



The Word Guild Is Pleased to Announce
The 2022 Word Awards Short List
Honouring the Best of Canadian Christian Writing from 2021

NOMINEES ARE PRESENTED ALPHABETICALLY BY LAST NAME

UNPUBLISHED WORK CLASSES

FRESH INK {Student Writing Awards}

- Sarah Robinson: Hamilton, ON “*The Dream Walker*”
- Rachel Smith: Edmonton, AB “*The Magic Thief*”
- Sarah VanZandbeek: Edmonton, AB “*I Am Andrew*”

IN THE BEGINNING {Unpublished Author Awards}

- Colleen Albert: Vegreville, AB “*Porridge and Pumpkins*”
- Colleen Albert: Vegreville, AB “*Reflections on 'Joy After the Fall'*”
- Paul Breen: Burlington, ON “*You Slay Me, Please*”
- Sharon Vardy Bacon: Port Sydney, ON “*Science Class*”
- Kevin E. Koughnett: Red Deer, AB “*Mon Rapid Pieds*”
- Eugenia Robertson: “*Yearning for Equilibrium*”
- Hilda Van Gyssel: Port Sydney, ON “*Easter on Golgotha*”
- Hilda Van Gyssel: Port Sydney, ON “*The Honey Jar*”

MANUSCRIPT—FIRST 3 CHAPTERS

- George A. Desjardins: Ottawa, ON “*Apocalypse: Perspectives on the End Times*”
- George Hartwell: Sherwood Park, AB “*Heal My Inner Child*”
- Dianne Match: Carlisle, ON “*Dreams & Lies*”
- Cindy Mead: Richmond Hill, ON “*Sufficient Grace Living Victoriously with Cerebral Palsy*”
- Eugenia Robertson: “*Castle of My Dreams*”
- Sandy Ryerse: Waterford, ON “*Aunt Crystal & The Adverb Elevator*”

CASTLE QUAY BEST NEW CANADIAN MANUSCRIPT

- Dianne Match: Carlisle, ON “*Gillian's Memory Garden*”
- Larry McCloskey: Ottawa, ON “*The University of Lost Causes*”
- Rita Miceli: Windsor, ON “*GiACI AND ME: Life Lessons on Raising an Autistic Child*”
- Gabrielle Stein: Barrie, ON “*Beauty from Ashes: A Life Transformed by the Power of Love*”
- Nikki T. White: Langley, BC “*A Curious Art: Journey with King David in Breaking Free from Manipulation and Control*”



DIGITAL ENTRY CLASSES

BEST BLOG OF THE YEAR AWARD

- Floyd A. Brobbel: Oakville, ON “*Blessed are the Meek*”
- Cathie Ostapchuk: Oakville, ON “*Motivation Monday*”
- Sherry Stahl: Leamington, ON “*The Soul H2O Blog*”
- Carolyn Watts: Vancouver, BC “*Hearing the Heartbeat*”

SONGWRITING AWARD

- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC “*Almost Didn’t Recognize You*”
- Rachelle Luk: Mississauga, ON “*Seeds*”
- Jonathan Maracle: “*Our Prayers*”

ARTICLES / SHORT PIECES (ASP) – CHRISTIAN

BLOG–Personal

- Cathie Ostapchuk: Oakville, ON “*The Cost of Curating Your Life*” (Gather Women)
- Sherry Stahl: Leamington, ON “*Ever Feel Like the Devil’s Trying to Take You Out?*” (The Soul H2O Blog)
- Carolyn Watts: Vancouver, BC “*Praying in Hope When There’s Hell on Earth*” (Hearing the Heartbeat)

BLOG–Topical

- Larry Hurst: Regina, SK “*Great is Good, but Good is Better*” (Faith Today)
- Jonathan Puddle: Guelph, ON “*How to Get Started with the Enneagram*” (Jonathan Puddle)
- Janet Surette: Barrie, ON “*An Optical Conclusion*” (The Gospel Coalition Canada)
- Jack A. Taylor: Vancouver, BC “*Fresh Starts for Young Hearts*” (12 Tasks)

