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Winners of the 2022 Vermont Book Award Announced

Montpelier, Vt.—Vermont authors Zoë Tilley Poster, Kathryn Davis, Caren Beilin, and Bianca Stone have won the 2022 Vermont Book Award. The four authors received their awards during the Vermont Book Award celebration hosted by Vermont Humanities at Vermont College of Fine Arts (VCFA) on Saturday, May 6.

Zoë Tilley Poster won the award for Children’s Literature for her debut picture book *The Night Wild*, which was both written and illustrated by Poster. This is the first year the Vermont Book Award has been awarded in the Children’s Literature category.

Kathryn Davis, the author of eight acclaimed novels, won this year’s Vermont Book Award in Creative Nonfiction for her debut memoir *Aurelia, Aurélia*.

Caren Beilin received the Award in Fiction for her novel *Revenge of the Scapegoat*.

The Award in Poetry went to poet Bianca Stone for *What Is Otherwise Infinite*. Stone is Creative Director at the Ruth Stone House.

Last year’s Vermont Book Award winners—Alison Bechdel, Melanie Finn, and Shanta Lee Gander—announced this year’s winners during the program in Alumnx Hall on the VCFA campus. In a pre-recorded video aired during the program, Senator Peter Welch congratulated the finalists and the winners.

This year’s judges—made up of writers, readers, editors, librarians, and booksellers of Vermont—chose the winners from among fourteen finalists.

The Vermont Book Award was created in 2014 to honor the literature of a state uniquely suited for creative enterprise. Three Vermont organizations run the prize in partnership: the Vermont Department of Libraries, Vermont Humanities, and Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Saturday’s event highlighted Vermont’s extraordinary creative community and featured many notable Vermont writers and artists. Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup,

executive director of Vermont Humanities, emceed the celebration, during which he also announced Vermont Humanities' choice for Vermont Reads, the organization's one-book statewide reading and discussion program. Vermont Reads 2023 will center around the novel *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo.

"We've got an incredible community of writers, librarians, publishers, book sellers, and fans in Vermont," said Kaufman Ilstrup. "This event is a rare opportunity for the literary community to come together to celebrate each other. The Vermont Book Award is a significant recognition for Vermont authors, as it provides them with visibility and exposure to a broader audience. It also highlights the rich literary tradition of Vermont and the important contributions that its writers make to the national and international literary scene."

A statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1974, [Vermont Humanities](#) seeks to engage all Vermonters in the world of ideas, foster a culture of thoughtfulness, and inspire a lifelong love of reading and learning.

The [Vermont Department of Libraries](#) supports all Vermont libraries as they work to ensure access to quality information for their patrons. The Department coordinates the Red Clover Book Award, the Vermont Golden Dome Book Award, and the Green Mountain Book Award—all student choice awards given annually with the common goal of developing a love for reading in young people.

[Vermont College of Fine Arts](#) is a global community of artists continuously redefining what it means to be an arts college. It is accredited by the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE) and the National Association of Schools of Art & Design (NASAD) and offers Master of Fine Arts degrees in Graphic Design, Film, Visual Art, Writing, Music Composition, and Writing for Children & Young Adults.