

League of Utah Writers

2023 Writing Contests

Submission Window: March 13th, 2023 - May 12th,
2023



New this year: The Palette Awards (Book Cover Contest)

The Palette Awards are open to members of the League of Utah Writers who have released a new cover in the past year.

2023 Winners

Lapis Lazuli Palette: CJ Connor “Board to Death” (Just Write Chapter)

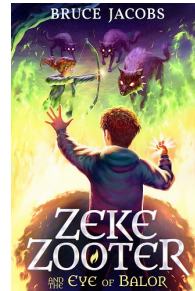
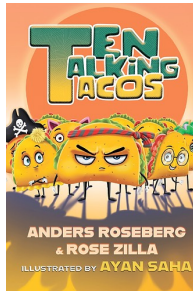
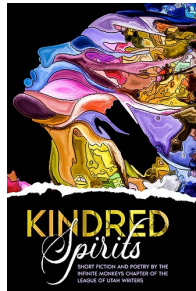


Independently Published

Gold Palette: Daniel Yocom “Kindred Spirits” (The Infinite Monkeys)

Silver Palette: Nathan Andersen “Ten Talking Tacos” (The Infinite Monkeys)

Bronze Palette: Bruce Jacobs “Zeke Zooter and the Eye of Balor” (Blue Quill)



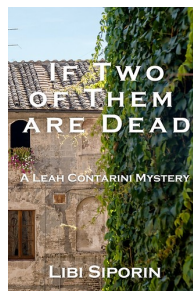
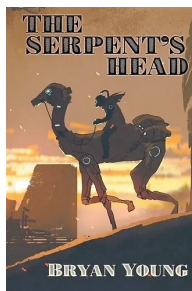
Traditionally Published

Gold Palette: Bryan Young “The Aeronaut”

Gold Palette: Bryan Young “The Serpent’s Head” (Salt City Genre Writers)

Silver Palette: Ona Siporin “If Two of Them Are Dead” (Cache Valley Chapter)

Bronze Palette: Bryan Young “BattleTech: Fox Tales” (Salt City Genre Writers)





The Quills Awards for Published Texts

Winners announced at the Quills Conference Awards Ceremony, August 12, 2023

Diamond Quill Winners 2023 (Tie!)

- Bryan Young "Ghostbird" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- Jodi L. Milner "Stonebearer's Redemption" (Oquirrh Writers)

Collections

- **Gold Quill** - Cody Langille "Dead Stars and Stone Arches: A Collection of Utah Horror" (Triple Q's)
- **Gold Quill** - John Olsen "The Best of the Planetary Anthology Series" (Utah Freelance Writers, The Infinite Monkeys, The Herriman Chapter)
- **Silver Quill** - Daniel Yocom "Kindred Spirits" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Bronze Quill** - Bryan Young "Fox Tales" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Recommended Read** - Jared Quan "Shattered Worlds" (Flaming Gnomes)

Nonfiction

- **Gold Quill** - David Alan Armstrong - A Walk With the Master (Just Write Chapter)
- **Silver Quill** - Bryan Young "The Big Bang Theory Official Book of Lists" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Bronze Quill** - Jared Quan "Lifted" (Flaming Gnomes)

Novella

- **Gold Quill** - Bryan Young - Welcome to Paradise (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Silver Quill** - Caryn Larrinaga - Mouse Trap (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Bronze Quill** - Sara Wetmore - The Christmas Script (Romance Chapter)
- **Recommended Read** - Jayne Osborne - editor - A Boy, His Surfboard and the Storm (no affiliated chapters)
- **Recommended Read** - Bryan Young - Shadowrun: Mercy Street (Salt City Genre Writers)

Middle Grade

- **Gold Quill** - Daniel Swenson "GingerSnap: A Redheads Guide to Not Being Eaten By a Dragon: Chapter 1" (Davis County)
- **Silver Quill** - Jill Vanderwood - Cheers: The Path You Choose #3 (Brigham City Writers)

