

Oregon Book Award Winners & Finalists in Poetry

1987 – 2026

Stafford/Hall Award in Poetry

YEAR	FINALISTS	WINNER
2026	H. G. Dierdorff of Portland, <i>Rain, Wind, Thunder, Fire, Daughter</i> (University of Nevada Press) Garrett Hongo of Eugene, <i>Ocean of Clouds</i> (Alfred A. Knopf) Lisa Wells of Portland, <i>The Fire Passage</i> (Four Way Books) Joe Wilkins of McMinnville, <i>Pastoral, 1994</i> (River River Books)	Jennifer Perrine of Portland, <i>Beautiful Outlaw</i> (Kelsey Street Press)
2025	Alisha Dietzman of Newberg, <i>Sweet Movie</i> (Beacon Press) Brian S. Ellis of Portland, <i>Against Common Sense</i> (Limit Zero Publications) Darla Mottram of Portland, <i>RECURRENT</i> (Querencia Press) Valerie Witte of Portland, <i>A Rupture in the Interiors</i> (Airlie Press)	charity e. yoro of Portland, <i>ten-cent flower & other territories</i> (First Matter Press)
2024	Stephanie Adams-Santos of Hillsboro, <i>Dream of Xibalba</i> (Orison Books) Jessica E. Johnson of Portland, <i>Metabolics</i> (Acre Books) Sara Quinn Rivara of Portland, <i>Little Beast</i> (Riot in Your Throat) Rebecca Wadlinger of Portland, <i>Terror, Terrible, Terrific</i> (Octopus Books)	Daniela Naomi Molnar of Portland, <i>CHORUS</i> (Omnidawn)

2023	Matthew Dickman of Portland, <i>Husbandry</i> (W. W. Norton & Co.) Michele Glazer of Portland, <i>fretwork</i> (University of Iowa Press) Janice Lee of Portland, <i>Separation Anxiety</i> (CLASH Books) Amy Miller of Ashland, <i>Astronauts</i> (Beloit Poetry Journal)	Eric Tran of Portland, <i>Mouth, Sugar, and Smoke</i> (Diode Editions)
2022	Irene Cooper of Bend, <i>spare change</i> (Finishing Line Press) Emily Kendal Frey of Portland, <i>LOVABILITY</i> (Fonograf Editions) Jessica (Tyner) Mehta of Hillsboro, <i>When We Talk of Stolen Sisters: New and Revised Poems</i> (Not a Pipe Publishing) Zachary Schomburg of Portland, <i>Fjords vol. 2</i> (Black Ocean)	Dao Strom of Portland, <i>Instrument</i> (Fonograf Editions)
2021	Eman Hassan of Portland, <i>Raghead</i> (New Issues Poetry and Prose) Floyd Skloot of Portland, <i>Far West: Poems</i> (LSU Press) Ed Skoog of Portland, <i>Travelers Leaving for the City</i> (Copper Canyon) Joe Wilkins of McMinnville, <i>Thieve</i> (Lynx House Press)	Anna Elkins of Jacksonville, <i>Hope of Stones</i> (Press 53)
2020	Carl Adamshick of Portland, <i>Birches</i> (Four Way Books) Shaindel Beers of Pendleton, <i>Secure Your Own Mask</i> (White Pine Press) Lynn Otto of Newberg, <i>Real Daughter</i> (Unicorn Press) Allan Peterson of Ashland, <i>This Luminous: New and Selected Poems</i> (Panhandler Books)	Ashley Toliver of Portland, <i>Spectra</i> (Coffee House Press)
2019	José Angel Araguz of McMinnville, <i>Until We Are Level Again</i> (Mongrel Empire Press) Eliza Rotterman of Portland, <i>Dirt Eaters</i> (Tupelo Press) Wendy Willis of Portland, <i>A Long Late Pledge</i> (Bear Star Press) Beth Wood of Portland, <i>Ladder to the Light</i> (Mezcalita Press)	Matthew Minicucci of Portland, <i>Small Gods</i> (New Issues Poetry & Prose)
2018	manuel arturo abreu of Portland, <i>transtrender</i> (Quimérica Books) Allison Cobb of Portland, <i>After We All Died</i> (New Series) (Ahashta Press) Stephen Lackaye of Beaverton, <i>Self-Portrait in Dystopian</i>	Samiya Bashir of Portland, <i>Field Theories</i> (Nightboat Books)