COLUMN SERIES

- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC “*Getting Creative*” & “*A Hurry Free Life*” (Faith Today)
- David Guretzki: Ottawa, ON “*Cross Connections - Subject to Governing Authorities & When public debate ignores right and wrong*” (Faith Today)

COLUMN SINGLE

- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC “*A No-Secrets Mission*” (Faith Today)
- Bruce Clemenger: Ottawa, ON “*Our Election Posture: Challenging Indifference and Willful Blindness*” (Faith Today)
- Ed Hird and Janice Hird: Surrey, BC “*Phil Callaway: Missionary Comedian*” (The Light Magazine)
- Parry Stelter: Stoney Plain, AB “*Healing the Heart Through the Power of Love*” (Indian Life Newspaper)
- Jack A. Taylor: Vancouver, BC “*A Flood of Relief from Churches*” (Light Magazine)



DEVOTIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL

- Floyd A. Brobbel: Oakville, ON “*Blessings in Persecution?*” (The Voice of the Martyrs)
- Kaarina Hsieh: North York, ON “*The Sweetness of Lament: Consoling and Strengthening Our Souls with God's Truths*” (testimony/Enrich)
- Gordon T. Smith: Calgary, AB “*Cultivating Hopeful Realism*” (CRUX)
- Sherry Stahl: Leamington, ON “*Is it Time to Unpack Your Suitcase?*” (The Soul H2O Blog)

LONG FEATURE & NEWS

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*Can We Stay Together?*” (The Christian Courier)
- Alex Newman: “*When Our Pets Die: What does our faith have to say about the grief we feel when our animal companions die?*” (Faith Today)
- Alex Newman: “*How we coped with the lockdowns: Churches share how they struggled with and survived pandemic restrictions*” (Faith Today)
- Evelyn Pedersen: Mississauga, ON “*Bridging the Gap: How one-year programs are equipping young highschool graduates*” (Faith Today)

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE & PERSONAL OPINION

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*Can We Stay Together?*” (The Christian Courier)
- Rose McCormick Brandon: Caledonia, ON “*A Time to Downsize*” (The War Cry)
- Peter Dove: “*Race, Power and Voice: Reflecting on Developments in the Black Community*” (testimony/Enrich)
- Stephen Kennedy: “*The Other Boys of Bethlehem: Living in the Shadow of an Ancient Story*” (testimony/Enrich)
- Patricia Paddey: Mississauga, ON “*10 Lessons from Fallen Leaders*” (Faith Today)
- Eleanor Shepherd: Pointe Claire, QC “*Live it Out*” (Salvationist UK)

POETRY

- Alice Hodgkins: Vancouver, BC “*Dayenu*” (CRUX)
- David Robinson: “*Array Your Emptiness*” (CRUX)
- Mary Willis: “*Three Inches Closer to Easter*” (Faith Today)

PROFILE/HUMAN INTEREST & SHORT FEATURE

- Angela Reitsma Bick: Newcastle, ON “*Onley's Insights*” (Christian Courier)
- Duane Henry: Ancaster, ON “*Celebrating the Life of Josiah Henson*” (testimony/Enrich)
- Janice Keats: Bedford, NS “*Mary's Memories*” (Salvation Army- Faith and Friends)

SHORT STORY—CHRISTIAN & GENERAL MARKET

- Deb Elkink: Cypress County, AB “*Reconstituted*” (Deb Elkink)
- Sally Meadows: Riverview, NB “*The Placement of the Cross in Easter: Stories & More*” (InScribe Christian Writers' Fellowship)
- John Van Rys: Dunnville, ON “*Eggsistential Crisis*” (Agnes & True)
- John Van Rys: Dunnville, ON “*Nether Lands*” (Blank Spaces Magazine)



