

shoreline arts alliance

For Immediate Release:

Date: May 1, 2009
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STATEWIDE CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS PROGRAM ANNOUNCES WINNERS

The Shoreline Arts Alliance is pleased to announce the winners of the 9th annual **Tassy Walden Awards: New Voices in Children's Literature**. The contest, open to writers and illustrators from the state of Connecticut, drew 242 submissions from talented authors and artists around the state. Tassy Walden, for whom this contest is named, was a generous and vital member of the Shoreline community for over 40 years and her volunteerism with such organizations as Women & Family Life Center, the Guilford Free Library and Literacy Volunteers of America were all aimed at enhancing and enriching the lives of children in the community. It is only fitting that this contest to launch quality children's literature be named in her honor.

Congratulations to the following winners, honorable mentions and finalists:

Picture Book (text only)

Winner: Never Thought I'd See the Day by Waltrina Kirkland-Mullins, New Haven
Finalists: If Daddy Were A Dinosaur by Betsy Devaney MacLeod, Ledyard
Sherlock Kreplach and the Case of the Missing Shofar by Bonnie Goldberg, North Haven
Wreck of a Circus Train by Karen Jordan, Westport

Illustrated Picture Book

No winner this year.

Finalists: Pots by Ming by Doug Armistead, Branford
Emily Finds A New Home by Carol Czeipel-Morrison
Summer French by Sarah French, Rowayton
Thoughts by the Sea by Marilyn Thrall, Canton

Illustrators Portfolio:

No winner this year.

Honorable Mention: Lindsay Broderick, Newtown
Finalist: Martha Lewis, New Haven
Phillip Youker, Wallingford
Kristy Orr, Westport
Lois Kennedy, East Hampton

Middle Grade Novel

Winner: **The Art of Elsewhere** by Faith Hough, Guilford
Honorable Mention: Emma Jean Goes Green by Betsy Devany MacLeod
Finalists: My Life's A Book by Pamela Foarde, Fairfield
Listening in the Snow by Jeanne Zulick, Ellington
The Perfect Trip by Stacy Barnett Mozer, Stamford
The Other School by Erica Davis, Woodbridge

Young Adult/Teen Novel

Winner: **Walnut Girl** by Nina Nelson, Fairfield
Finalists: Off the Word, Rip the Building by John Hastings, Durham
Score by Jason Panzer, Fairfield
A Different Shade of Green, by Kimberly Steffen, Guilford
One For the Murphys by Linda Mullaly Hunt, Marlborough

The winners will be invited to read from their work at the awards ceremony, which will be held on **May 20th** at **Blackstone Memorial Library, 758 Main St., Branford** at **7pm**. The Shoreline Arts Alliance is very grateful to Barnes & Noble Booksellers and J. Sanford & Helen H. Davis for their sponsorship of the 2009 **Tassy Walden Awards: New Voices in Children's Literature**.

As part of the evening's festivities please join us before the Awards Ceremony at a book sale. **Beginning at 6:30pm** children's books written by former Tassy Award winners will be on sale. A percentage of all sales will be donated to the Shoreline Arts Alliance. Checks or cash are accepted. The awards ceremony will then begin at 7pm. Come and support these talented award winners as well as the Shoreline Arts Alliance so that we may continue to nurture and support writers and illustrators of quality children's literature here in Connecticut!