

2009 Book Awards



The Art of Racing in the Rain

Garth Stein
HarperCollins

In this, his third novel, Garth Stein gave himself the almost impossible task of telling his story from the perspective of the one participant whose faith in the protagonist can never be doubted: his dog. In so doing, Stein has created, in Enzo, an aging and surprisingly wise mutt, who is perhaps the most memorable narrator of the year.

--PNBA Awards Committee



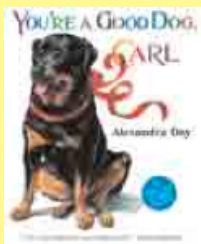
William Stafford Memorial Poetry Award

Selected Poems: 1970-2005

Floyd Skloot
Tupelo Press

In this selection from a long and accomplished career, the poet and memoirist Floyd Skloot has established his place as one of the nation's premier poets. Across a wide range of moods, Skloot offers us his deeply moving and--ultimately--celebratory enthusiasm for the common moment.

--PNBA Awards Committee



Lifetime Achievement Award

The Good Dog, Carl series

Alexandra Day

Farrar, Straus & Giroux and Square Fish Books

Alexandra Day has achieved, in her lifetime, the rare status of being widely and rightly accepted as the creator of a series of now classic children's books. In the ongoing adventures of the very good dog, Carl, Day has conjured a largely wordless, beautifully rendered world of bright colors and blissful days, the perfect fantasy of innocent exploration. --PNBA Awards Committee

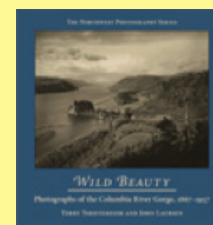


Wild Beauty: Photographs of the Columbia River Gorge, 1867-1957

John Laursen & Terry Toedtemeier

Oregon State University Press

The writers/editors have selected some 130 images from dozens of photographers, covering 90 years of natural and man-made history, and, in so doing, have recreated an otherwise lost history of a truly awe-inspiring wonder of the West. This book is a beautiful and breathtaking work of research and rediscovery, to be appreciated and treasured by anyone with an interest in photography, history and the majesty of landscape. --PNBA Awards Committee



Guernica

Dave Boling
Bloomsbury

In a fictional epic based on the very real tragedy of an extraordinary place devastated during the Spanish Civil War, debut novelist Dave Boling has written the kind of rich, compelling and utterly unforgettable novel all too rarely attempted and even more rarely realized. Boling's remarkably researched book is a humane and thoughtful narrative of genuinely good people in impossible circumstances. --PNBA Awards Committee



American Buffalo: In Search of a Lost Icon

Steven Rinella
Spiegel & Grau

Steven Rinella brings a contemporary sensibility and a breathtaking grasp of the history of the buffalo in America with him on the hunt of a lifetime. In the process, he redeems the tradition of great writing by American outdoorsmen. Few books of this or any year offer such an immediate and lasting connection with the reality of our long and often tragic interaction with the natural world.

--PNBA Awards Committee

