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THE NATIONAL BOOK FOUNDATION  
ANNOUNCES  
The 2013 Judges for the National Book Awards

*For the first time since the 1970s, the panels will include a mix of writers and others with literary expertise*

New York, NY, April 1, 2013 — As announced in January, this year, for the first time since the 1970s, National Book Award judging panels will include not only writers but other literary experts. The 2013 panels will include past winners and finalists for the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards, as well as literary critics, a librarian, booksellers, and the vice president of a philanthropic foundation. "The expansion of the judging pool has given us an extraordinary diversity of voices on our panels," said Harold Augenbraum, the Foundation's Executive Director. "We expect spirited discussions throughout the process." David Steinberger, President and CEO of the Perseus Books Group and the Foundation's Chairman, added that "we are particularly gratified that such experts in their fields have agreed to join us as we broaden our reach into new communities."

The 2013 National Book Awards Judges are:

**Fiction**

**Charles Baxter** was a Finalist for the National Book Award in Fiction in 2000 for *The Feast of Love*. He has published five novels, six collections of short stories, three books of poetry, and nonfiction. He has also been a Guggenheim Fellow and received an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His most recent book of fiction was *Gryphon*, a collection of stories published in 2011. [www.charlesbaxter.com](http://www.charlesbaxter.com)

**Gish Jen** is the author of four novels and a collection of stories. She has received a Lannan Award in Fiction as well as a Harold and Mildred Strauss Living from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; she is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She delivered the Massey lectures in American Civilization at Harvard University last year. These have just been published as *Tiger Writing: Art, Culture, and the Interdependent Self*. [www.gishjen.com](http://www.gishjen.com)

**Charles McGrath** is former editor of *The New York Times Book Review* and before that deputy editor at *The New Yorker*.

**Rick Simonson** has been a bookseller at Elliott Bay Book Company in Seattle, Washington for over 35 years, and is presently senior buyer and co-director of the store's literary program.

**René Steinke** was a 2005 National Book Award Finalist in Fiction for her novel *Holy Skirts*. She is director of the MFA program at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, New Jersey and former editor-in-chief of *TLR*.

## **Nonfiction**

**Jabari Asim** is the author of *The N Word* and *What Obama Means*. For many years, he was a book reviewer and columnist for *The Washington Post*. He is an associate professor of writing, literature, and publishing at Emerson College.  
[www.therealjabariasim.com](http://www.therealjabariasim.com)

**André Bernard** is Vice President and Secretary of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

**M.G. Lord** writes on popular culture, society, and technology. She is the author of *The Accidental Feminist*, *Forever Barbie*, and *Astro Turf*, a family memoir of Cold War aerospace culture, for which she received an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant. She teaches writing at the University of Southern California.  
<http://mglord.com>

**Lauren Redniss** was a Finalist for National Book Award in Nonfiction in 2011 for *Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Curie, A Tale of Love and Fallout*. Her writing and drawing has appeared in numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, which nominated her work for the Pulitzer Prize. She is the recipient of a 2012 Guggenheim Fellowship and is currently Artist-in-Residence at the American Museum of Natural History. She teaches at Parsons the New School for Design in New York City. [www.laurenredniss.com](http://www.laurenredniss.com)

**Eric Sundquist** is the author of *To Wake the Nations*, winner of the James Russell Lowell Prize from the Modern Language Association for best book published during the year, the Christian Gauss Award from Phi Beta Kappa for the best book in the humanities, and the Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award. He is Chair of the Department of English and Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities at Johns Hopkins University.

## Poetry

**Nikky Finney** is the author of four books of poetry: *Head Off & Split*, Winner of the 2011 National Book Award, *The World Is Round*, *Rice*, and *On Wings Made of Gauze*. She also authored *Heartwood*, a story collection for adult literacy students, and edited *The Ringing Ear: Black Poets Lean South*. The Guy Davenport Endowed Professor in the Department of English at the University of Kentucky for twenty years, she has recently accepted a teaching position at the University of South Carolina. <http://nikkyfinney.net>

**Ada Limón's** first collection of poetry, *Lucky Wreck*, was the winner of the 2005 Autumn House Poetry Prize. She is also the author of *This Big Fake World*, winner of the 2005 Pearl Poetry Prize, and *Sharks in the Rivers*. [www.adalimon.com](http://www.adalimon.com)

**D.A. Powell** won the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Award for his collection *Useless Landscape: A Guide for Boys*. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. He lives in San Francisco.

