In November of 1917, a group of women booksellers gathered at Sherwood’s Bookstore in New York City to form a league of women active in all aspects of the book world. Having been shut out of the American Booksellers Association and the Booksellers’ League, the women connected, educated, and advocated for themselves, and the Women’s National Book Association was born.

As one of our founders, Madge Jenison of the Sunwise Turn Book Store said, not long after:

The Women’s National Book Association was founded when great ideas were about. It was in the years of the First World War, toward the end of it. It seemed to us that books are power—that if we could create a working body of all those who have to do with the circulation of ideas in books . . . . we would have a mechanism, through which we could throw our weight en masse behind anything in which we believed; that we could even stop war if our organization became complete and vigorous enough.

One hundred years later, we still believe that books have such power. With chapters in twelve cities across the country and affiliated members in between, we have promoted the importance of books in all forms and for all audiences and have paved the way for women in the book world. Our members represent all aspects of the literary community, including authors, editors, publishers, agents, librarians, and more.
WOMEN’S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

October 28, 2017 | 6 to 9 pm
Pen + Brush, New York NY

CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
Jane Kinney-Denning, WNBA National President

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS
Recognition of Sponsors and Supporters
Valerie Tomaselli, WNBA Centennial Chair

Recognition of WNBA Award Winners
Louise Erdrich, Award-Winning author and owner of Birchbark Books & Native Arts
Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress
Presenter—NC Weil, WNBA Award Chair

Award of WNBA Second Century Prize
Little Free Library, Founder and Executive director Tod H. Bol
Presenter—Susan Larson, Second Century Prize Co-chair

LAUNCH OF THE WNBA CENTENNIAL PUBLICATIONS

Women in the Literary Landscape: A Centennial Publication of the Women’s National Book Association
Rosalind Reisner and Valerie Tomaselli, Editors

Winning Writings from the Women’s National Book Association Writing Contest
Joan Gelfand, Editor

BOOKWOMEN SPEAK:
THE TRANSFORMATIVE ROLE OF LITERATURE IN OUR SOCIETY

Deirdre Bair—Moderator
Biographer of Simone de Beauvoir, Samuel Beckett, and others

Margo Jefferson
Cultural critic and award-winning author (Negroland, 2016)

Roxana Robinson
Award-winning author (Sparta, 2013) and former head of the Authors Guild

Emma Straub
Bestselling author (Modern Lovers, 2017) and owner of independent bookstore, Books Are Magic

REFRESHMENTS & BOOK SIGNINGS
WNBA AWARD WINNERS

2017: Carla Hayden, librarian of Congress; Louise Erdrich, novelist, bookstore owner
2015: Amy King, poet, professor, activist
2012: Ann Patchett, author, bookstore owner
2010: Masha Hamilton, international journalist, author, women’s activist
2008: Kathi Kamen Goldmark, author, musician, Rock Bottom Remainders founder
2006: Perri Klass, MD, author, promoter of literacy, professor of pediatrics
2002: Patricia McKissack, author
2000: Hon. Patricia Schroeder, former Congresswoman, President/CEO of Association of American Publishers
1998: Doris Kearns Goodwin, historian, author
1996: Carolyn Heilbrun, author, feminist scholar
1994: Janet Palmer Mullaney, founder and publisher, literary journal
1992: Jessie Carney Smith, author, librarian
1990: Barbara Bush, former First Lady, literacy advocate
1988: Claire Friedland, book production specialist
1986: Ann Heidbrider Eastman, bookwoman
1984: Effie Lee Morris, librarian
1982: Barbara Tuchman, author
1980: Anne Pellowski, librarian, author
1978: Mary Stahlman Douglas, book reviewer
1976: Frances Neal Cheney, educator, author; Helen Honig Meyer, publisher; Barbara Ringer, librarian
1975: Margaret K. McElderry, children’s book editor
1973: Mary Virginia Gaver, librarian, educator
1971: Augusta Baker, school and public librarian
1970: Charlemue Hill Rollins, librarian, author
1969: Victoria S. Johnson, public relations professional
1968: Ruth Hill Viguers, librarian, author
1967: Mildred L. Batchelder, children’s librarian
1966: Blanche W. Knopf, publisher
1965: Virginia Mathews, school library consultant
1964: Polly Goodwin, children’s book reviewer
1963: Rachel Carson, author
1962: Catherine Drinker Bowen, author
1961: Eleanor Roosevelt, former First Lady, author
1960: Pearl Buck, author
1959: May Hill Arbuthnot, editor, critic; Marchette Chute, author
1958: Edith Hamilton, author
1957: Anne J. Richter, editor
1956: Mary Ellen Chase, author
1955: Fanny Butcher, book reviewer; Bertha Mahoney Miller, editor
1954: Elizabeth Gray Vining, author, teacher
1953: Lillian C. Gurney, bookseller
1952: Margaret C. Scroggin, young people’s librarian
1951: Dorothy Canfield Fisher, author
1950: May Massee, children’s book editor
1949: Lucile Micheels Pannell, bookseller
1948: May Lamberton, Becker Book reviewer
1947: Emily P. Street, book sales and advertising executive
1946: Amy Loveman, editor
1945: Lillian Smith, author
1944: Mildred C. Smith, editor
1943: Mary Graham Bonner, author
1942: Irita Van Doren, book review editor
1941: Blair Niles, author
1940: Anne Caroll Moore, librarian
THE WNBA AWARD