ARTICLES / SHORT PIECES (ASP) – GENERAL MARKET

BLOG & COLUMN SINGLE/STANDALONE

- Kim Cechetto: Mount Brydges, ON “*Christmas in Lagos*” (The Dispatch.com)
- K.L. Ditmars: Esquimalt, BC “*Canada’s National Day of Truth and Reconciliation*” (K.L. Ditmars)
- N.J. Lindquist: Markham, ON “*A Routine Medical Appointment Turns Scary*” (N.J. Lindquist)
- Jonathan Puddle: Guelph, ON “*The Ultimate Guide to Self-Publishing your Book*” (Jonathan Puddle)

PUBLISHED BOOKS CLASSES

BOOKS – CHRISTIAN FICTION

CHILDREN–FICTION & NON-FICTION

- Anne Kennedy: Cameron, ON “*The Bestest Gift*” (Nana’s Knee Children’s Picture Books)
- Beverley Rayner: Ladysmith, BC “*Barclay & Berk Builders: A Parable*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Susan Reimer: Schumacher, ON “*Letters in the Woods*” (Word Alive Press), Illustrated by Sara Thompson: Timmins, ON

YOUNG ADULT

- Chrissy M. Dennis: Caronport, SK “*The Paper Wolf*” (Anaiiah Press)
- Tracy Krauss: Tumbler Ridge, BC “*Aliens Among Us*” (Fictitious Ink Publishing)
- Heidi M. Richardson: Olds, AB “*Tower of the Deep Vol. 1: The Prisoner and the Traitor*” (A Voice Crying Publishers)
- Heidi M. Richardson: Olds, AB “*Tower of the Deep Vol. 2: The Winged Warrior*” (A Voice Crying Publishers)
- Jennifer Willcock: Kitchener, ON “*Face Off*” (Word Alive Press)

CONTEMPORARY

- Eleanor Bertin: Botha, AB “*Flame of Mercy*” (Eleanor Bertin)
- Angela Charles: Kitchener, ON “*Sisi’s Journey*” (Angel Hope Publishing)
- Pattie Janzen: Yorkton, SK “*The Goodness*” (Word Alive Press)
- Murray Pura: Pincher Creek, AB & Patrick E. Craig: Caldwell, ID “*Beyond the Red Hills*” (Elk Lake Publishing)
- Terrie Todd: Portage la Prairie, MB “*The Last Piece*” (Terrie Todd)

HISTORICAL

- Susan A. Mason: Brampton, ON “*To Find Her Place*” (Bethany House Publishing)
- Terrie Todd: Portage la Prairie, MB “*Rose Among Thorns*” (Iron Stream Media)

ROMANCE & SUSPENSE

- Todd Charters: Waterloo, ON “*Lunch Counter, A love remembered*” (FriesenPress)
- K.L. Ditmars: Esquimalt, BC “*All That it Takes*” (K.L. Ditmars)
- Blossom Turner: Lake Country, BC “*Lucinda’s Defender*” (Wild Heart Books)
- Blossom Turner: Lake Country, BC “*Amelia’s Heartsong*” (Wild Heart Books)
- Jennifer Willcock: Kitchener, ON “*The Mistletoe Ball*” (Jennifer Willcock)

SPECULATIVE

- Johanna Frank: Kitchener, ON “*The Gatekeeper’s Descendants*” (Marrow Publishing)
- Connie Mae Inglis: Edmonton, AB “*Rewriting Adam*” (Siretona Creative)

BOOKS – CHRISTIAN NON-FICTION

ACADEMIC

- Hans Boersma: “*Five Things Theologians Wish Biblical Scholars Knew*” (InterVarsity Press)
- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*The Unfolding Gospel*” (Fortress Press)
- Craig A. Carter: Pickering, ON “*Contemplating God with the Great Tradition: Recovering Trinitarian Classical Theism*” (Baker Academic)
- John Kessler: “*Between Hearing and Silence: A Study in Old Testament Theology*” (Baylor University Press)
- Donald M. Lewis: “*A Short History of Christian Zionism: From the Reformation to the Twenty-First Century*” (InterVarsity Press)
- J. Richard Middleton: “*Abraham’s Silence: The Binding of Isaac, the Suffering of Job, and How to Talk Back to God*” (Baker Academic)
- James R. Payton Jr.: Mount Hope, ON “*The Unknown Europe: How Eastern Europe Got that Way*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)
- E. Janet Warren: Dundas, ON “*All Things Wise and Wonderful: A Christian Understanding of How and Why Things Happen, in Light of COVID-19*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)

