



## For Immediate Release

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#CTBookAwards22

# Connecticut's Literary Community Celebrates Notable Authors and Illustrators

**MIDDLETOWN, CT - (September 1, 2022)** — The 2022 Connecticut Book Awards, a program of the [Connecticut Center for the Book](https://www.ctcenterforthebook.org/), an affiliate program of the [Library of Congress](https://www.loc.gov/) and a core program of [Connecticut Humanities](https://www.cthumanities.org/), will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at the Hartford Public Library.

The Connecticut Book Awards recognize the best books of 2021 either **about** Connecticut or by authors and illustrators **from** Connecticut. Categories include Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, and Books for Young Readers.

Awards will also include the Bruce Fraser “Spirit of Connecticut” Award. This special award is in memory of longtime Connecticut Humanities director Bruce Fraser and celebrates Connecticut’s sense of place. Winners of all award categories will be announced at the event.

“We are so excited to bring these authors to the attention of readers both in Connecticut and outside of Connecticut,” said Lisa Comstock, director of the Connecticut Center for the Book. “Connecticut is the home of so many talented writers and they have rich stories to tell. We are proud to announce the shortlist finalists.”

## FINALISTS for 2022 (in alphabetical order by author's last name)

### Nonfiction

*Seeing Ghosts* | Kat Chow | Takoma Park, MD\* | [Grand Central Publishing](https://www.grandcentralpublishing.com/)

*Broke in America* | Joanne Goldblum & Colleen Shaddox | Branford/ | [BenBella Books](https://www.benbella.com/)

*Squirrel Hill* | Mark Oppenheimer | New Haven | [Penguin Random House](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/)

*Correctional* | Ravi Shankar | Providence, RI\* | [University of Wisconsin Press](https://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/)

*PIGLET, The Unexpected Story of a Deaf Blind Pink Puppy and His Family* | Melissa Shapiro | Westport | [Simon & Schuster](https://www.simonandschuster.com/)

### Poetry

*Taking Her Back* | Cristina Baptista | Newington | [Atmosphere Press](https://www.atmospherepress.com/)

*The Glass Globe* | Margaret Gibson | Preston | [LSU Press](https://www.lsu.edu/press/)

*A Cluster of Noisy Planets* | Charles Rafferty | Sandy Hook | [BOA Editions](https://www.boaeditions.com/)

*Songs for a Solo Voice* | James Whitley | Waterbury | [Red Mountain Press](https://www.redmountainpress.com/)

### Fiction

*The Family Plot* | Megan Collins | Manchester | [Simon & Schuster/Atria](https://www.simonandschuster.com/)

*Justine* | Forsyth Harmon | Accord, NY+ | [Tin House](https://www.tinhouse.com/)

*Goliath* | Tochi Onyebuchi | New Haven | [Tor](https://www.tor.com/)

*9 Lupine Road* | Eric Lehman | Hamden | [Owl House Books/Homebound Publications](https://www.owlhousebooks.com/)

*Book of Form and Emptiness* | Ruth Ozeki | Northampton, MA+ | [Viking](https://www.viking.com/)

## Young Readers

### Picture Books – Fiction

*Soul Food Sunday* | Winsome Hudson-Bing | Ledyard | [Abrams Books](#)

*Three Pockets Full* | Cindy Rodriguez | Plainville | [Cardinal Rule Press](#)

### Picture Books – Nonfiction

*Bei Bei Goes Home: A Panda Story* | Cheryl Bardoe | Wallingford | [Candlewick Press](#)

*Walrus Song* | Janet Lawler | Farmington | [Candlewick Press](#)

### Middle Grade – Nonfiction

*Fairy Tale Science* | Sarah Albee | Watertown | Author | [Odd Dot](#)

*Robo-Motion: Robots That Move Like Animals* | Linda Zajac | Author | Vernon | [Lerner Publishing Group](#)

### Middle Grade – Fiction

*View From Pagoda Hill* | Michaela MacColl | Westport | [Calkins Creek/Astra Books for Young Readers](#)

*The Flyers* | Beth Turley | Waterford | [Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing](#)

*To Tell You the Truth* | Beth Vrabel | Canton | [Simon & Schuster](#)

### Fiction – Young Adult

*The Secret Life of Kitty Granger* | G. D. Falksen | Hamden | [Lerner Publishing Group](#)

*Mercury Boys* | Chandra Prasad | Woodbridge | [Soho Teen](#)

## Bruce Fraser Spirit of Connecticut Finalist

*All Girls* | Emily Layden | Albany, NY\* | [St. Martin's Press](#)

\* = Set in Connecticut

+ = author born in Connecticut

### About Connecticut Humanities

[Connecticut Humanities](#) (CTH) is a nonprofit affiliate of the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#).

Through competitive grantmaking, its website, and social media channels, CTH highlights cultural and educational events and is an advocate for the humanities.

### About Connecticut Center for the Book

[Connecticut Center for the Book](#) is a program of Connecticut Humanities and is Connecticut's affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Its mission is to celebrate books, writers and readers who engender and sustain the life of the imagination and to highlight authors, illustrators, printers, publishers, and the literary heritage of the State of Connecticut.

### About The Library of Congress Center for the Book

The [Library of Congress Center for the Book](#) promotes books and libraries, literacy and reading, as well as poetry and literature.

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