The WNBA Award is presented by the WNBA to “a living American woman who derives part or all of her income from books and allied arts, and who has done meritorious work in the world of books beyond the duties or responsibilities of her profession or occupation.” The award has been presented continuously since 1940, originally every year and since the mid-1970s, biennially. This year, in commemoration of our Centennial, we are honoring two women who represent the wide spectrum of women in the book world.

—Chair, NC Weil

2017 WNBA AWARD WINNERS

Carla Hayden was sworn in as the fourteenth Librarian of Congress on September 14, 2016. Hayden, the first woman and the first African-American to lead the national library, was nominated to the position by President Barack Obama on February 24, 2016, and her nomination was confirmed by the US Senate on July 13.

Prior to her latest post, she served, since 1993, as CEO of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland. Hayden was nominated by President Obama to be a member of the National Museum and Library Services Board in January 2010 and was confirmed to that post by the Senate in June 2010. Prior to joining the Pratt Library, Hayden was deputy commissioner and chief librarian of the Chicago Public Library from 1991 to 1993. She was an assistant professor for Library and Information Science at the University of Pittsburgh from 1987 to 1991. Hayden was library services coordinator for the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago from 1982 to 1987. She began her career with the Chicago Public Library as the young adult services coordinator from 1979 to 1982 and as a library associate and children’s librarian from 1973 to 1979.

Hayden was president of the American Library Association from 2003 to 2004. In 1995, she was the first African-American to receive Library Journal’s Librarian of the Year Award in recognition of her outreach services at the Pratt Library, which included an after-school center for Baltimore teens offering homework assistance and college and career counseling.

Louise Erdrich was born in Little Falls, Minnesota, in 1954. As the daughter of a Chippewa Indian mother and a German-American father, Erdrich explores Native American themes in her works, with major characters representing both sides of her heritage. In an award-winning series of related novels and short stories, Erdrich has visited and revisited the North Dakota lands where her ancestors met and mingled, representing Chippewa experience in the Anglo-American literary tradition. Many critics claim Erdrich has remained true to her Native ancestors’ mythic and artistic visions while writing fiction that candidly explores the cultural issues facing modern-day Native Americans and mixed-heritage Americans.

Ms. Erdrich is the author of fifteen novels as well as volumes of poetry, children’s books, short stories, and a memoir of early motherhood. Her novel The Round House won the National Book Award for Fiction. The Plague of Doves won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and her debut novel, Love Medicine, was the winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. Erdrich has received the Library of Congress Prize in American Fiction, the prestigious PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. She lives in Minnesota with her daughters and is the owner of Birchbark Books, a small independent bookstore.
THE WNBA SECOND CENTURY PRIZE
Little Free Library

One of the signature programs of our Centennial (www.wnba-centennial.org) is the awarding of the WNBA Second Century Prize, a $5,000 grant to an organization that supports the power of reading, past, present, and into the future.

The one-time cash award is presented to the Little Free Library (www.littlefreelibrary.org), a nonprofit organization that promotes reading for all ages, but especially children, by building free book exchanges. LFL embodies the goals of the Women’s National Book Association by promoting literacy and the love of reading.

Co-chairs, Mary Grey James and Susan Larson

Little Free Library was founded in Hudson, Wisconsin, by Todd Bol to honor his mother, a school teacher. In just eight years the organization has become an international movement of mini-libraries sharing the message of “give one, take one.” LFL has over 50,000 libraries in 70+ countries with millions of books exchanged annually.