Young Adult

- **Gold Quill** - C.W. Allen - The Secret Benefits of Invisibility (West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Gold Quill** - Bruce Jacobs - Zeke Zooter and the Eye of Balor (Blue Quill)
- **Silver Quill** - C.W. Allen - Tales of the Forgotten Founders (West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Bronze Quill** - Elizabeth Drysdale - The Exile's Promise (The Fellowship of the Ink)
- **Recommended Read** - Blake Penn - The Skystone Chronicles Book 1: Dragon Thief (Unaffiliated)

- **Recommended Read** - Janilise Lloyd - The Whisperer's Wish (Blue Quill)
- **Recommended Read** - Off the Hook - Mindy LeMieux (Flaming Gnomes)

Novel

- **Gold Quill** - Michel Nelson "The Stickmaker" (Brigham City Writers)
- **Silver Quill** - Ralph Dellapiana "Twice a Victim" (Salt City Scribes)
- **Bronze Quill** - Bryan Young "A Question of Survival" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Bronze Quill** - Lisa Forsyth "Sojourn: A Time Travel Romance" (Just Write Chapter)
- **Recommended Read** - Gail Knezevich "A Whisper on the Wind" (The Herriman Chapter)
- **Recommended Read** - Brooke Losee "You Wish" (West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Recommended Read** - Erica Richardson "Dragonbreath and Prejudice" (Just Write Chapter)



The 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 12, 2023

New Voices

Non-Fiction

- **First Place** - Sharman Ober-Reynolds "Shadow Boxing" (Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Anne Stark "The Kings and Queens of Portugal" (Cache Valley Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "What Now?" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Tori La Rue "Unperfect Me" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Patti Smith "Who Gets the Ventilator" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Lisa Hoelzer "Out of Agony Comes the Cure" (Unaffiliated)

Poetry

- **First Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "The Artist's Portrait" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Second Place** - Megan Condie "Have I Done Any Good in the World Today?" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Third Place** - Daniel Moreschi "A Glacier's Glide" (Unaffiliated)
- **Honorable Mention** - Megan Condie "To RJ Walker: From the Block on Top of Your Brick" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Megan Condie "To the Black Person I Did Not March With" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Brandy Woolley Green "Iridon of Sacrifice" (Salt City Genre Writers)

General and Literary Fiction

- **First Place** - Megan Condie "The Smell of Books" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Caudine DiScala "Cosmic Call" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Third Place** - Megan Condie "Fowles and Saint Peter" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Gail Boling "The Spelling Lesson" (Salt City Scribes)
- **Honorable Mention** - Debbie Melander "Tech-niche" (Nebo Novelists)
- **Honorable Mention** - Marion Hanson "Dystopia Disrupted" (Heritage Writers Guild)

Genre Fiction

- **First Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "The Undone" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Second Place** - Pablo Mendez "The Blue Door" (Unaffiliated)
- **Third Place** - Alberto Squassabia "To Nurse a Taint of Hope" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Stephen Harmon "The Ghost of Montezuma Canyon" (The Infinite Monkeys)

First Chapter - YA/MG

- **First Place** - Debbie Melander "Wings of Night" (Nebo Novelists)

- **Second Place** - Emily Miner "Legends of Llyria" (Unaffiliated)
- **Third Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "Chapter 1: The Undying Sea" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Breanna Frost "Nature's Guard: King's Wrath" (Unaffiliated)
- **Honorable Mention** - Bob Carey "The Knot" (Utah Valley Legends)
- **Honorable Mention** - Pablo Mendez "The Nightroamer" (Unaffiliated)

First Chapter - Adult

- **First Place** - Christine Dixon "Lost in Their Yesterdays" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Second Place** - Charity Nelson "Bionic Woman" (Just Write Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Megan Condie "The Summer Tango" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Megan Condie "The Summer We Danced" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Brandy Wooley Green "Chapter 1: Lyonesse" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Anne Stark "The Gamble" (Cache Valley Chapter)

