



Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release.

EMERGING AND ESTABLISHED AUTHORS MAKE THE SHORT LISTS FOR THE 2010 NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR BOOK AWARDS

(April 16, 2010– St. John's, NL) Finalists for the 2010 Newfoundland and Labrador Book Awards comprise a talented roster of emerging and established authors. Presented by the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Literary Arts Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, this year the awards are honouring excellence in the categories of Children's/Young Adult Literature and of Fiction.

The finalists for Children's/Young Adult Literature are:

- ***Moocher in the Lun* (Flanker Press, 2008) by Tom Dawe, illustrated by C. Anne MacLeod.** From auntsary to zosweet, a new Newfoundland alphabet in verse and image that's also a delightful excursion around the province.
- ***The Queen of Paradise's Garden* (Running the Goat Books and Broadsides, 2009) by Andy Jones, illustrated by Darka Erdelji.** An adaptation of a traditional Newfoundland "Jack" tale told with Andy Jones's unique warmth and humour.

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- ***Bella's Tree* (Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, 2009) by Janet Russell, illustrated by Jirina Marton.** A lovely story about learning how to find the “right” Christmas tree, and of the close bond between a young girl and her grandmother.

The finalists for Fiction are:

- ***Come, Thou Tortoise* (Knopf Canada, 2009) by Jessica Grant.** An offbeat story featuring an opinionated tortoise and an IQ-challenged narrator who find themselves in the middle of a life-changing mystery.
- ***Blackstrap Hawco* (Random House Canada, 2008) by Kenneth J. Harvey.** A powerful and frankly told epic about working class survival, which traces the history of the Hawco family as it intertwines with the ubiquitous calamity of life in Newfoundland.
- ***February* (House of Anansi Press, 2009) by Lisa Moore.** A moving portrait of how one woman reconstructs a life, after the sinking of the Ocean Ranger steals her husband.

The winners will be announced on the afternoon of Friday, May 14, 2010, during an awards ceremony at Government House. Prior to the awards ceremony, public readings by the shortlisted authors will be given at times and locations to be announced.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Book Awards are presented under the distinguished patronage of the Honourable John C. Crosbie, PC, OC, ONL, QC, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador. This is the 14th consecutive year for the awards, which consider books released in the two previous years. In alternate years, works of non-fiction and poetry are recognized. The winner in each category receives a cash prize of \$1,500, and runners-up each receive \$500.

All finalists and winners are selected by an independent panel of judges.

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Details about last year's winners are available at <http://wanl.ca/nlba.html>, or by contacting the Writers' Alliance.

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Established in 1987 to contribute to a supportive environment for writing in the province, the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador offers workshops, programs, and information to both professional and aspiring writers. <http://wanl.ca/>