No longer known only for its charming small libraries placed in front yards and public spaces, it continuously develops new initiatives. The WNBA particularly applauds the LFL’s new Kids, Community, and Cops program, which helps police departments set up book exchanges in their precincts, and Action Book Club™, which encourages social engagement through shared reading—a commitment that resonates with the WNBA’s own National Reading Group Month program.
LAUNCH OF THE WNBA CENTENNIAL PUBLICATIONS

Women in the Literary Landscape:
A Centennial Publication of the Women’s National Book Association

Rosalind Reisner and Valerie Tomaselli, Editors
Doris Weatherford, Contributor

C&R Press
Advance copies, October 2017
Official publication, March 2018

Winning Writings from the
Women’s National Book Association Writing Contest

Joan Gelfand, Editor

C&R Press
Advance copies, November 2017
Official publication, March 2018
BOOKWOMEN SPEAK: THE WNBA CENTENNIAL VISIONARIES SERIES

A year-long, chapter-by-chapter lecture/in-conversation series by visionary women who have championed the value of books in our society. Each speaker was selected based on their unique, innovative, or significant contributions in their field.

Chair: Susan Walker

January 7, 2017, San Francisco: The Woman Warrior in All of Us: Maxine Hong Kingston in Conversation with Vanessa Hua

February 8, 2017, South Florida: Discussion with Joanne Sinchuk, owner of Murder on the Beach Bookstore, and Linda Rosen, WNBA-NYC member

February 27, 2017, Charlotte: Carolina’s Women Leaders in the World of Books program with speakers Betsy Teter, Founder and Executive Director of Hub City Press and Hub City Writers Project; Emoke B’Racz, Owner of Malaprop’s Bookstore; Wanda Jewell, Executive Director of SIBA


May 21, 2017, Greater Philadelphia: A conversation with author and educator Beth Kephart; Towne Book Center, Collegeville, PA

May 30, 2017, New Orleans: “Sassy Bookwomen of New Orleans,” A Story Circle led by Freddi Evans; George and Joyce Wein Jazz & Heritage Center

June 1, 2017, Boston: Megan Marshall, scholar and author of the Pulitzer-prize winning biography Margaret Fuller: An American Life; Boston Public Library


October 28, 2017, New York: The Transformative Role of Literature in Our Society; moderator, Deirdre Bair, with Margo Jefferson, Roxana Robinson, and Emma Straub

November 7, 2017, Nashville: Carole Bucy of Middle Tennessee State University, author with focus on women of the Progressive Era
THE TRANSFORMATIVE ROLE OF LITERATURE IN OUR SOCIETY

BOOKWOMEN SPEAK, NEW YORK

Deirdre Bair—Moderator

Deirdre Bair is the critically acclaimed author of six biographies (Samuel Beckett, Simone de Beauvoir, Anais Nin, C. G. Jung, Saul Steinberg, and Al Capone) and a cultural history of late-life divorce (Calling it Quits: Late Life Divorce and Starting Over). She received the National Book Award for Samuel Beckett. Her biographies of de Beauvoir and Anais Nin were chosen by The New York Times as “Best Books of the Year.” She has been awarded fellowships from (among others) the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations and the Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College. She is a literary journalist who writes frequently for magazines and newspapers about travel, feminist issues, and cultural life.

Margo Jefferson

The winner of a Pulitzer Prize for criticism, Margo Jefferson previously served as book and arts critic for Newsweek and the New York Times. Her writing has appeared in, among other publications, Vogue, New York Magazine, The Nation, and Guernica. Her memoir, Negroland, received the National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography. She is also the author of On Michael Jackson and is a professor of writing at Columbia University School of the Arts.

Roxana Robinson

Roxana Robinson is a critically acclaimed fiction writer—the author of five novels (including Sparta and Cost) and three collections of short stories. Four of her works have been chosen Notable Books of the Year by The New York Times, and she was named a Literary Lion by The New York Public Library. Her biography of Georgia O’Keeffe was short-listed for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Robinson was President of the Authors Guild from 2014-2017. She reviews books for The New York Times and the Washington Post, and her work has appeared in The Wall Street Journal, The Boston Globe, Slate, The Nation, Harper’s, Bookforum, Tin House, LitHub, and elsewhere.

