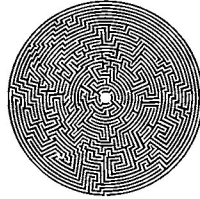


# BEFORE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

The Raymond House • 655 -13th Street • Suite 302 • Oakland, California 94612  
www.beforecolumbusfoundation.com



August 23, 2021

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:***

**Contact:** Justin Desmangles, 916-425-7916

**The Before Columbus Foundation announces the  
Winners of the Forty-Second Annual  
AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS  
Ceremonies, Sunday, September 19, 2021, 2:00–4:00 p.m.**

Oakland, CA—The Before Columbus Foundation announces the Winners of the Forty-Second Annual AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS. The 2021 American Book Award winners will be formally recognized on Sunday, September 19, 2021, from 2:00–4:00 p.m., online.

Zoom Registration - <https://bit.ly/AmBookAwards2021>

Website Entry - <https://sfpl.org/events/2021/09/19/celebration-columbus-foundation-42nd-annual-american-book-award>

YouTube Event - <https://youtu.be/IG6LQCpHtBQ>

Facebook Event - <https://fb.me/e/1BgMajG8I>

Connect with the Before Columbus Foundation: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#)

The American Book Awards were created to provide recognition for outstanding literary achievement from the entire spectrum of America’s diverse literary community. The purpose of the awards is to recognize literary excellence without limitations or restrictions. There are no categories, no nominees, and therefore no losers. The award winners range from well-known and established writers to under-recognized authors and first works. There are no quotas for diversity, the winners list simply reflects it as a natural process. The Before Columbus Foundation views American culture as inclusive and has always considered the term “multicultural” to be not a description of various categories, groups, or “special interests,” but rather as the definition of all of American literature. The Awards are not bestowed by an industry organization, but rather are a writers’ award given by other writers.

(continued)

**The 2021 American Book Award Winners are:**

**Ayad Akhtar**

*Homeland Elegies: A Novel* (Little, Brown and Company)

**Maisy Card**

*These Ghosts Are Family* (Simon & Schuster)

**Anthony Cody**

*borderland apocrypha* (Omnidawn Press)

**Ben Ehrenreich**

*Desert Notebooks: A Road Map for the End of Time* (Counterpoint)

**Johanna Fernández**

*The Young Lords: A Radical History* (University of North Carolina Press)

**Carolyn Forché**

*In the Lateness of the World: Poems* (Penguin Press)

**John Giorno**

*Great Demon Kings: A Memoir of Poetry, Sex, Art, Death, and Enlightenment* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

**Cathy Park Hong**

*Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* (One World)

**Randall Horton**

*{#289-128}: Poems* (University of Kentucky)

**Gerald Horne**

*The Dawning of the Apocalypse: The Roots of Slavery, White Supremacy, Settler Colonialism, and Capitalism in the Long Sixteenth Century* (Monthly Review Press)

**Robert P. Jones**

*White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* (Simon & Schuster)

**Judy Juanita**

*Manhattan my ass, you're in Oakland* (Equidistance Press)

**William Melvin Kelley (author) Aiki Kelley (illustrator)**

*Dunfords Travels Everywheres* (Anchor Books)

*Lifetime Achievement:*

**Maryemma Graham**

*Walter & Lillian Lowenfels Award for Criticism:*

**Shana Redmond**

*Everything Man: The Form and Function of Paul Robeson* (Duke University Press)

*Anti-Censorship Award:*

**Jacob Soboroff**

*Separated: Inside an American Tragedy* (Harper Collins)