Established Writers Categories

Poetry - Freeform

- **First Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "We, the Sisters Three" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Second Place** - Josie Hulme "Love Poem to Gravity" (Just Write Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Josie Hulme "Cancer" (Just Write Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Lillian Angelovic "Winter Gardening" (Red Butte Bards, Salt City Scribes)
- **Third Place** - Valarie Shenk "Rain is the Starward Soldier" (Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Lillian Angelovic "Revelation" (Red Butte Bards/Salt City Scribes)
- **Honorable Mention** - Denis Feehan "Erik" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Marie Tollstrup "All Right Rant" (Heritage Writers Guild)

Poetry - Light Verse

- **First Place** - Charlene Harmon "The Ancient Willow" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Second Place** - Charlene Harmon "Here and Not Here" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Third Place** - Greg Goodman "Gravity" (Red Butte Bards)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "The Library's Raining" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Eye of the Beholder" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Brandy Woolley Green "Wildly, the Wormwood" (Salt City Genre Writers)

Poetry - Haiku

- **First Place** - Marie Tollstrup "In Pendant Splendor" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Second Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "Grandfather of Haiku" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Third Place** - Charlene Harmon "Squid Souffle" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Territorial Butterflies" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)

- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Darkness Rising" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Butterfly Rumble" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)

Poetry - Limerick

- **First Place** - Valarie Shenk "Badger Blues" (Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Charlene Harmon "Haunting Season" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Third Place** - Brandy Woolley Green "Twittering" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Star Cycle" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Brandy Woolley Green "Ironical" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Bladder Control" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)

Poetry - Narrative Poem

- **First Place** - Andy McQuinn "The Story of Steven" (Unaffiliated)
- **Second Place** - Lillian Angelovic "As Yeats Lost Love" (Red Butte Bards, Salt City Scribes)
- **Third Place** - Jef Huntsman "Holding Memories" (Red Butte Bards)
- **Honorable Mention** - Jef Huntsman "The Love Story" (Red Butte Bards)
- **Honorable Mention** - Jef Huntsman "One Shot" (Red Butte Bards)
- **Honorable Mention** - Jef Huntsman "Predator" (Red Butte Bards)

Flash Fiction - Author's Choice

- **First Place** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Farewell, Ladies" (The Infinite Monkeys/Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Rufo Tolentino "Wasted" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Third Place** - Denis Feehan "The Illusionist" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Patrick Partridge "If My Mom Wanted Children" (The Infinite Monkeys, Salt City Scribes)
- **Honorable Mention** - Denis Feehan "Fame" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Jo Lynne Harline "Belle, From Elko" (Blue Quill)

Flash Fiction - Writing Dangerously

- **First Place** - Patrick Partridge "The Break Out" (The Infinite Monkeys, Salt City Scribes)
- **Second Place** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Return to Itaka" (The Infinite Monkeys, Blue Quill)
- **Third Place** - Heidi McDonald "The Man With Seven Doors" (Cache Valley Chapter)
- **Honorable Mention** - Michelle Chamberlain "Love Tantrum" (Blue Quill)

First Chapter - Middle Grade

- **First Place** - Claire Bahamón "The Giving Gifts" (Unaffiliated)
- **Second Place** - Evelyn Furbish "A Debt of Care" (Cache Valley Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Runaway Letter" (The Infinite Monkeys, Blue Quill)

First Chapter - YA

- **First Place** - Megan Condie "Blood Horse Empire" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)

- **Second Place** - Amanda Empey "White Crown" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Third Place** - Jodi L. Milner "Lilke Sand, Like Glass" (Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Rachel DeFriez "Kingdom of the Blind" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Johnny Worthen "Between Two Hills" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Austin Wrathall "Abel Excelsior" (The Herriman Chapter)