	<i>Landscape</i> (Unicorn Press) Ed Skoog of Portland, <i>Run the Red Lights</i> (Copper Canyon Press)	
2017	Danielle Cadena Deulen of Salem, <i>Our Emotions Get Carried Away Beyond Us</i> (Barrow Street Press) Alicia Jo Rabins of Portland, <i>Divinity School</i> (The American Poetry Review) Jennifer Richter of Corvallis, <i>No Acute Distress</i> (Crab Orchard Review & Southern Illinois University Press) Floyd Skloot of Portland, <i>Approaching Winter</i> (Louisiana State University Press)	Joe Wilkins of McMinnville, <i>When We Were Birds</i> (University of Arkansas Press)
2016	Jessica Johnson of Portland, <i>In Absolutes We Seek Each Other</i> (New Michigan Press) Andrew Michael Roberts of Portland, <i>Good Beast</i> (Burnside Review) Pepper Trail of Ashland, <i>Cascade-Siskiyou</i> (Painted Thrush Press) John Witte of Eugene, <i>Disquiet</i> (University of Washington Press)	Carl Adamshick of Portland, <i>Saint Friend</i> (McSweeney's)
2015	Wendy Chin-Tanner of Portland, <i>Turn</i> (Sibling Rivalry Press) Endi Bogue Hartigan of Portland, <i>Pool [5 choruses]</i> (Omnidawn) Zachary Schomburg of Portland, <i>The Book of Joshua</i> (Black Ocean) Dawn Diez Willis of Salem, <i>Still Life with Judas & Lightning</i> (Airlie Press)	Emily Kendal Frey of Portland, <i>Sorrow Arrow</i> (Octopus Books)
2014	Jennifer Boyden of Milton-Freewater, <i>The Declarable Future</i> (University of Wisconsin Press) Matthew Dickman of Portland, <i>Mayakovsky's Revolver</i> (Norton) Andrea Hollander of Portland, <i>Landscape with Female Figure: New and Selected Poems, 1982-2012</i> (Autumn House Press) Ralph Salisbury of Eugene, <i>Like the Sun in Storm</i> (The Habits of Rainy Nights Press)	Mary Szybist of Portland, <i>Incarnadine</i> (Graywolf)
2013	Jean Esteve of Waldport, <i>Off-Key</i> (Finishing Line Press) Toni Hanner of Eugene, <i>Gertrude: Poems and Other Objects</i> (Traprock Books)	Zachary Schomburg of Portland, <i>Fjords Vol 1</i> (Black Ocean)

	Alan Peterson of Ashland, <i>Fragile Acts</i> (McSweeney's) Carrie Seitzinger of Portland, <i>Fall Ill Medicine</i> (Small Doggies Press)	
2012	Geri Doran of Eugene, <i>Sanderlings</i> (Tupelo Press) Emily Kendal Frey of Portland, <i>The Grief Performance</i> (Cleveland State University Press) Daniel Skach-Mills of Portland, <i>The Hut Beneath the Pine</i> (Daniel Skach-Mills) Ursula K. Le Guin of Portland and Roger Dorband of Astoria, <i>Out Here</i> (Raven Studio)	Carl Adamshick of Portland, <i>Curses and Wishes</i> (Louisiana State University Press)
2011	Donna Henderson of Monmouth, <i>The Eddy Fence</i> (Airlie Press) Henry Hughes of Falls City, <i>Moist Meridian</i> (Mammoth Books) Jennifer Richter of Corvallis, <i>Threshold</i> (Southern Illinois University Press) Zachary Schomburg of Portland, <i>Scary No Scary</i> (Black Ocean)	David Biespiel of Portland, <i>The Book of Men and Women</i> (University of Washington Press)
2009/2010	Alicia Cohen of Portland, <i>Debts and Obligations</i> (O Press) Endi Bogue Hartigan of Portland, <i>One Sun Storm</i> (Center for Literary Publishing) Andrew Michael Roberts of Portland, <i>something has to happen next</i> (University of Iowa Press) Crystal Williams of Portland, <i>Troubled Tongues</i> (Lotus Press)	Matthew Dickman of Portland, <i>All-American Poem</i> (American Poetry Review)
2008	Judith Barrington of Portland, <i>Postcard from the Bottom of the Sea</i> (The Eighth Mountain Press) Brian Doyle of Portland, <i>Thirsty for the Joy</i> (One Day Hill) Kate Gray of Portland, <i>Another Sunset We Survive</i> (Cedar House Books) John C. Morrison of Portland, <i>Heaven of the Moment</i> (Fairweather Books)	Penelope Scambly Schott of Portland, <i>A Is for Anne: Mistress Hutchinson Disturbs the Commonwealth</i> (Turning Point)
2007	Kathleen Halme of Portland, <i>Drift and Pulse</i> (Carnegie Mellon University Press) Paul Merchant of Portland, <i>Some Business of Affinity</i> (Five Seasons Press)	Tom Blood of Portland, <i>The Sky Position</i> (Marriage Records Publishing House)

