



The Word Guild Is Pleased to Announce
The 2021 Word Awards Short List
Honouring the Best of Canadian Christian Writing from 2020

NOMINEES ARE PRESENTED ALPHABETICALLY BY LAST NAME

Please note: Some categories have a winner, but not a short list, so we can't announce the winners at this point.

UNPUBLISHED WORK CLASSES

FRESH INK {Student Writing Awards} Sponsored by Rose Brandon, Claudia Loopstra, Amelia Rodin Legal Solutions

- Leah Hart: Guelph, ON "*Landscapes, Passports, Memories: Home*"
- Kaitlyn Hogeterp: Centreville, NS "*Seasons of Life – Melody*"
- Kaitlyn Hogeterp: Centreville, NS "*When I am Weak*"
- Sarah VanZandbeek: Edmonton, AB "*Kings and Captains*"

IN THE BEGINNING {Unpublished Author Awards} ~ Sponsored by Eleanor Shepherd

- Paul Breen: Burlington, ON "*Not as I Do*"
- Johanna Frank: Kitchener, ON "*The Gatekeeper's Descendants*"
- Pascale Collucci: McGregor, ON "*Summer Days*"
- Sheila LeBlanc writing as Juliet Hamilton: Whitby, ON "*Samuel's Surprise*"
- Sheila LeBlanc writing as Juliet Hamilton: Whitby, ON "*Solitary Lies*"
- Donna-Lee Sisson: Huntsville, ON "*GirlTalk: A Language, A Pastime, A Mystery*"
- Hilda Van Gyssel: Port Sydney, ON "*Poetry with A Future - The Dogwood Tree*"
- Kevin E. Van Koughnett: Red Deer, AB "*A Love Letter Declares*"
- Sharon Vardy Bacon: Port Sydney, ON "*All the Joys of Christmas*"
- Sharon Vardy Bacon: Port Sydney, ON "*The White Elephant*"

CASTLE QUAY BEST NEW CANADIAN MANUSCRIPT

- Holly Enslin: Medicine Hat, AB "*Mothers-in-Law (Society's Scapegoat)*"
- Neill Fox: North Orillia, ON "*The Crown and Salvation*"
- Ron J. Mahler: Minden, ON "*Cross-Walk: Doing Life with Jesus*"
- Terry Posthumus: Oshawa, ON "*Hope Unbroken*"
- Melanie Stevenson: Cambridge, ON "*The Things We Never Say*"
- Jack A. Taylor: Vancouver, BC "*The Persian Prince*"

DIGITAL ENTRY CLASSES

BEST BLOG OF THE YEAR AWARD ~ Sponsored by Tulett, Matthews & Associates

- Sandee MacGregor: Halton Hills, ON “*Sovereign Radiance*”
- Carolyn Watts: Vancouver, BC “*Hearing the Heartbeat*”

TERRENCE L. BINGLEY AWARD SONGWRITING AWARD ~ Sponsored by The Bingley Family

Please note: This category has a winner, but not a short list, so we are unable to announce the winner at this point.

ARTICLE / SHORT PIECES (ASP) – CHRISTIAN

BLOG, sponsored by My Tribute Gift

- Meagan Gillmore: Toronto, ON “*Dear Church, about living on \$2000/month or less*” (Meagan Gillmore Blog)
- N.J. Lindquist: Markham, ON “*The Tipping Point*” (N.J. Lindquist Blog)
- Cathie Ostapchuk: Oakville, ON “*Monday Motivation: The Afterglow of Advent*” (Cathie Ostapchuk Blog)

COLUMN SERIES, sponsored by Kingdon Truss

- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC “*Go with God: Standing Up Straighter and Virtual Realities*” (Faith Today)
- David Guretzki: Ottawa, ON “*Cross Connections*” (Faith Today)
- Jack Taylor: Vancouver, BC “*A Thunderclap of Mercy – A Theology of Suffering*” (Light Magazine)

COLUMN SINGLE (CHRISTIAN & GENERAL MARKET), sponsored by FineTuned Editing (Carolyn Wilker), and Plank and Pin, respectively

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*Can Evangelism be Redeemed?*” (Anglican Diocese of Niagara)
- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*Translation and Inclusion: Why They Go Together*” (Anglican Diocese of Niagara)
- Bruce J. Clemenger: Ottawa, ON “*A Matter of Equal Protection: Advocating for our neighbours with disabilities*” (Faith Today)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Canadian Thanksgiving and the Indigenous Tension*” (The Banner)

DEVOTIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL, sponsored by Neil Bramble

- Peter Cusick: St. Thomas, ON “*Search Me, O God*” (Testimony)
- Lynn Dove: Cochrane, AB “*Rest and Relaxation*”
- Stephen Kennedy: Peterborough, ON “*Let There Be Light*” (Testimony)

LONG FEATURE, sponsored by Stonebridge Enterprises

- Katharine Hayhoe: Lubbock, TX “*Crisis in Creation Care: A leading climate scientist shows us how we can all respond*” (Faith Today)
- Diane Stinton “*Mary of Nazareth: A Prophetic Voice Calling through the Centuries*” (Crux)
- Jens Zimmermann “*Christian Humanism and the Importance of Personhood*” (Crux)

NEWS, sponsored by Stonebridge Enterprises

- Meghan Kort: Terrace, BC “*Call the Chaplain*” (Christian Courier)
- Sherman Lau, Celina Lam, Joge Lin & Ted Ng: Burnaby, BC “*Longing to Belong: How do Christians live out our welcome and inclusion of minorities*” (Faith Today)



PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, *sponsored by FCI Windows*

- Meghan Kort: Terrace, BC “*Different by Design*” (Christian Courier)
- Rebecca Pousette “*Embracing Sainly Frivolity: My Journey toward Reconciling Faith and Competitive Sport*” (Crux)
- Larry Worthen: Dartmouth, NS “*Appointment with God: Walking with my father through the temptation of euthanasia*” (Faith Today)

POETRY, *sponsored by Michael Robichaud*

- D.S. Martin: Brampton, ON “*Semi-Aubade*” (Crux)
- Naomi Peters: Richmond Hill, ON “*Fading*” (Goldrock Press)
- Fran Westwood: Toronto, ON “*Psalm 127*” (Crux)

PROFILE/HUMAN INTEREST, *sponsored by Jennifer Willcock*

- Melanie Gibson: Brampton, ON “*A Chosen Baby*” (The Testimony)
- Meghan Kort: Terrace, BC “*On Stage in a Dangerous Time*” (Christian Courier)
- Terrie Todd: Portage la Prairie “*Lessons from a Blind Man*” (The Graphic Leader)

SHORT FEATURE, *sponsored by Blossom Turner*

- Rose McCormick Brandon: Caledonia, ON “*The Dark Side of the Supernatural*” (The Testimony)
- Jenna Smith: Verdun, QC “*Death and New Life Among Resurrection People*” (Faith Today)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Instruments of Blessing or Destruction*” (The Banner)

SHORT STORY, *sponsored by Blossom Turner*

- Eleanor Bertin: Botha, AB “*Love & Unexpected Stress Responses*”
- Sara Davison: Cobourg, ON “*Ten Bottles of Sand (in the anthology Before Summer’s End)*” (The Mosaic Collection)

PUBLISHED BOOKS CLASSES

BOOKS – CHRISTIAN FICTION

CHILDREN, *sponsored by Janet Surette*

- Brad and Jen Klassen: Steinbach, MB “*The Kite Festival*” Christopher Barkman, Illustrator (Brad Klassen Publisher)
- Donna Simard: St. Lazare, MB “*Tommy’s Feet*” (Word Alive Press)

YOUNG ADULT & SPECULATIVE, *sponsored by Ferndale Bible Church, and Heather Rodin respectively*

- Susan Reimer: Timmins, ON “*Through the Fire*” (Word Alive Press)
- J. Alana Menzies: Markham, ON “*The Misadventures and Tribulations of Princess Persnickety and Stefan the Stableboy*” (That’s Life! Communications)
- Tara K. Ross: Milton, ON “*Fade to White*” (IlluminateYA/LPC/Ironstream Media)
- Olivia Smit: LaSalle, ON “*Seeing Voices*” (WhiteSpark Publishing)

CHRISTIAN ADULT FICTION - CONTEMPORARY, *sponsored by That’s Life! Communications*

- Eleanor Bertin: Botha, AB “*Tethered*”
- Karen V. Robichaud: Eastern Passage, NS “*Tears in the Desert*” (Word Alive Press)
- Ruth Smith Meyer: Ailsa Craig, ON “*Chains of Shame*” (Word Alive Press)

CHRISTIAN ADULT FICTION – HISTORICAL, *sponsored by KISI Publishing (Eddie Chu)*

- Susan Anne Mason: Brampton, ON “*A Haven for Her Heart*” (Bethany House Publishers)
- Corinne Mordaunt: Toronto, ON “*Keep the Light Burning*” (The Bruce Dale Press)
- Violet Nesdoly: Langley, BC “*Under the Cloud*” (SparrowSong Press)

