i> (Penguin Random House) Alan Siporin of Eugene, <i>Fire's Edge</i> (Wounded Bear Press)	Douglas Rennie of Portland, <i>Badlands</i> (Creative Arts Book Company) Lidia Yuknavitch of Corbett, <i>Real to Reel</i> (Fiction Collective 2)	Cai Emmons of Eugene, <i>His Mother's Son</i> (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)	Tracy Daugherty of Corvallis, <i>It Takes a Worried Man</i> (Southern Methodist University Press)
2002	Kate Bernheimer of Portland, <i>The Complete Tales of Ketzia Gold</i> (Fiction Collective 2) Peter Rock of Portland, <i>The Ambidextrist</i> (Context Books)		Gina Ochsner of Keizer, <i>The Necessary Grace to Fall</i> (University of Georgia Press)	
2001	Barry Lopez of Finn Rock, <i>Light Action in the Caribbean</i> (Knopf Doubleday) Phillip Margolin of Portland, <i>Wild Justice</i> (Harper) Mark Jude Poirier of Portland, <i>Goats</i> (Hyperion) Doe Tabor of Eugene, <i>Do Drums Beat There</i> (New Victoria Publishers)		Molly Best Tinsley of Ashland, <i>Throwing Knives</i> (The Ohio State University Press)	
2000	Jody Seay of Portland, <i>The Second Coming of Curly Red</i> (Firebrand Books) Kathleen Tyau of Gaston, <i>Makai</i> (Beacon Press)		Craig Lesley of Portland, <i>Storm Riders</i> (Picador)	
1999	Tracy Daugherty of Corvallis, <i>The Boy Orator</i> (Southern Methodist University Press) Sheila Evans of Yachats, <i>Northport</i> (Central Oregon Coast Writers Co-op) Chuck Palahniuk of Portland, <i>Survivor</i> (W.W. Norton & Company)		Ehud Havazelet of Corvallis, <i>Like Never Before</i> (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)	
1998	Molly Gloss of Portland, <i>The Dazzle of Day</i> (Tor Books) Sandra Scofield of Missoula, <i>Plain Seeing</i> (HarperCollins) Floyd Skloot of Portland, <i>The Open Door</i> (Story Line Press) Gus Van Sant of Portland, <i>Pink</i> (Anchor Books)		Peter Ho Davies of Eugene, <i>The Ugliest House in the World</i> (Mariner Books)	

1997	Ann Copeland of Salem, <i>Season of Apples</i> (Goose Lane Editions) Gregg Kleiner of Corvallis, <i>Where River Turns to Sky</i> (William Morrow) Joanna Rose of Portland, <i>Little Miss Strange</i> (Touchstone) Sandra Scofield of Missoula, <i>A Chance to See Egypt</i> (HarperCollins)	Chuck Palahniuk of Portland, <i>Fight Club</i> (W.W. Norton)
1996	Craig Lesley of Portland, <i>The Sky Fisherman</i> (Picador) Kathleen Tyau of Gaston, <i>A Little Too Much Is Enough</i> (W.W. Norton & Company)	Tracy Daugherty of Corvallis, <i>What Falls Away</i> (W.W. Norton)
1995	Jennifer C. Cornell of Corvallis, <i>Departures</i> (University of Pittsburgh Press) Ann Packer of Eugene, <i>Mendocino and Other Stories</i> (Chronicle Books)	Chang-rae Lee of Eugene, <i>Native Speaker</i> (Riverhead Books)
1994	Alison Baker , <i>How I Came West, and Why I Stayed</i> (Chronicle Books) George Herman , <i>Carnival of Saints</i> (Ballantine Books) Whitney Otto of Portland, <i>Now You See Her</i> (Ballantine Books) Sandra Scofield of Missoula, <i>More Than Allies</i> (Permanent Press)	Diana Abu-Jaber of Portland, <i>Arabian Jazz</i> (W.W. Norton)
1993	Annie Dawid of Portland, <i>York Ferry</i> (Cane Hill Press) David Duncan , <i>The Brothers K</i> (Bantam) Ken Kesey , <i>Sailor Song</i> (Penguin Publishing Group) Kim Stafford of Portland, <i>Wind on the Waves</i> (Graphic Arts Books)	Diane Simmons , <i>Dreams Like Thunder</i> (Story Line Press)
1992	Karen Karbo of Portland, <i>The Diamond Lane</i> (Hawthorne Books) Tom Spanbauer of Portland, <i>The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon</i> (Atlantic Monthly Press) Kate Wilhelm of Eugene, <i>Death Qualified</i> (St. Martin's Press)	Ursula K. Le Guin of Portland, <i>Searoad</i> (Harper Perennial)
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1990	Hillary Johnson of Foster City, <i>Physical Culture</i> (Poseidon Press) Craig Lesley of Portland, <i>River Song</i> (Houghton Mifflin)	Molly Gloss of Portland, <i>The Jump-off Creek</i> (Generic)
1989	Sharon Doubiago , <i>The Book of Seeing with One's Own Eyes</i> (Graywolf)	Hob Broun , <i>Cardinal Numbers</i> (Knopf)
1988	A.B. Paulson of Portland, <i>Watchman Tell Us of the Night</i> (Viking) Fred Pfeil , <i>Shine On</i> (Lynx House Books)	Todd Grimson , <i>Within Normal Limits</i> (Vintage)
1987	Rick Borsten of Corvallis, <i>The Great Equalizer</i> (Permanent Press)	Russell Working , <i>Resurrectionists</i> (University of Iowa Press)