



Quills Awards

For Published Books

The Quills Awards are open to League of Utah Writers members who have published a book in the past year

Winners announced at the Quills Conference Awards Ceremony

August 14, 2021

DIAMOND QUILL

BattleTech: Honor's Gauntlet by Bryan Young

NOVEL

Gold Quill: The Accident by Nancy Roe

Silver Quill: In the Wake of Captain Lord by Johnny Worthen

Recommended Read: To Dream in Daylight by Candace J Thomas

Recommended Read: Donn's Legacy by Caryn Larrinaga

Recommended Read: The Knickknack Case by Johnny Worthen

Recommended Read: Ravens and Lavender by Rachel DeFriez

YOUTH

Gold Quill: Pizza Boy and the Super Squad by Dan Allen
Silver Quill: Stonebearer's Apprentice by Jodi L. Milner

COLLECTIONS

Gold Quill: Shadows on the Page by Vince Font
Silver Quill (tie): The Unraveling by Tim Keller
Silver Quill (tie): Joyride by Tim Keller

NON-FICTION

Gold Quill: Flooding my Life with the Book of Mormon by David Alan Armstrong
Silver Quill: Hiking Southwest Utah and Adjacent Areas, Vol. 3 by Tom Garrison

Entry Fee

\$35 per entry

Rules and Guidelines

1. Must be a member of the League of Utah Writers
2. Publishing Date of submitted work must be in 2020 or 2021 before the submission deadline. For traditionally published works, if an ARC is available prior to the submission deadline with a release date before July 31, 2021, the work is eligible.
3. All forms of publication are welcome - indie, traditional, and anything else, such as web comics, etc, as long as it's in its final form and available to audiences.
4. Previous winning works are ineligible to be entered again.

2021 Categories

Novel

All Adult Fiction

Any genre

Youth Novel

Young Adult, Middle Grade, or Children's
Any genre

Nonfiction

All subjects

Collections

Poetry or Prose

Gold Quill and Silver Quill awards are given in each category.

The Diamond Quill Award is given to the highest score among all entries.

Categories may also include Recommended Read awards in the event of close scores.

Note: Categories may be combined if there are insufficient entries

Restrictions and Judging

1. A book may only be entered into one category.
2. Multiple entries are accepted from a single author, but each book can only be entered once.
3. An author only needs to have a piece in an anthology or chapbook to enter the entire collection.

(If multiple authors, a joint entry is possible)

Judges are anonymous industry professionals from outside the League (usually other authors, occasionally professional bloggers, English professors, or agent/editor interns.)

Judges will know the author's name since it is impossible to redact names or other identifying information.

Submission

Entries can only be accepted electronically

Formats Accepted: PDF, MS-Word

File will be deleted at the conclusion of judging



Olive Woolley Burt Awards

For Creative Writing

The Olive Woolley Burt Awards are open to the general public for previously unpublished work. Discounts for entry given to members of the League of Utah Writers.

Winners announced at the Quills Conference Awards Ceremony
August 14, 2021

New Voices Categories

Poetry

First Place: The Selkie, Jeremy Innis
Second Place: Morning are the Hardest, Zoey Powell
Third Place: Wullygumping, Brian Acord
First Honorable Mention: Love of Spring, Greg Goodman
Second Honorable Mention: Last Night, Greg Goodman
Third Honorable Mention: Waves, Peter Steele

Creative Non-Fiction

First Place: Why I Avoid Indian Authors, Radhika Iyer
Second Place: Leica of My Heart, Monica Woo
Third Place: Out of Time, Kylie Birch
First Honorable Mention: Ode to Dill or My Culinary Adventures, Inna Lyon
Second Honorable Mention: But . . . (to Dream), William David
Third Honorable Mention: The Hijacker, Peter Steele

Fiction

First Place: IN the Margins, Rufo Tolentino
Second Place: Kintsugi, Anna Bessesen
Third Place: The Dirt Under Our Nails, Whitney Cox
First Honorable Mention: Resonant, William David
Second Honorable Mention: Intertwined, Anna Bessesen
Third Honorable Mention: Medora, Rachele Krivichi

First Chapter

First Place: Demonbinder, Karen Todd
Second Place: Reset to Mourning, Anna Bessesen
Third Place: Triples, Rebecca Wiese
First Honorable Mention: Peace Country, Sarah Beck
Second Honorable Mention: Southside of Nowhere, Kylie Birch
Third Honorable Mention: On the Mating Habits of the Giant Squid, Peter Steele