BIBLICAL STUDIES & INSTRUCTIONAL

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*The Unfolding Gospel*” (Fortress Press)
- Marina Hofman: “*Women in the Bible Small Group Bible Study*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Janet Surette: Barrie, ON “*Couldn’t Ask for More: The Sufficiency of Christ in Doctrine, Ministry, Community and Mission*” (Janet Surette)
- Harold Taylor: Sussex, N.B. “*God-Centered Time Management*” (Harold Taylor)

CHRISTIAN LIVING–PERSONAL GROWTH

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*God is Always Bigger*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)
- Denise Leighton: South River, ON “*How I Saved \$100,000: A Journey of Family, Finances, and Faith*” (Word Alive Press)
- Lynda MacGibbon: Toronto, ON “*My Vertical Neighbourhood: How Strangers Became a Community*” (InterVarsity Press)
- Larry McCloskey: Ottawa, ON “*Inarticulate Speech of the Heart*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Nikki T. White: Langley, BC “*Identity in Exodus: Journey with Moses from Identity Crisis into Missional Community*” (Word Alive Press)



CHRISTIAN LIVING–SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Alan Davey: Toronto, ON “*Walking the Line: Embracing the Imperatives of Jesus*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)
- Marina Hofman: “*Women in the Bible Small Group Bible Study*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Dwight J. Olney: “*Not Just a Really Good Human: How the Book of Job Fixes Our Faulty View of God*” (Word Alive Press)
- Lori G. Reesor: Mississauga, ON “*Growing a Generous Church: A Year in the Life of Peach Blossom Church*” (Lori G. Reesor)
- Gordon T. Smith: Calgary, AB “*Welcome, Holy Spirit: A theological and Experiential Introduction*” (InterVarsity Press)

CULTURE

- Brenda Fontaine: “*Father, My Father*” (Goldrock Press)
- Larry McCloskey: Ottawa, ON “*Inarticulate Speech of the Heart*” (Castle Quay Books)
- James R. Payton Jr.: Mount Hope, ON “*The Unknown Europe: How Eastern Europe Got that Way*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)

DEVOTIONAL

- Julie Fitz-Gerald: Uxbridge, ON “*Faith to Rise: A Journey to Joy and Centering*” (Roar Publishing)
- Grace Fox: Abbotsford, ON “*Finding Hope in Crisis: Devotions for Calm in Chaos*” (Aspire Press)
- Marina Hofman: “*Women in the Bible Small Group Bible Study*” (Castle Quay Books)
- David Kitz: Orleans, ON “*Psalms 365: Develop a Life of Worship and Prayer - Vol II*” (Elk Lake Publishing)
- Keith McDonald: Aurora, CO “*Devotions in Verse, 365 devotional poems*” (Keith McDonald)
- Jurgen O. Schulz: Victoria, BC “*What Story Have We Fallen Into?*” (Jurgen O. Schulz)

INSPIRATIONAL

- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*God is Always Bigger*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)
- Bonnie Thomson: Pickering, ON “*Praise from the People of St. Paul's on-the-Hill*” (Kindle Direct)