	Floyd Skloot of Portland, <i>The End of Dreams</i> (Louisiana State University Press)	
2006	David Axelrod of La Grande, <i>The Cartographer's Melancholy</i> (Eastern Washington University Press) Paulann Petersen of Portland, <i>A Bride of Narrow Escape</i> (Cloudbank Books) Vern Rutsala of Portland, <i>How We Spent Our Time</i> (The University of Akron Press) Floyd Skloot of Amity, <i>Approximately Paradise</i> (Tupelo Press) Matt Yurdana of Portland, <i>Public Gestures</i> (University of Tampa Press)	Dorianne Laux of Eugene, <i>Facts About the Moon</i> (Norton)
2005	Judith Barrington of Portland, <i>Horses and the Human Soul</i> (Story Line Press) Vern Rutsala of Portland, <i>A Handbook for Writers</i> (White Line Press) Maxine Scates of Eugene, <i>Black Loam</i> (Cherry Grove Collections)	Laton Carter of Eugene, <i>Leaving</i> (The University of Chicago Press)
2004	David Biespiel of Portland, <i>Wild Civility</i> (University of Washington Press) James Grabill of Portland, <i>An Indigo Scent After the Rain</i> (Lynx House Press) Christopher Johnston of Ashland, <i>Violent Homeland</i> (Booksurge Publishing) Lisa M. Steinman of Portland, <i>Carslaw's Sequences</i> (University of Tampa)	Henry Hughes of Monmouth, <i>Men Holding Eggs</i> (Mammoth Books)
2003	Jane Bailey of Salem, <i>The Fine Art of Postponement</i> (NFSPS) Casey Kwang of Ashland, <i>Copia</i> (Pinball Publishing) Robert McDowell of Talent, <i>On Foot, in Flames</i> (University of Pittsburgh Press) Clemens Starck of Dallas, <i>China Basin</i> (Story Line Press)	Rita Ott Ramstad of Brightwood, <i>The Play of Dark and Light</i> (Bellowing Ark Press)
2002	Lois Baker of Portland, <i>Man Covered with Bees</i> (Howlet Press) Joseph Millar of Eugene, <i>Overtime</i> (Eastern Washington University)	Willa Schneberg of Portland, <i>In the Margins of the World</i> (Plain View Press)