Established Writer Categories

Poetry

Light Verse

First Place: The Man Who Sings Until . . . , Rachele Knapp

Second Place: Tornado, Charlene Harmon
Third Place: Uncoupled, Kevin Lane Dearing
First Honorable Mention: The Flowerbed, Krystal Gerber
Second Honorable Mention: Me, Myself and This Guy, Brian Acord
Third Honorable Mention: Shadowborn, Charlene Harmon

Narrative Poem

First Place: Where She Moved To, Joyce Schmid
Second Place: Driving West, Joyce Schmid
Third Place: Painted Forest, Marie Tollstrup
First Honorable Mention: River Children, Marie Tollstrup
Second Honorable Mention: Wait For Me, Sue Leth
Third Honorable Mention: Kickapoo River Dance, Marie Tollstrup

Prose Poem

First Place: Eleven Instagrams, Lawrence Bridges
Second Place: When the Rain Comes, Marie Tollstrup
Third Place: Absence, Josie Hulme
First Honorable Mention:
Sonnet 43 (and then some!) with apologies to Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Christopher
Jones
Second Honorable Mention: Homebound, Grace Jessen
Third Honorable Mention: Yearbook Photos, Sue Leth

Word Play Poem

First Place: Rosy, Denis Feehan
Second Place: Back Tattoo, Gina Grissom
Third Place: Midnight Ritual: Charlene Harmon
First Honorable Mention: Waiting, Jared Quan
Second Honorable Mention: Set Up Grace Jessen
Third Honorable Mention: Campfire Reverie, Charlene Harmon

Established Writer Categories

Prose

Children's Story

First Place: The Moon Always Comes Back, Christina Allen

Second Place: Sam & Nella's Adventures, Elena Dee

Third Place: Until . . . , Robyn Buttars

First Honorable Mention: Entiendo, Barbara Fallick

Second Honorable Mention: Mona Lisa's Memoir, Michelle Henrie

Third Honorable Mention: Oscar's Musical Journey, Elena Dee

Creative Non-Fiction

First Place: Holiday, Amy Hardy

Second Place: I Think I'm Jesus, Lorraine Jeffery

Third Place: A Twenty Something Bad Girl, Sue Leth

First Honorable Mention: The East Winds, Rachel Rueckert

Second Honorable Mention: The End of That, Bryan Young

Third Honorable Mention: Swimming Upstream, Marie Tollstrup

First Chapter (Novel)

First Place: Butterfly Premonitions, Nancy Roe

Second Place: The Dance of Dawn & Dusk: Li Tan, Brady Caleb Wilkinson

Third Place: No Choice, Terra Luft

First Honorable Mention: The Heir of the First Tower, Nicholas Adams

Second Honorable Mention: The Magix, Liz Christensen

Third Honorable Mention: Polecat Protocol: Discovery, John Olsen

First Chapter (Young Adult)

First Place: The Banished, Elizabeth Allen Drysdale

Second Place: A Sense of Us, Laura Keller

Third Place: Across the Surface, Rebecca Wiese

First Honorable Mention: Thistle Mountain Witch: A Cricket O'Calligh Tale, Michelle
Henrie

Second Honorable Mention: The Knot, Robert Carey

Third Honorable Mention: The Secret World of Classroom -104, Kathryn Ferriello

Flash Fiction

First Place: His Library, Inna Lyon

Second Place: My Wife, The Somnabulist, Ben Wright

Third Place: The Daily Grind, Patricia Bittel

First Honorable Mention: En Passant, Bryan Young

Second Honorable Mention: After the Fall, Marie Tollstrup

Third Honorable Mention: Guardian, Heidi Voss

Media Article

First Place: How Retraining in I/T Saved My Marriage, My Sanity, and My Life, David
Armstrong

Second Place: High Wire Act, Marie Tollstrup

Third Place: We Must All Hate the Puppy Stomper: A Parable of the Public Square,
David Rodeback

First Honorable Mention: Tesla's Contribution and Impacts in America, Ashley Bigbie

Second Honorable Mention:

The Movies That Made Star Wars: Frankenstein and Bride of Frankenstein, Bryan
Young

Third Honorable Mention: Empathy for Christmas, Tamara Copley

Romance

First Place: I Only Read Romance, Liz Christensen

Second Place: L-O-V-E, Nat King Cole, First Edition, 1965, Krystal Gerber

Third Place: Stolen Moment, Linne Marsh
First Honorable Mention: Quenched, September Roberts
Second Honorable Mention: Where Main Street Meets Tomorrow, Bryan Young
Third Honorable Mention: The Colonel, Bryan Young

Screenplay

First Place: 3 1/2, Stars Bryan Young
Second Place: Ghosts, Bryan Young
Third Place: Anything, Bryan Young
First Honorable Mention: Christmas Angel at Aspen Inn, Lonnie Bradley
Second Honorable Mention: Gloriana, Rebecca Wiese