Emma Straub

Emma Straub is from New York City. She is the New York Times bestselling author of the novels Modern Lovers, The Vacationers, and Laura Lamont’s Life in Pictures, and the short story collection Other People We Married. Her fiction and nonfiction have been published in Vogue, New York Magazine, Tin House, The New York Times, Good Housekeeping, and The Paris Review Daily. She is also the owner, with her husband, of Books Are Magic bookstore in Brooklyn, NY.
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Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance (SIBA)
WNBA Partners
Association of American Publishers
Fjord’s Literary Review
General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen
New York State Suffrage Centennial
Pace University – Dyson College of Arts and Sciences
Pen + Brush
Publishers Weekly
VIDA: Women in the Literary Arts
Women Writing Women’s Lives Biography Seminar

Individual Contributors

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Kristen Knox
Joyce Meskis
Roxana Robinson
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Julie Trelstad
Victoria Weiland

CONGRATULATIONS WNBA-Nashville for winning the
WNBA Centennial Chapter Challenge.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Woman’s National Book Association Committee would like to thank the following people who helped make this celebration possible.

**WNBA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**
- Jane Kinney-Denning, National President
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- Nicole Ayers and Rhona Whitty, *Bookwoman* Editors
- Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair and WNBA UN-DPI NGO Rep
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Rachel Feldman, 100 for the 100th Coordinator
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Special thanks to WNBA-NYC member Julia Rubin, who volunteered her stage-managing expertise to our event. Deep gratitude to Kerstin Vogdes Diehn, whose poster design has added beauty and style to our Centennial celebrations and to Isolde Maher of 4 Eyes Design, who provided a lovely look and layout for our Centennial publication. And heartfelt appreciation goes to Andrew Sullivan and John Goslee of C&R Press for their support of our Centennial publications.

Deep gratitude to our partners Janice Sands and Lisbeth Redfield at Pen+Brush for facilitating our Celebration with such ease and grace.
Barnes & Noble proudly salutes the **Women’s National Book Association** for a century of achievement and honors **Dr. Carla Hayden** Librarian of Congress

**Louise Erdrich**
Novelist and Bookstore Owner

**Little Free Library**
Second Century Prize Winner
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Is pleased to support the
Women’s National Book Association
during its Centennial year, and as it moves into
its second century of connecting, educating, advocating,
and leading in the literary world.

We are also proud to have helped produce The Lovings: An Intimate Portrait this year, the fiftieth anniversary of Loving v. Virginia, the landmark Supreme Court case that brought an end to the ban on interracial marriage.

www.lovings-villet.com
Cheers to the Women’s National Book Association on their centennial celebration.

Here’s to the next 100 years of empowered women and recognizing their contributions to our industry.

“Today a reader. Tomorrow a leader.”
- Margaret Fuller
The Women’s National Book Association of New Orleans established the Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction in 2012 for women writers to honor the memory of Diana Pinckley (1952-2012), a longtime crime fiction columnist for The New Orleans Times-Picayune, and her passion for mysteries. The prizes honor two women writers. Winners receive both a financial award of $2,500 and a trip to New Orleans to accept their prize.

The Pinckley Prize for Distinguished Body of Work honors an established woman writer who has created a significant body of work in crime fiction. The winner is nominated and selected by a jury. Previous winners include Laura Lippman, Nevada Barr, Sara Paretsky, and Louise Penny.

The Pinckley Prize for Debut Novel honors a woman writer with a first-time published novel in adult crime fiction. The winner is selected from the submissions by a three-judge panel. Previous winners include Gwen Florio, Adrianne Harun, Christine Carbo, and Trudy Nan Boyce.

For more information and entry forms, visit pinckleyprizes.org.

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**THE MISSION STATEMENT**

- ¾ oz. Green Chartreuse
- ¾ oz. fresh lemon juice
- ½ oz. egg whites
- ½ oz. Dubonnet Blanc
- ¼ oz. simple syrup infused with vanilla bean
- ¼ oz. Yellow Chartreuse
- ¼ oz. Champagne

Dry shake all ingredients to froth egg whites. Then shake with ice. Strain into chilled coupe or Nick & Nora glass. Top with ¼ oz. champagne. Garnish with parsley, sage, rosemary, and/or thyme.

**THE BLUESTOCKING**

- 1.1 oz. Stoli® Blueberi
- ½ oz. simple syrup
- ½ oz. Campari®
- ½ oz. lemon juice

- ¼ oz. Besk (a bitter Swedish liqueur; if Besk is not available, reduce the Stoli Blueberi to 1 oz.)*

Shake; serve in a Collins glass over ice with soda. Garnish with blueberries.

For more, see our Centennial Cocktails page at our Centennial website: www.wnba-centennial/cocktails.