	Carolyn Reynolds Miller of Salem, <i>Rising and Falling</i> (Washington State University Press)	
2001	Karen Braucher of Portland, <i>Sending Messages Over Inconceivable Distances</i> (The Bacchae Press) Tom Bremer of Portland, <i>Just Once</i> (Lynx House Books) Dorianne Laux of Eugene, <i>Smoke</i> (BOA Editions) Ralph Salisbury of Eugene, <i>Rainbows of Stone</i> (University of Arizona Press)	Floyd Skloot of Amity, <i>The Evening Light</i> (Story Line Press)
2000	Bill Deemer of Eugene, <i>Variations</i> (Longhouse) Jeff Meyers of Portland, <i>Hereafter</i> (Quiet Lion Press) Primus St. John of West Linn, <i>Communion</i> (Copper Canyon Press) George Venn of La Grande, <i>West of Paradise</i> (Ice River Press)	Judith Montgomery of Portland, <i>Passion</i> (Defined Providence)
1999	casey l.b. kwang of Talent, <i>on blue felix paper</i> (Wellstone Press) Kim Stafford of Portland, <i>A Thousand Friends of Rain</i> (Carnegie Mellon University Press) Clemens Starck of Dallas, <i>Studying Russian on Company Time</i> (Silverfish Review Press)	Pimone Triplett of Eugene, <i>Ruining the Picture</i> (TriQuarterly)
1998	Diane Averill of Beavercreek, <i>Beautiful Obstacles</i> (Blue Light Press) Michele Glazer of Portland, <i>It Is Hard to Look At What We Came to Think We'd Come to See</i> (University of Pittsburgh Press) James Grabill of Portland, <i>Listening to the Leaves Form</i> (Lynx House Books) Robert Hill Long of Eugene, <i>The Effigies</i> (Plinth Books)	Sandra Stone of Portland, <i>Cocktails with Brueghel at the Museum Café</i> (Cleveland State University Poetry Center)
1997	David Biespiel of Portland, <i>Shattering Air</i> (BOA Editions) Donna Henderson of Monmouth, <i>Transparent Woman</i> (Howlet Press) T.R. Hummer of Eugene, <i>Walt Whitman in Hell</i> (Louisiana State University Press) Lisa M. Steinman of Portland, <i>Ordinary Songs</i> (26 Books Press)	Lawson Fusao Inada of Ashland, <i>Drawing the Line</i> (Coffee House Press)

1996	Barbara LaMorticella , <i>Rain on Waterless Mountain</i> (26 Book Press) Carlos Reyes , <i>A Suitcase Full of Crows</i> (Bluestem Press) Jim Shugrue , <i>Small Things Screaming</i> (26 Books Press)	Clemens Starck , <i>Journeyman's Wages</i> (Story Line Press)
1995	Vern Rutsala , <i>Little-Known Sports</i> (University of Massachusetts Press) Floyd Skloot , <i>Music Appreciation</i> (University Press of Florida) Elizabeth Woody , <i>Luminaries of the Humble</i> (University of Arizona Press)	James Grabill , <i>Poem Rising Out of the Earth and Standing Up in Someone</i> (Lynx House Books)
1994	Henry Carlile , <i>Rain</i> (Carnegie Mellon University Press) Jane Glazer , <i>Some Trick of Light</i> (Adrienne Lee Press) Doug Marx , <i>Sufficiency</i> (26 Books) Steven Sher , <i>Traveler's Advisory</i> (Trout Creek Press) Floyd Skloot , <i>Poppies</i> (Story Line Press)	Tom Crawford , <i>Lauds</i> (Cedar House Books)
1993	Lois Baker , <i>Tracers</i> (Howlett Press) Lawson Inada , <i>Legends from Camp</i> (Coffee House Press) Peter Jensen, Erik Muller and David Johnson , <i>Confluence</i> (Walking Bird Press)	Lisa M. Steinman , <i>A Book of Other Days</i> (Arrowood Books)
1992	James B. Hall , <i>Bereavements</i> (Story Line Press) Christopher Howell , <i>Sweet Afton</i> (Black River Press)	Vern Rutsala , <i>Selected Poems</i> (Story Line Press)
1991	Diane Averill , <i>Branches Doubled Over with Fruit</i> (University Press of Florida) Robert A. Davies , <i>Tracks in Oregon</i> (Mister Cogito Press) Nan Hannon , <i>Sky River</i> (Ahsakta Press)	Sharon Doubiago , <i>Psyche Drives the Coast</i> (Empty Bowl)
1990	----	Primus St. John , <i>Dreamer</i> (Carnegie Mellon University Press) Maxine Scates , <i>Toluca Street</i> (University of Pittsburgh Press)

1989	Judith Barrington , <i>History and Geography</i> (Eighth Mountain Press) John Daniel , <i>Common Ground</i> (Confluence Press) Lisa M. Steinman , <i>All That Comes to Light</i> (Arrowood Books)	Lex Runciman , <i>The Admirations</i> (Lynx House Books)
1988	Tom Bremer , <i>A Bird That Changes Trees</i> Sharon Doubiago , <i>Oedipus Drowned</i> (Pygmy Forest Press)	Ingrid Wendt , <i>Singing the Mozart Requiem</i> (Far Corner Books)
1987	Vern Rutsala , <i>Ruined Cities</i> (Carnegie Mellon University Press)	John Haislip , <i>Seal Rock</i> (Barnwood Press)