LIFE STORIES–MEMOIR

- Donald N. Bastian: Toronto, ON “*From Kitchen Chair to Pulpit: A Memoir of Family, Faith, and Ministry*” (BPS Books)
- Cal Bombay: “*A Life Worth Living - The Cal You Never Knew*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Denise Leighton: South River, ON “*How I Saved \$100,000: A Journey of Family, Finances, and Faith*” (Word Alive Press)
- Danielle Presseault: Orleans, ON “*The Ripple Effect*” (Lifewise Books)
- Sana' K.C.N. Watts: Brampton, ON “*Fragile and Flourishing*” (Sana' K.C.N. Watts)

LIFE STORIES–BIOGRAPHY

- Cal Bombay: “*A Life Worth Living - The Cal You Never Knew*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Ed Hird and Janice Hird: Surrey, BC “*God's Firestarters*” (His Publishing Group)
- Linda Nagel: Hamilton, ON “*Just to be Clay*” (Linda Nagel)



BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET FICTION

YOUNG ADULT

- Johanna Frank: Kitchener, ON “*The Gatekeeper’s Descendants*” (Marrow Publishing)
- Christina Van Starckenburg: Victoria, BC “*The Key Thief*” (Christina Van Starckenburg)

ROMANCE & SUSPENSE

- Murray Pura: Pincher Creek, AB “*The Sunflower Season*” (MillerWords)
- Jael Richardson: “*Gutter Child*” (Harper Collins)
- Robert Stermscheg: Winnipeg, MB “*Stealth*” (Siretona Fiction)
- Uzoma Uponi: Calgary, AB “*ColorSTRUCK*” (Christian Faith Publishing)

CHILDREN

- Fred Ash: Calgary, AB “*The Dog Who Wanted to Play*” (Siretona Creative)
- Janet Surette: Barrie, ON “*The Christmas Quest*” (B&H Publishing)

BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET NON-FICTION

CULTURE

- Hilary McBride: “*The Wisdom of Your Body: Finding Healing, Wholeness, and Connection through Embodied Living*” (Harper Collins)
- James Peters: “*Broken Circle*” (Goldrock Press)

LIFE STORIES

- Hilary McBride: “*The Wisdom of Your Body: Finding Healing, Wholeness, and Connection through Embodied Living*” (Harper Collins)
- Deborah Ironstand: “*Beyond the Sixties Scoop*” (Goldrock Press)
- James Peters: “*Broken Circle*” (Goldrock Press)

BOOKS – SPECIALTY BOOKS & SCRIPTS

- Anne Cattaruzza: Longueuil, QC “*Finding Kadhira*” (Anne Cattaruzza)
- Joanne Epp: “*Cattail Skyline*” (Turnstone Press)
- Marianne Jones: Thunder Bay, ON “*Maud and Me*” (Crossfield Publishing)
- Donna Kutzner: Ardrossan, AB “*I Want to Buy a Miracle*” (Pagemaster Publishing Services)
- D.S. Martin: “*Angelicus: Poems*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers)
- Diane Tucker: “*Nostalgia for Moving Parts*” (Turnstone Press)



INDIGENOUS WRITERS

- Brenda Fontaine: “*Father, My Father*” (Goldrock Press)
- Deborah Ironstand: “*Beyond the Sixties Scoop*” (Goldrock Press)
- James Peters: “*Broken Circle*” (Goldrock Press)
- Parry Stelter: Stoney Plain, AB “*A Place of Acceptance*” (The Banner)
- Parry Stelter: Stoney Plain, AB “*Healing the Heart Through the Power of Love*” (Indian Life Newspaper)

WRITER OF COLOUR

- Dianne Adair: Toronto, ON “*The Filament: Finding Fulfillment*” (Shidaanikei Publishers)
- Angela Charles: Kitchener, ON “*Sisi’s Journey*” (Angel Hope Publishing)
- Duane Henry: Ancaster, ON “*Celebrating the Life of Josiah Henson*” (testimony/Enrich)
- Seye Oke: Oakville, ON “*Barrow Boy*” (Seye Oke)
- Jael Richardson: “*Gutter Child*” (Harper Collins)
- Uzoma Uponi: Calgary, AB “*ColorSTRUCK*” (Christian Faith Publishing)
- Sana' K.C.N. Watts: Brampton, ON “*Fragile and Flourishing*” (Sana' K.C.N. Watts)

