

Media Release
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**Breaking News from
The Writers Guild of Alberta**

The 2009 Alberta Literary Awards Announced!

Edmonton, AB – The Writers Guild of Alberta revealed the **winners of the 2009 Alberta Literary Awards** in Calgary on May 23, 2009. More than 200 writers attended the 2009 Alberta Literary Awards Gala, part of The Writers’ Union of Canada and the Writers Guild of Alberta’s Limitless Sky Conference.

Highlights of the evening included:

- Canmore children’s author **Hazel Hutchins** received the R. Ross Annett Award for Children’s Literature for her picture book *Matlland*.
- Recently shortlisted for The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize, **Jaspreet Singh’s** novel *Chef* received the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction.
- **Caterina Edwards** received the Wilfred Eggleston Award for Non-Fiction for *Finding Rosa: A Mother with Alzheimer’s, a Daughter in Search of the Past*. This book was also shortlisted for this year’s City of Edmonton Book Prize.
- Two-time Governor General Award winner **Sharon Pollock** was awarded the Gwen Pharis Ringwood Award for Drama for *Kabloona Talk*, from *Sharon Pollock: Collected Works Volume Three*.
- Edmonton’s **Lisa Martin-DeMoor** won the Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry for her first collection of poetry, *One Crow Sorrow*.
- The winner of the inaugural Amber Bowerman Memorial Travel Writing Award went to **Leah Bailly** for “Long Views Across Nothing.”
- **Barb Howard** from Bragg Creek was the recipient of the Howard O’Hagan Award for Short Story for “Mrs. Goodfellow’s Dog,” published in *Grain*.

This celebration marked the 27th anniversary of the Alberta Literary Awards and brought writers from across Alberta and Canada. The Writers’ Union of Canada also presented the highly anticipated **Danuta Gleed Literary Award** to **Pasha Malla** for *The Withdrawal Method*.

-More-

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The Alberta Literary Awards recognize and celebrate the highest standards of literary excellence from Alberta authors. This year, jurors deliberated over 140 submissions to select 21 finalists in seven categories.

For more information, please contact the Writers Guild of Alberta at (780) 422-8174 or visit www.writersguild.ab.ca.

2009 Alberta Literary Awards Shortlist

R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature (Sponsored by Western Financial Group's *West Magazine*)

- Hazel Hutchins (Canmore) and Gail Herbert—*Mattland*, Annick Press

Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction (Sponsored by Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association)

- Jaspreet Singh (Calgary)—*Chef*, Véhicule Press

Wilfred Eggleston Award for Non-Fiction (Sponsored by The Banff Centre)

(The winner of the 2009 award will be invited to present at LitFest: the Edmonton International Literary Festival)

- Caterina Edwards (Edmonton)—*Finding Rosa: A Mother with Alzheimer's, a Daughter in Search of the Past*, Greystone Books

Gwen Pharis Ringwood Award for Drama (Sponsored by Alberta Views)

- Sharon Pollock (Calgary)—*Kabloona Talk*, from *Sharon Pollock: Collected Works Volume Three*, Playwrights Canada Press

Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry (Supported by Stephan V. Benediktson)

- Lisa Martin-DeMoor (Edmonton)—*One Crow Sorrow*, Brindle & Glass

Amber Bowerman Memorial Travel Writing Award (Supported by Ann Campbell)

- Leah Bailly (Calgary)—“Long Views Across Nothing”

Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Story (Supported by John Ballem)

- Barb Howard (Bragg Creek)—“Mrs. Goodfellow's Dog,” in *Grain*

Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Prize

The jury has decided not to present an award in this category for this year.

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