ROMANCE, *sponsored by Carol Ford*

- Melony Teague: Richmond Hill, ON “*A Promise to Keep*” (Anaiyah Press)
- Blossom Turner: Lake Country, BC “*Katherine's Arrangement*” (Wild Heart Books)
- Darlene L. Turner: London, ON “*Border Breach*” (Love Inspired Suspense – Harlequin)

SUSPENSE, *sponsored by Heather Rodin*

- Sara Davison: Cobourg, ON “*Lost Down Deep*” (The Mosaic Collection)
- Karen V. Robichaud: Eastern Passage, NS “*Tears in the Desert*” (Word Alive Press)
- Darlene L. Turner: London, ON “*Border Breach*” (Love Inspired Suspense – Harlequin)

BOOKS – CHRISTIAN NON-FICTION

ACADEMIC & INSTRUCTIONAL, *sponsored by FCI Windows*

- David C. Bental: Vancouver, BC “*Dear Younger Me: Wisdom for Family Enterprise Successors*” (Castle Quay)
- Heidi McLaughlin: Surrey, BC “*Fresh Joy: Finding Joy in the Midst of Loss, Hardship and Suffering*” (Castle Quay)
- Brett Ullman: Ajax, ON “*Parenting: Navigating Everything*” (Word Alive Press)
- Aaron White: Vancouver, BC “*Recovering: From Brokenness and Addiction to Blessedness and Community*” (Baker Academic & Brazos Press)

BIBLICAL STUDIES, *sponsored by FCI Windows*

- Douglas Harink: Edmonton, AB “*Resurrecting Justice: Reading Romans for the Life of the World*” (IVP Academic)
- Sandee MacGregor: Halton Hills, ON “*A Mother-Daughter Devotional and Shared Journal Experience for Psalm 119*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Gordon T. Smith: Calgary, AB “*Wisdom from Babylon: Leadership for the Church in a Secular Age*” (IVP Academic)

CULTURE, *sponsored by FCI Windows*

- Ken Badley and Amanda Ross: Calgary, AB “*Now How Shall We Be? This Cultural Moment and our Christian Response*” (Tyndale Academic Press)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Indigenous People and Jesus*” (Tall Pine Press)

CHRISTIAN LIVING, *sponsored by FCI Windows*

- Karen Y. Barnstable: Kelowna, BC “*Seeking Silver*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Rod Ellis: Victoria, BC “*Finish Well*” (Word Alive Press)
- Ron Mahler: Minden, ON “*A Sacred Rendezvous: Pursuing Jesus' Heart for Solitude in a World of Noise and Trouble*” (Word Alive Press)
- Jonathan Puddle: Guelph, ON “*You Are Enough: Learning to Love Yourself the Way God Loves You*”

DEVOTIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL, *sponsored by Kawartha Shed Co., and Donor Gateway respectively*

- Janis Cox: Minesing, ON “*Growing Through God's Word*”
- David Kitz: Orleans, ON “*Psalms 365: Develop a Life of Worship and Prayer - Volume 1*” (Elk Lake Publishing)

- Jonathan Puddle: Guelph, ON “*You Are Enough: Learning to Love Yourself the Way God Loves You*”

LIFE STORIES, sponsored by Kawartha Shed Co.

- David C. Bentall: Vancouver, BC “*Dear Younger Me: Wisdom for Family Enterprise Successors*” (Castle Quay)
- Kerri Lynn Jerema: Morden, MB “*Closed Wounds Open Hands*” (Word Alive Press)
- Heidi McLaughlin: West Kelowna, BC “*Fresh Joy: Finding Joy in the Midst of Loss, Hardship and Suffering*” (Castle Quay)

BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET FICTION ~ Sponsored by That’s Life! Communications

- Moira Gardener: North Saanich, BC “*Where’s Elephant?*”
- Cori Mordaunt: Toronto, ON “*Keep the Light Burning*” (The Bruce Dale Press)

BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET NON-FICTION

- Donald Lepp: Gonor, MB “*Heart Broken*” (Word Alive Press)
- Donna Mann: Elora, ON and Carolyn R. Wilker: Kitchener, ON “*Discover Your Story*”