Short Fiction

First Place: Darling Buds of May, Tracey Boyle
Second Place: The Weeping Willow at Goblin Creek, McKel Jensen
Third Place: The Last Chance, Johnny Worthen
First Honorable Mention: Kintugi, Johnny Worthen
Second Honorable Mention: Paddle Down the Faded Echo, Steven Wight
Third Honorable Mention: The Mattress Tag, Denis Feehan

Speculative Fiction

First Place: Marmalade Reverie, Aren Hatch
Second Place: Treaty on the Borderlands, John Olsen
Third Place: Three Bullets to Midnight, Ryan Decaria
First Honorable Mention: Get Your Goat, Alexis Hansen
Second Honorable Mention: Here for Pickup, Heidi Voss
Third Honorable Mention: Squander or Squire, Jessica Zarnofsky

Spiritual Essay

First Place: The Creation of Worlds and Other Godly Pursuits, Neil Dabb

Second Place: Leap of Faith, Marie Tollstrup
Third Place, A Different Kind of Faith, Lorraine Jeffery
First Honorable Mention: Thrilling Comeback, David Armstrong
Second Honorable Mention: Break Free, Elizabeth Suggs
Third Honorable Mention: Meditation, Sarah Swartz

About The Olive Woolley Burt Awards



The Woolley Awards are named in honor of Olive Woolley Burt.

Olive Woolley Burt (1894-1981) was the founding president of the League of Utah Writers, serving in that role from 1935 to 1939. In 1927, she quit her job as a teacher to take a job as the children's editor at the Salt Lake Tribune and later went to work for the Deseret News in 1945 where she remained until her retirement in 1967. Burt wrote over 50 books for children and adults, though the most notable might be *American Murder Ballads and their Stories* in 1958. It won a special Edgar Award in 1959. She spent all of her years working tirelessly for the League, promoting writing as a profession and a hobby for all of the writers of Utah for almost 50 years.

She was particularly fond of writing children's books that illuminated stories of possibility to children with an aggressively progressive bent. One book, *First Woman Editor: Sarah J. Hale* tells the story of the first woman in the United States to be the editor of a magazine. Another, *Black Women of Valor*, brought positive stories of Black history to white audiences who wouldn't otherwise hear them in times where racist attitudes ran rampant.

Read more about her here:

<https://www.mappingliteraryutah.org/utah-writers/olive-woolley-burt>

See a video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1adMmab1M8>

Welcome to the League of Utah Writers 2021

Olive Woolley Burt Awards Writing Contest.

DEADLINES AND ELIGIBILITY

- Submission period begins March 1st and closes May 31st.
- All entries must be the original work of the contestant.
- Previously published works do not qualify for this contest.
- Entries may not be entered into more than one category.
- Works previously awarded a LUW cash prize do not qualify for this contest.

Submitted entries are judged as initially submitted (although you may withdraw your entry and resubmit anytime prior to the submission deadline).

SUBMITTABLE

The submission process, judging, and feedback will all be done via [Submittable.com](https://submittable.com). You'll find the categories listed below.

- Open the category of your choice and read the guidelines.
- Click to submit.
- Fill in the required fields for your entry, and your payment information. You will find two entry fee options: one price for members of the League and one price for non-members.
- Click Submit.
- You will either sign in to your Submittable account or create a free account before actually submitting your entry.

For questions regarding the Submittable website, please see their help pages: <https://submittable.help/en/>

NOTE: ALL JUDGING IS DONE BY A PROFESSIONAL THIRD PARTY UNAFFILIATED WITH THE LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS

In no way does the League of Utah Writers or Submittable share your personal information with any third party. Any information of such a nature is only for use in contacting the submitter or allowing Submittable to identify your account, should you need assistance.

Please make sure your Submittable account **INCLUDES A MAILING ADDRESS**, along with your email address. One more time for the people in the back: **INCLUDE A MAILING ADDRESS**. You need not be present at the awards ceremony to win. If you are not present and you place in a category, we will mail you your award, but only if you include your **MAILING ADDRESS!**

SCORING

All categories are judged on a scale of 1 - 10, ten being the best score, with the exception of the Grammar category. Grammar is judged on a scale of 1 - 5, five being the best score. There is also a field for the judges to leave their feedback on your work.

IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN BLIND JUDGING, your name or any other identifying information should NOT appear anywhere on your entry: not in the header, not in the body of the entry, not in the file name, no URL references, etc. Names are tracked through the Submittable account info, to which the judges have no access.