HARVEY/MACKEY JOURNALISM AWARD

- Kim Cechetto: Mount Brydges, ON “*Christmas in Lagos*” (The Dispatch.com)
- Angela Charles: Kitchener, ON “*Sisi’s Journey*” (Angel Hope Publishing)
- Carolyn Watts: Vancouver, BC “*Praying in Hope When There’s Hell on Earth*” (Hearing the Heartbeat)

BEST BOOK COVER AWARD

- Eleanor Bertin: Botha, AB “*Flame of Mercy*” (Eleanor Bertin), illustrated by Roseanna M. White
- John Bowen: Hamilton, ON “*God is Always Bigger*” (Wipf and Stock Publishers), illustrated by Kyle Lundburg
- K.L. Ditmars: Esquimalt, BC “*All That it Takes*” (K.L. Ditmars), book design by Patrick J. Brooks
- Johanna Frank: Kitchener, ON “*The Gatekeeper’s Descendants*” (Marrow Publishing), cover design by Damonza
- Arturo Miriello: St-Hubert, Qc “*Blades of Angels*” (Arturo Miriello)
- Janet Surette: Barrie, ON “*The Christmas Quest*” (B&H Publishing), illustrated by Cesar Samaniego
- Terrie Todd: Portage la Prairie, MB “*Rose Among Thorns*” (Iron Stream Media), cover design by Hannah Linder Designs
- Blossom Turner: Lake Country, BC “*Amelia’s Heartsong*” (Wild Heart Books) cover by Evelyne Labell - Carpe Librum Book Design
- Christina Van Starckenburg: Victoria, BC “*The Key Thief*” (Christina Van Starckenburg), cover design by GetCovers

DEBRA FIEGUTH SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

- Angela Reitsma Bick: Newcastle, ON “*Onley's Insights*” (Christian Courier)
- Floyd A. Brobbel: Oakville, ON “*Blessings in Persecution?*” (The Voice of the Martyrs)
- Bruce Clemenger: Ottawa, ON “*Our Election Posture: Challenging Indifference and Willful Blindness*” (Faith Today)
- K.L. Ditmars: Esquimalt, BC “*All That it Takes*” (K.L. Ditmars)
- K.L. Ditmars: Esquimalt, BC “*Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation*” (K.L. Ditmars)
- Ed Hird and Janice Hird: Surrey, BC “*God's Firestarters*” (His Publishing Group)
- Larry McCloskey: Ottawa, ON “*Inarticulate Speech of the Heart*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Alex Newman: “*How we coped with the lockdowns: Churches share how they struggled with and survived pandemic restrictions*” (Faith Today)
- Jael Richardson: “*Gutter Child*” (Harper Collins)
- Jack A. Taylor: Vancouver, BC “*Fresh Starts for Young Hearts*” (12 Tasks)
- Terrie Todd: Portage la Prairie, MB “*Rose Among Thorns*” (Iron Stream Media)
- Blossom Turner: Lake Country, BC “*Amelia's Heartsong*” (Wild Heart Books)
- Nikki T. White: Langley, BC “*Identity in Exodus: Journey with Moses from Identity Crisis into Missional Community*” (Word Alive Press)



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE IT ONTO THE 2022 WORD AWARDS SHORTLIST

Copies of the 2022 Shortlist in both .docx and .pdf will be posted on our [Media page](#) and [Finalists page](#)

Winners of The 2022 Word Awards will be announced on **September 17, 2022**

BECOME A 2022 AWARDS SPONSOR

Please consider becoming a 2022 Awards sponsor. With your assistance we are able to support Christian writers across Canada.

To become a sponsor, please email us at: awards@thewordguild.com or call: 1-800-969-9010 for more information.

We also wish to thank last year's sponsors for their generous support of The 2021 Word Awards



THANK YOU, SPONSORS!



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