SPECIALTY BOOK

- Sarah Ens: Winnipeg, MB “*The World is Mostly Sky*” (Turnstone Press)
- Sarah Klassen: Winnipeg, MB “*The Tree of Life*” (Turnstone Press)
- Carolyne Van Der Meer: Montreal, QC “*Heart of Goodness: The Life of Marguerite Bourgeois in 30 Poems*” (Guernica World Editions)

HARVEY/MACKEY NEW JOURNALISM AWARD ~ Sponsored by The Mackey Family

- Tim Huff: GTA, ON “*The Loneliness Vaccine*” (Faith Today)
- Sherman Lau, Celina Lam, Joge Lin & Ted Ng: Burnaby, BC “*Longing to Belong: How do Christians live out our welcome and inclusion of minorities*” (Faith Today)
- Dorene Meyer: Norway House, MB “*Christmas in the Trenches*” (The Banner)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*A Renewed Indigenous Perspective on Celebrating Canada Day*” (The Spruce Grove Examiner)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Ambassadors Don’t Respond to Rejection with Rejection*” (Light Magazine Alberta)
- Larry Worthen: Dartmouth, NS “*Appointment with God: Walking with my father through the temptation of euthanasia*” (Faith Today)

BOOKS – BEST BOOK COVER AWARD ~ Sponsored by Cowlick Studios

- Sarah Ens: Winnipeg, MB “*The World is Mostly Sky*” (Turnstone Press); Cover Design by Melissa McIvor
- Brad and Jen Klassen: Steinbach, MB “*The Kite Festival – The Unforgettable Adventures of Junior Bear*” Christopher Barkman, Illustrator (Brad Klassen Publisher)
- Susan Anne Mason: Brampton, ON “*A Haven for Her Heart*” (Bethany House Publishers); Cover Design by Koechel Peterson & associates, Inc.
- David Phillips: Scarborough, ON “*Through the Fire: A Chronicle of Pergamum*” (David Phillips Publisher); Cover Photo: Antipas and Miriam Arrive in Pergamum
- Preston Pouteaux: Chestermere, AB “*The Neighbours are Real and other Beautiful Things*” (Plesion Studio); Cover Design: Roberta Landreth

- Gordon T. Smith: Calgary, AB “*Wisdom from Babylon: Leadership for the Church in a Secular Age*” (IVP Academic); Cover design by David Fassett

DEBRA FIEGUTH SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

- Floyd A. Brobbel: GTA, ON “*Trouble on the Way*” (Genesis Publishing Group)
- Bruce J. Clemenger: Ottawa, ON “*A Matter of Equal Protection: Advocating for our neighbours with disabilities*” (Faith Today)
- Natasha Duquette: Barry’s Bay, ON “*Light Shining out of Darkness*” (Biola University website)
- Meagan Gillmore: Toronto, ON “*Dear Church, about living on \$2000/month or less*” (Faith Today)
- Joel Gordon: Toronto, ON “*From the ground up: On racism and reconciliation thunder*” (Faith Today)
- Douglas Harink: Edmonton, AB “*Resurrecting Justice: Reading Romans for the Life of the World*” (IVP Academic)
- Katharine Hayhoe: Lubbock, TX “*Crisis in Creation Care: A leading climate scientist shows us how we can all respond*” (Faith Today)
- Tim Huff: GTA, ON “*The Loneliness Vaccine*” (Faith Today)
- Sherman Lau, Celina Lam, Joge Lin & Ted Ng: Burnaby, BC “*Longing to Belong: How do Christians live out our welcome and inclusion of minorities*” (Faith Today)
- Dorene Meyer: Norway House, MB “*Christmas in the Trenches*” (The Banner)
- Dorene Meyer, editor: Norway House, MB “*Sixties Scoop Survivor Stories*” (Goldrock Press)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*A Renewed Indigenous Perspective on Celebrating Canada Day*” (The Spruce Grove Examiner)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Ambassadors Don’t Respond to Rejection with Rejection*” (Light Magazine Alberta)
- Parry Stelter: Stony Plain, AB “*Indigenous People and Jesus*” (Tall Pine Press)
- Blossom Turner: Kelowna, BC “*Katherine’s Arrangement*” (Wild Heart Books)
- Larry Worthen: Dartmouth, NS “*Appointment with God: Walking with my father through the temptation of euthanasia*” (Faith Today)



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE IT ONTO THE 2021 WORD AWARDS SHORT LIST

Copies of the 2021 Shortlist Media Release in both .docx and .pdf will be posted on our [Media page](#) and [Finalists page](#)

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR AWARDS SPONSORS

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**Winners of The 2021 Word Awards
will be announced:
Saturday, September 25, 2021**