First Chapter - Adult

- **First Place** - Anna Bessesen "Between Impossible and Inevitable" (SLC Writers Group, Triple Q's, Salt City Genre Writers, Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - David Rodeback "The Earl's Third Son" (Good AF Writers)
- **Third Place** - Stephen Capone - "Living Through - Chapter 1 - Day One (again)" (Salt City Genre Writers, SLC Writers Group)
- **Honorable Mention** - Patrick Partridge - "Fast on Fifty" (The Infinite Monkeys, Salt City Scribes)
- **Honorable Mention** - Patrick Partridge "John Francis Robinson III" (The Infinite Monkeys, Salt City Scribes)
- **Honorable Mention** - Cambria Williams "A Night Without Stars" (The Infinite Monkeys)

Creative Non-Fiction

- **First Place** - Olivia Engstrom "The Stars on Our Skin" (Unaffiliated)
- **Second Place** - Megan Condie "The Good Girl's Chemical High" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Third Place** - Monica Williams "One of Them" (Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Megan Condie "A Daughter Like Me" (Just Write Chapter, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Anna Bessesen "Manic State of Mind" (SLC Writers Group, Triple Q's, Salt City Genre Writers, Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Inna Valerie Lyon "From Russia, With Borscht" (The Infinite Monkeys, Blue Quill)

Non-Fiction

- **First Place** - Rachel DeFriez "Finding the Moment" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Second Place** - Doug Gibson "The Wilding" (Blue Quill)
- Just Write Chapter)
- **Third Place** - Michelle Chamberlain "Spring Chicken" (Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Rachel Webb "Why I Threw my Autistic Son Into Shark Infested Waters" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Lorraine Jeffery "Legacy of Reading" (Red Butte Bards)
- **Honorable Mention** - Stephen Capone "From Coal Country to Park City: A Review of King Coal" (Salt City Genre Writers, SLC Writers Group)

Spiritual Essay

- **First Place** - Marie Tollstrup "Born Again" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Second Place** - Alberto Squassabia "The Confusion About Blessings and Hair Dressings" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Third Place** - Callie Stoker "Life's Ride" (Blue Quill)

Short Comic or Screenplay

- **First Place** - Emily Robyn Clark "Suffer Her Rage" (Salt City Genre Writers)

- **Second Place** - Bryan Young - "The Strike Out" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Third Place** - Emily Robyn Clark "Apocalypse Messiah" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Bryan Young "The Fine Print" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Bryan Young "The Break Up" (Salt City Genre Writers)

Screenplay

- **First Place** - Candace Thomas "Fate and Karma Meet for Coffee" (The Infinite Monkeys, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Second Place** - Bryan Young "Doxxed" (Salt City Genre Writers)

Horror

- **First Place** - Katherine Monasterio "A Conspiracy of Cartographers" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Second Place** - Heidi Voss "Siren Ascending" (Salt City Scribes)
- **Third Place** - Brenda Goates "Ashes to Ashes" (Unaffiliated)
- **Honorable Mention** - Melissa Schack "The Fever" (Romance Chapter)
- **Honorable Mention** - Emily Robyn Clark "Where Wolves Feed" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Terra Luft "Trial of Shadows" (Blue Quill, Salt City Genre Writers)

Mystery & Thriller

- **First Place** - Josie Hulme "Avaris" (Just Write Chapter)
- **Second Place** - David Rodeback "I Helped the Police" (Good AF Writers, Blue Quill)
- **Third Place** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Robert Frost is to Blame" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Bryan Young "When the Bough Breaks" (Salt City Genre Writers)

Romance

- **First Place** - September Roberts "Hart and Soul" (Blue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Love Catharsis" (The Infinite Monkeys, Blue Quill)
- **Third Place** - Terra Luft "Tempting Truths" (Blue Quill)
- **Honorable Mention** - Wendee Valentine "Janus" (Chapter 1: Davis County)
- **Honorable Mention** - Talysa Sainz "Inevitable" (Utah Freelance Writers, Salt City Genre Writers/The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Amanda Hill "A Wicked Kilt" (The Infinite Monkeys)