FORMATTING GUIDELINES: Fiction and Poetry

FICTION

- Use a 1" margin on all sides

- Begin numbering with the first page of the text of the book, usually the introduction, prologue, or chapter one.
- Use a header on each page including the title of your entry, and the page number. e.g. Once Upon a Time in Utah/12
- Start each new chapter on its own page, one-third of the way down the page.
- The chapter number and chapter title should be in all caps, separated by two hyphens: CHAPTER 1—NOT MY MONKEYS NOT MY CIRCUS.
- Begin the body of the chapter four to six lines below the chapter title.
- Indent five spaces for each new paragraph.
- Double-space the entire text.
- Use a standard font, 12-point type. Times New Roman, Arial, or Courier

POETRY

- Type one poem to a page, single-spaced with double-spacing between stanzas.
- Leave at least a one-inch margin on all sides of the page.
- Use a header on each page with the title of your entry, e.g. Thoughts of a Young Lyricist
- The title of your poem should appear centered, six lines underneath your header.
- Begin the poem one line beneath the title.

CATEGORY GUIDELINES

The contest is open for traditionally non-published work only. Self-published work is allowable provided you have sold fewer than 100 copies.

Each submission to the 2021 Olive Woolley Burt Awards may be entered into one category only. These guidelines are meant to assist you in deciding which category to choose for each of your submissions. Entries are weighted on objective standards, such as formatting and length limitations, but these

guidelines are less firm than elements such as form, genre, style, and intended readership.

Some submissions might be appropriate for more than one category, nevertheless a unique entry may only be submitted to one category. For example, a funny 1,000-word story about a botanist and a flight commander stranded on Mars might be suitable for short fiction, genre fiction, romance, or flash, but may only be submitted to one of these. It is ultimately up to you to decide the category in which you feel your submission will fare best.

However, if you have three unique pieces that are all Speculative Fiction, you can enter all three in the Speculative Fiction category.

***Violation of the rules will result in a non-judged piece and forfeiture of entry fees.**

Category Descriptions

Poetry

1 - Light Verse – (rhyming, metrical, and/or humorous) - Verse with playful themes written primarily to please, amuse, and entertain.

2 - Narrative Poetry (open or closed form) - Poetry that tells a story. It is usually dramatic, with objectives, diverse characters, and meter.

3 - Prose Poem - Prose poetry is written like prose, abandoning the line breaks, but retaining poetic elements such as vivid imagery, metaphor, and heightened expression.

4 – Word Play - Any style of poem incorporating wit in which the words become the main subject of the work, primarily intended for amusement. The entry must incorporate the following words: *champagne, glow, arrest, cozy, stew, penetrate, agony, and filigree.*

Prose

5 – Creative Nonfiction - Factually accurate prose about real people and events, written in a compelling, vivid, dramatic manner.

6 - Media Article - Any story or article intended for a magazine, journal, or websites.

7 – Short Romance - A story where the main plot centers around individuals falling in love and struggling to make the relationship work, AND includes an emotionally satisfying and optimistic ending.

8 - Short Fiction - Stories that explore themes such as the human condition, interpersonal relationships, and societal issues. May also be described as "short story," "literary fiction," "straight fiction," or "up-market fiction."

9 - Speculative Fiction - Includes genres like Science Fiction, and Edgy fiction. As well as fantastical genres like Alternate History, Fantasy and Apocalyptic/post-Apocalyptic Fiction.

10- Flash Fiction – (Fiction or Nonfiction) - A story with a fully developed theme, plot, and story arc in fewer than 1000 words.

11 - First Chapter (Novel) - The first chapter of a novel that is intended for an adult readership, but of any genre or style.

12 – First Chapter (Young Adult) - The first chapter of a novel that is intended for the young adult or middle grade market but of any genre or style.

13 - Children's Story - The text of a children's book. May be fictional or nonfiction and may explore any topic, theme, or genre, but intended for children.

14 – Spiritual Essay - Spirituality can have many different definitions, depending on who is asked. It can be something as simple as looking for a higher meaning to life, or something so complex that one can base their beliefs, religion and overall life around it.

15 - Screenplay - Fiction or non-fiction. All scripts must be written in proper screenplay format (the use of screenplay writing software is recommended). Any script not written in proper screenplay format will be [disqualified](#). To learn

more about proper screenplay format, please go to: <https://screencraft.org/2015/05/07/elements-of-screenplay-formatting/>

New Writer (New Voices)

16 - First Chapter – The first chapter of any style or genre of book.

17 - Creative Nonfiction - factually accurate prose about real people and events, written in a compelling, vivid, dramatic manner.

18 – Fiction - Stories that explore themes such as the human condition, interpersonal relationships, and societal issues. May also be described as “short story,” “literary fiction,” “straight fiction,” or “up-market fiction.”

19 – Poetry – Any style or type of poem.