**Jahan Ramazani** is Edgar F. Shannon Professor at the University of Virginia. He co-edited *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, and *The Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry*. His books include *A Transnational Poetics*, winner of the Harry Levin Prize of the American Comparative Literature Association, and *Poetry of Mourning: The Modern Elegy from Hardy to Heaney*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.

**Craig Morgan Teicher** is the author of *Brenda Is in the Room and Other Poems*, which was chosen for the 2007 Colorado Prize for Poetry. His collection of short stories and fables, called *Cradle Book*, was published in 2010, and his most recent book, *To Keep Love Blurry: Poems*, was published in 2013. He is Poetry Reviews Editor of *Publishers Weekly*. [www.craigmorganteicher.com](http://www.craigmorganteicher.com)

## Young People's Literature

**Deb Caletti** was a National Book Award Finalist in Young People's Literature in 2004 for *Honey, Baby, Sweetheart*, as well as the recipient of other numerous awards and honors, including a PEN USA finalist, the Washington State Book Award, and the SLJ Best Book award. <http://debcaletti.com>

**Cecil Castellucci** is the author of books and graphic novels for young adults, including *Boy Proof*, *The Plain Janes*, *The Year of the Beasts*, and *Odd Duck*. She

is the YA editor of the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, Children's Correspondence Coordinator for *The Rumpus*, and a two-time MacDowell Fellow. She lives in Los Angeles. <http://castellucci.wordpress.com>

**Peter Glassman** has been a bookseller for 38 years and is the founder and owner of Books of Wonder, one of the foremost bookstores in the country for young people's literature. He is also the author of three picture books and the editor of the Books of Wonder Classics, published by HarperCollins.

**E. Lockhart** was a Finalist for the 2008 National Book Award in Young People's Literature for her novel *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*, which was also a Michael L. Printz Award Honor Book and received the Cybils Award for best young adult novel. Her most recent book is *Real Live Boyfriends*, the fourth book in the Ruby Oliver series. [www.emilylockhart.com](http://www.emilylockhart.com)

**Lisa Von Drasekis** is the Curator of the Children's Literature Research Collections of the University of Minnesota. Prior to accepting this appointment, she was the Director of the Center for Children's Literature and Children's Librarian of the Bank Street College of Education in New York City. She writes about children's and young adult books on [EarlyWord.com](http://EarlyWord.com).

The Foundation also noted that it has moved from its traditional paper entry form to a new online entry form for publishers to enter and pay for books to be submitted for the 2013 National Book Awards. The digital, online form will be open from April 1 to June 3, 2013.

As announced in January, the Judges for this year's National Book Awards in Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Young People's Literature will be the first group in the Awards' history to select a "Longlist" of ten titles in each of the four genres, to be announced on September 12<sup>th</sup> (forty titles). The purpose of the Longlist is to increase the public conversation about the best books of the year. Twenty Finalists from the "Longlist" will be announced on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Winner in each of the four categories-Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry and Young People's Literature-will be announced at the 64<sup>th</sup> National Book Awards Ceremony and Benefit Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street in New York City on Wednesday, November 20, 2013.

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***The National Book Foundation's mission is to celebrate the best of American literature, to expand its audience, and to enhance the cultural value of good***

writing in America. In addition to the National Book Awards, for which it is best known, the Foundation's programs include **5 Under 35**, a celebration of emerging fiction writers selected by former National Book Award Finalists and Winners; the **National Book Awards Teen Press Conference**, an opportunity for New York City students to interview the current National Book Award Finalists in Young People's Literature; **NBA on Campus**, a partnership that brings current National Book Award authors to Concordia College in Moorhead, MN; the **Innovations in Reading Prize**, awarded to individuals and institutions that have developed innovative means of creating and sustaining a lifelong love of reading; and **BookUp**, a writer-led, after-school reading club for middle- and high-school students, run in New York City and Bryan, Texas.

**The National Book Award** is one of the nation's most prestigious literary prizes and has a stellar record of identifying and rewarding quality writing. In 1950, William Carlos Williams was the first Winner in Poetry, the following year William Faulkner was honored in Fiction, and so on through the years. Many previous Winners of a National Book Award are now firmly established in the canon of American literature, such as Sherman Alexie, Jonathan Franzen, Denis Johnson, Joyce Carol Oates, and Adrienne Rich. On November 14, 2012, the Winners of the 63rd National Book Awards were announced: Louise Erdrich for Fiction, Kathryn Boo for Nonfiction, David Ferry for poetry, and William Alexander for Young People's Literature.