

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Publishing Triangle's 27th Annual Triangle Awards to Be Presented April 23

Rigoberto González Receives Bill Whitehead Lifetime Achievement Award

Finalists Announced for Best LGBT Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Debut Fiction Published in 2014, posted at www.publishingtriangle.org

The 27th annual Triangle Awards, honoring the best LGBT fiction, nonfiction, and poetry published in 2014, will be presented on April 23, 2015, at the Auditorium of the New School (66 West 12th Street in New York City) at 7 p.m. The ceremony is free and open to the public, with a reception to follow.

The Publishing Triangle, the association of lesbians and gay men in publishing, began honoring a gay or lesbian writer for his or her body of work a few months after the organization was founded in 1989, and has now partnered with the Ferro-Grumley Literary Awards to present an impressive array of awards each spring.

Rigoberto González is the 2015 recipient of the Publishing Triangle's **Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement**, named in honor of the legendary editor of the 1970s and 1980s. He is the author of four books of poetry—most recently, *Unpeopled Eden*, which was a finalist last year for the Publishing Triangle's Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry and won the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry. His ten books of prose comprise two bilingual children's books; the three young adult novels in the Mariposa Club series; the novel *Crossing Vines*; the story collection *Men Without Bliss*; and three books of nonfiction, including *Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa*, which was a finalist for the Publishing Triangle's Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction and received the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. González has also edited *Camino del Sol: Fifteen Years of Latina and Latino Writing* and a volume of the poet Alurista's work, *Xicano Duende*. He is the recipient of, among others, a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Barnes & Noble Writer for Writers Award. González is contributing editor for *Poets & Writers* magazine, sits on the executive board of directors of the National Book Critics Circle, and is professor of English at Rutgers–Newark, the State University of New Jersey. The Bill Whitehead Award is given to a man in odd-numbered years and to a woman in even years, and the winner receives \$3000.

The Publishing Triangle began giving the Shilts-Grahn awards for nonfiction in 1997. Each winner receives \$1000. The **Randy Shilts Award** honors the journalist whose groundbreaking work on the AIDS epidemic for the *San Francisco Chronicle* made him a hero to many in the

community. Shilts (1951–1994) was the author of *The Mayor of Castro Street*, *And the Band Played On*, and *Conduct Unbecoming*. This award recognizes the best nonfiction book of the year by or about gay men, bisexual men, and/or transmen or that has a significant influence upon the lives of queer men.

Finalists for the Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction

Gay Berlin: Birthplace of a Modern Identity, by Robert Beachy
(Alfred A. Knopf)

Hold Tight Gently, by Martin Duberman (The New Press)

The Prince of Los Cocuyos, by Richard Blanco
(Ecco/HarperCollins)

Wagstaff: Before and After Mapplethorpe, by Philip Gafter
(Liveright/W.W. Norton)

The **Judy Grahn Award** honors the American writer, cultural theorist and activist (b. 1940) best known for *The Common Woman* (1969), *Another Mother Tongue* (rev. ed., 1984), and *A Simple Revolution* (2012). It recognizes the best nonfiction book of the year by or about lesbians, bisexual women, and/or transwomen, or that has a significant influence upon the lives of queer women.

Finalists for the Judy Grahn Award for Lesbian Nonfiction

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around: 40 Years of Movement Building with Barbara Smith, by Barbara Smith;
edited by Alethia Jones and Virginia Eubanks (SUNY Press)

A Cup of Water Under My Bed, by Daisy Hernandez (Beacon Press)

Eating Fire: My Life as a Lesbian Avenger, by Kelly Cogswell

(University of Minnesota Press)
The End of Eve, by Ariel Gore (Hawthorne Books)

The Publishing Triangle established its poetry awards in 2001. Each winner receives \$500. The **Audre Lorde Award** honors the American poet, essayist, librarian, and teacher. Lorde (1934–1992) was nominated for the National Book Award for *From a Land Where Other People Live* and was the poet laureate of New York State in 1991. She received the Publishing Triangle's Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement shortly before her death. Among her other sixteen books are *Zami* (1982) and *A Burst of Light* (1989).

Finalists for the Audre Lorde Award for Lesbian Poetry

How a Mirage Works, by Beverly Burch (Sixteen Rivers Press)

Last Psalm at Sea Level, by Meg Day (Barrow Street Press)

Like a Beggar, by Ellen Bass (Copper Canyon Press)

Tiger Heron, by Robin Becker (University of Pittsburgh Press)

The **Thom Gunn Award** honors the British poet Thom Gunn (1929–2004), who lived in San Francisco for much of his life. Gunn was the author of *The Man with Night Sweats* (1992) and many other acclaimed volumes. In its first four years, this award was known as the Triangle Award for Gay Poetry, and Mr. Gunn himself won the very first such award, in 2001, for his *Boss Cupid*.

Finalists for the Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry

I Don't Know Do You, by Roberto Montes (Ampersand Books)

The New Testament, by Jericho Brown (Copper Canyon Press)

Prelude to Bruise, by Saeed Jones (Coffee House Press)

The Selected Poetry of Pier Paolo Pasolini: A Bilingual Edition, edited and translated by Stephen Sartarelli (University of Chicago Press)

The **Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction**, first presented in 2006, is named in honor of Edmund White, the esteemed novelist and man of letters who won the very first Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement in 1989. The Edmund White Award celebrates the future of lesbian and gay literature by awarding a prize to an outstanding first novel or story collection. The winner receives \$1000.

Finalists for the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction

For Today I Am a Boy, by Kim Fu (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Little Reef and Other Stories, by Michael Carroll (University of Wisconsin Press)

New York 1, Tel Aviv 0, by Shelly Oria (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Unaccompanied Minors, by Alden Jones (New American Press)

The Ferro Grumley Literary Awards, Inc., was established in 1988 to recognize, promote excellence in, and give greater access to fiction writing from lesbian and gay points of view. To honor the memory of authors **Robert Ferro** (*The Blue Star*, *Second Son*, etc.) and **Michael Grumley** (*Life Drawing*, etc.), life partners who both died that year of AIDS,

the group gave two awards, one for lesbian fiction and one for gay fiction, from 1990 through 2008. Starting in 2009, a single award, **The Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Fiction**, has been presented; it is bestowed by a specially constituted panel of judges selected from throughout the United States and Canada, from the arts, media, publishing, bookselling, and related fields. The winner receives \$1000.

Finalists for The Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Fiction

All I Love and Know, by Judith Frank (William Morrow/HarperCollins)

I Loved You More, by Tom Spanbauer (Hawthorne Books)

Mr. Loverman, by Bernardine Evaristo (Akashic Books)

Sideways Down the Sky, by Barry Brennessel (MLR Press)

When Everything Feels Like the Movies, by Raziel Reid (Arsenal Pulp Press)

On the evening before the awards ceremony, The Publishing Triangle will sponsor a reading by a select group of finalists; this event will be held at Bureau of General Services—Queer Division, the bookstore inside the LGBT Community Services Center at 208 West 13th Street, Manhattan. The lineup of participating finalists who will be reading here on April 22 will be announced later. This reading, which will begin at 7 p.m., is free, and books by the readers will be sold.

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