

## **Award Winners – The Word Guild 2004 Canadian Christian Writing Awards**

For more information, please contact (Mr.) Sandy McMurray, Write! Canada Coordinator:  
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### **Non-Fiction Books**

**Books - Personal Growth:** A tie for first prize between Mark A. Buchanan of Duncan, B.C. for *The Holy Wild: Trusting in the Character of God*, Multnomah Publishers and Sue Careless of Toronto for *Discovering the Book of Common Prayer: A Hands-On Approach, Volume 1: Daily Prayer*, The Prayer Book Society of Canada and ABC Publishing.

**Books - Life Stories:** Clifford H. Phillips of Edmonton, Alta. for *The Lady Named Thunder: A Biography of Dr. Margaret Phillips*, University of Alberta Press.  
Three Awards of Merit were presented to: Gerald W. Hankins of Canmore, Alta. for *Rolling On: The Story of the Amazing Gary McPherson*, University of Alberta Press; Dale Lang of Alberta for *Jason Has Been Shot*, Castle Quay Books Canada; and Darlene Polachic of Saskatoon, Sask. for *Keep on Standing*, Emmanuel Baptist Charitable Foundation.

**Books - Culture:** David T. Koyzis of Hamilton, Ont. for *Political Visions & Illusions: A Survey & Christian Critique of Contemporary Ideologies*, InterVarsity Press.

**Books - Leadership and Theoretical:** A two-way tie for first prize between Cathy C. Campbell of Winnipeg, *Stations of the Banquet: Faith Foundations for Food Justice*, Liturgical Press and John G. Stackhouse, Jr. of Vancouver, Editor, *Evangelical Ecclesiology: Reality or Illusion?*, Baker Academic.

**Books - General Readership** (books that explain or encourage faith for secular readers): Alan Reynolds of Richmond, B.C. for *Reading the Bible for the Love of God*, Brazos Press

**Books - Special:** Diane Roblin Lee of Woodville, Ont. for *Into All the World*, Praise Productions for The Peoples Church.

**Books - Self-Published:** Eunice Campbell of Guelph, Ont. for *Food for Thought*, Essence Publishing.

### **Fiction Books**

**Mystery/Suspense Novel:** Linda Hall of Fredericton, N.B. for *Steal Away*, Multnomah Publishers.

**Historical Novel:** Janice L. Dick of Guernsey, Sask. for *Eye of the Storm*, Herald Press.

**Contemporary Novel:** Keith Clemons of Alton, Ont. for *If I Should Die*, George Colton Publishing.

**Children's Books :** A three-way tie between two books by Sigmund Brouwer of Red Deer, Alta., *Camp Crazyness (Watch Out for Joel!)* and *Shroud of the Lion*, both by Bethany House Publishing and Connie Brummel Crook of Peterborough, Ont., *The Perilous Year*, Fitzhenry and Whiteside Publishing

**Article, Short Story & Poetry Categories**

**News Article:** Sue Careless of Toronto, "St. Chad's Fate Hangs in Balance," *The National Post*.

**Feature Article:** Debra Fieguth of Kingston, Ont., "Fighting AIDS at Home and Worldwide," *Faith Today*.

**Inspirational/devotional Article:** A three-way tie for winner between Stanley J. Grenz of Vancouver, "Trusting God - Our Last and Only Hope," *ChristianWeek*; Maxine Hancock of Vancouver, "Because Memories Are Not Enough," *ChristianWeek*; and Helen Grace Lescheid of Abbotsford, B.C., "God Answers Prayer Two Ways," *Retirement with a Purpose*.

**Single Column:** Mark A. Buchanan of Duncan, B.C., "Rabbit Trails to God," *Christianity Today*

**Regular Column:** Denyse O'Leary of Toronto, "Faith and Science," *ChristianWeek*. An Award of Merit was presented to John G. Stackhouse Jr. of Vancouver, "Things Hoped For," *Faith Today*.

**Personal Experience Article:** Violet Nesdoly of Surrey, B.C., "Bamboo School and the Border Police," *Guide*

**Profile:** Kathleen Gibson of Yorkton, Sask., "Ginny Grows Up," *Reader's Digest*

**Book or Movie Review:** Paul M. Beckingham of Vancouver, "Living Before God," *Baptist Peacemaker*.

**Poetry:** Mary Lou Cornish of London, Ont., "If This World Hung From Some Other God's Arm," *Utmost Christian Writer*.

**Short story:** A two-way tie for first prize between Donna Farley of Surrey, B.C., "Tree Dance," *Dreams & Visions* and Sonya Vander Veen Feddema of St. Catharines, Ont., "First Guitar," *Christian Home and School*.

**Children or Young Adult Article or Story:** Violet Nesdoly of Surrey, B.C., "Never Silenced," *Guide*.

**Letter to the Editor:** Eunice Campbell of Guelph, Ont., "Emotions Cloud Reason," *The Record*.

## **BACKGROUNDER – THE WORD GUILD CANADIAN CHRISTIAN WRITING AWARDS**

This awards program is designed to encourage Canadian writers who are Christian in the pursuit of excellence in the art, craft, business and ministry of print communication. The awards are sponsored by The Word Guild, a national association of Canadian writers and editors who are Christian. Formerly known as The God Uses Ink Awards, these writing prizes have been awarded annually since 1988. In 2003, the awards were revamped and renamed, and the number of prize categories was expanded.

The Word Guild contests are open to all eligible writers who have Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status, and are not restricted to members of The Word Guild. All entrants are asked to affirm The Apostles' Creed as a condition of acceptance in the contest. However, the opinions and viewpoints expressed in the short-listed and winning works represent the authors' personal beliefs and are not necessarily endorsed by The Word Guild.

Although contest rules do not require an explicit statement of Christian belief, judges looked for an underlying expression of the writer's Christian worldview informing and influencing the writing.

Entries were judged according to the following considerations: excellence of writing; impact (the inspirational/informational value making it worthwhile); fulfillment of stated purpose; suitability to target audience; and originality/freshness of style. Each category was also judged on technical and style qualities specific to that genre (e.g., characterization in fiction or outline and structure in non-fiction, amongst other qualities).

The Word Guild, an association of Canadian writers and editors who are Christian, was founded in 2002. Members are committed to encouraging one another and fostering standards of excellence in the art, craft, business and ministry of writing. The long-term vision is to impact the Canadian identity through writing from a Christian worldview. Immediate goals are to help writers and editors at all stages connect with each other, develop new skills, discover new publishing opportunities and promote their work. Co-founders N. J. Lindquist of Markham, Ont. and Wendy E. Nelles of Toronto serve as executive director and associate director, respectively.

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