Science Fiction & Fantasy

- **First Place** - John Olsen "Scrappers of the Great Starship" (The Herriman Chapter, Utah Freelance Writers, The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Second Place** - Jessica Zarnofsky "The Final Altar" (The Infinite Monkeys, Salt City Genre Writers, Triple Q's)
- **Third Place** - Charlene Harmon "Cosmic Concerto" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Charlene Harmon "Crisis Point" (The Infinite Monkeys, Red Butte Bards, Oquirrh Writers)
- **Honorable Mention** - Alberto Squassabia "To Nurse a Taint of Hope" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Honorable Mention** - Tim Heare "The Fight for Luna" (Salt City Genre Writers, The Infinite Monkeys)

General & Literary Fiction

- **First Place** - Megan Condie "The Pastor's Wife" (Just Write ChapterBlue Quill)
- **Second Place** - Christopher Jones "A Proper Name" (Heritage Writers Guild)
- **Third Place** - Sky Simons "Desiccated Tears" (Salt City Genre Writers, Triple Q's)
- **Honorable Mention** - Masha Shukovich "The Invisibles" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Honorable Mention** - Stephen Capone "An Account of an Early Miracle Performed by the Child Jesus (as Reported to Roman Authorities)" (Salt City Genre Writers, SLC Writers Group)
- **Honorable Mention** - Denis Feehan "The Mattress Tag" (Heritage Writers Guild)



The Typewriter Awards for Published Creative Writing

Winners announced at the Quills Conference Awards Ceremony, August 12, 2023

Emerald Typewriter Winner 2023

Carolyn Campbell "Obsessed" (Word Craft)

Poetry

- **Gold Typewriter** - Talysa Sainz "Life Is Not a Poem" (Salt City Genre Writers/Utah Freelance Writers/The Infinite Monkeys)

Flash Fiction

- **Gold Typewriter** - Heidi Voss "Guardian" (Salt City Scribes)
- **Silver Typewriter** - Patrick Partridge "If You Could Forget One Thing" (Salt City Scribes, The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Bronze Typewriter** - Danielle Harward "Conflicting Opinions" (The Infinite Monkeys)

Media Article

- **Gold Typewriter** - Bryan Young "Steven Spielberg's The Fabelmans Hits Close To Home" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Silver Typewriter** - Bryan Young "The Northman Is A Dream For Akira Kurosawa Fans" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Bronze Typewriter** - Bryan Young "Star Wars: How the Imperial Senate Functioned (Until it Didn't)" (Salt City Genre Writers)

Nonfiction

- **Gold Typewriter** - Carolyn Campbell "Cold Comfort" (Word Craft)
- **Silver Typewriter** - Valarie Schenk "The Humble Earthworm" (Blue Quill)
- **Bronze Typewriter** - Valarie Schenk "Mousetraps" (Blue Quill)

Short Story

- **Gold Typewriter** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Secret Society of the Master's Seven Muses" (Blue Quill, The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Gold Typewriter** - Masha Shukovich "FOUR LISTS" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Silver Typewriter** - C.W. Allen "All in a Day's Work" (West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Silver Typewriter** - Alexis Hansen "Blood in the Water" (Salt City Genre Writers, West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Silver Typewriter** - Elizabeth Suggs "Technicolor Tears" (Romance Chapter)
- **Bronze Typewriter** - Danielle Harward "Challenge Accepted" (The Infinite Monkeys)
- **Bronze Typewriter** - Bryan Young "A Last and Final Will" (Salt City Genre Writers)
- **Recommended Read** - Inna Valerie Lyon "Mermaid's Justice" (Blue Quill, The Infinite Monkeys)

- **Recommended Read** - Alexis Hansen "Bleeding Heart" (Salt City Genre Writers, West Desert Wordsmiths)
- **Recommended Read** - C.W. Allen "The Platinum Option" (West Desert Wordsmiths)