Finalists Announced for Victoria Book Prize Awards

Date: Wednesday, September 12, 2012

VICTORIA, BC — Finalists have been selected for two, annual Victoria Book Prize Awards -- the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize and the Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize.

The $5,000 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize is awarded to a Greater Victoria author for the best book published in the preceding year in the categories of fiction, non-fiction or poetry. The finalists are:

- William Deverell
  *I’ll See You in My Dreams* (fiction) published by McClelland & Stewart

- Esi Edugyan
  *Half-Blood Blues* (fiction) published by Thomas Allen Publishers

- Rachel Fisher, Heather Stretch, and Robin Tunnicliffe
  *All the Dirt: Reflections on Organic Farming* (non-fiction) published by TouchWood Editions

- Madeline Sonik
  *Afflictions and Departures* (non-fiction) published by Anvil Press

- Mark Zuehlke
  *Breakout from Juno: Canadian Army and the Normandy Campaign, July 4-August 21, 1944* (non-fiction) published by Douglas & McIntyre

The $5,000 Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize is awarded to an author or illustrator for the best children's or youth’s literature published in the preceding year. This year’s finalists are all authors and include:

- Kit Pearson
  *The Whole Truth* (fiction) published by HarperCollins

- Pamela Porter
  *I’ll Be Watching* (fiction) published by Groundwood Books

- Caitlyn Vernon
  *Nowhere Else on Earth: Standing Tall for the Great Bear Rainforest* (non-fiction) published by Orca Book Publishers

Two independent juries comprised of representatives from the literary arts community were appointed by the Victoria Book Prize Society to review and assess 31 adult and 16 children's/youth entries based on their literary merit. The Society establishes the policy and criteria for the prizes, appoints the juries and administers the competitions.

The winners will be announced at a gala event to be held at the Union Club of British Columbia on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Open to the public, the event will feature readings by the finalists and will provide guests with the opportunity to meet the authors and have their books signed. Tickets are $15 and are available at Bolen Books in Hillside Mall, Ivy’s Bookshop at 2188 Oak Bay Avenue, Munro’s Books at 1108 Government Street, and from the Victoria Book Prize Society by calling 250.589.8430.
The *City of Victoria Butler Book Prize* celebrates its ninth year in 2012 and is a partnership between the City of Victoria and Brian Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies. The *Bolen Books Children’s Book Prize* was founded by Mel Bolen in 2008 to provide authors and illustrators of children's and youth literature an increased opportunity for recognition.

Other sponsors include the Greater Victoria Public Library, the Magnolia Hotel and Spa, the Union Club of British Columbia, the Marriott Victoria Inner Harbour Hotel, CBC Radio and Island Blue Print.

For more information, visit:  [www.victoria.ca](http://www.victoria.ca)

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