Call for Entries to Annual Victoria Book Prize Awards

Date: Thursday, March 31, 2011

VICTORIA, BC – Authors and illustrators from Greater Victoria are invited to participate in the Victoria Book Prize Society’s annual awards consisting of the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize and the Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize.

In its eighth year, the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize honours members of the literary community. The $5,000 prize is awarded to a local author for the best book published in the preceding year in the categories of poetry, non-fiction and fiction. Established in 2004, the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize is a partnership between the City of Victoria and Brian Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies.

“The Victoria Book Prize Awards are a great way to showcase the literary achievements of our local authors,” said Mayor Dean Fortin. “We have so many talented authors in our community, this is one way we can honour their work and the contributions they make to our city.”

The $5,000 Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize will be awarded to an author or illustrator of children’s literature. The prize was created in 2008 to provide authors of children and youth literature an increased opportunity for recognition.

“We are looking forward to another celebration of local writers and illustrators at the October 12th gala,” said Lorna MacDonald, President of the Victoria Book Prize Society. “Our community is very fortunate to have so much talent and a supportive, appreciative audience.”

Books must have been published between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011 to be considered. Submissions can be made to the Victoria Book Prize Society, c/o Target Storage Ltd., #15 – 747 Princess Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 1K5 between April 1 and May 31, 2011. Submissions may be delivered in person from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The Society will appoint two independent juries comprised of representatives from the literary arts community to review and assess adult and children’s literature entries based on their literary merit.

Shortlisted nominees for both prizes will be announced in September, and authors will be showcased at a public reading and reception held at the Union Club of British Columbia on Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

This year’s awards competition and gala are sponsored by the City of Victoria, Brian Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies, Bolen Books, the Union Club of British Columbia, the Magnolia Hotel and Spa, the Marriott Hotel, CBC Radio, and the Greater Victoria Public Library. The Victoria Book Prize Society establishes the policy and criteria for the prizes, appoints the juries and administers the competitions.

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