

The Hal Bernard Memorial Award for Novel (sponsored by Buzz Bernard)
The first 10 pages (double-spaced); 1-page synopsis 1-paragraph “elevator pitch”;
Any genre, literary or mainstream

First Place: Heritage - M. Z. Thwaite

Second Place: The Next Home Run - Jayne Adams

Third Place: Project Observers - Amy Wethington

Honorable Mention: The Curse of the Illusionist - Ed Green

The Vega Award for Speculative Short Fiction (sponsored by Sandra Giles)

Complete manuscript not over 4,000 words’; Short fiction in any of the fantastical genres: science fiction, fantasy, horror, weird, magical, supernatural, superhero, utopian or dystopian, apocalyptic or post-apocalyptic, alternate history. Short story or flash; Stand-alone novel chapters also accepted.

First Place: Gironde – Melinda Farris

Second Place: Preserving Earth’s Children– Amy Wethington

Third Place: Operation Yellowstone - Susan Lindsley

The Award for Excellence in Inspirational Writing (sponsored by Mary Stripling)

The piece may be religious or secular. It should be wholesome and leave the reader with a “take away” message of encouragement, hope, comfort, fresh motivation, or renewed spiritual strength. Complete manuscript not over 1,500 words

First Place: Goodnight - Susan Lindsley

Second Place: His Final Flight – Jayne Adams

The Humor Award (sponsored by Authors Ignite)

Complete manuscript not over 1,000 HILARIOUS words. Any subject suitable for all ages.

First Place: Unfortunate Incident – Verne Hoyt

Microcosm Award (sponsored by Charlotte Babb)

Fiction, any genre, no poetry, slice of life, or vignette. A complete story with beginning, middle and end: a complete story which is character driven and has a resolution. Less than 1000 words: up to 999 words, not counting the title.

First Place: Going Home – Susan Lindsley

Second Place: Spooky Action at a Distance – Amy Wethington

Young Adult/Midgrade Award (sponsored by Amy Wethington)

Complete manuscript not over 5,000 words OR novel (first 5,000 words + 1-page synopsis + elevator pitch [not over 300 words]) OR short story.

No award given.

Award for Historical Fiction (sponsored by Jim Furry & Eye on the Page)

Complete manuscript not over 2,000 words based on an easily identifiable historical period of time. Judged on originality, theme, accuracy within the historical period, and composition.

First Place: The Secret of Tuileries - Melinda Farris

Second Place: Bloody Jasper - Susan Lindsley

Third Place: The Stargazing Rock - Amy Wethington

The Lowcountry Award for Excellence in Southern Writing

Award for best complete manuscript limited to 2,500 words set in the American South. Author may live anywhere however the story must be set in the American South.

First Place: Tree of Life - Jayne Adams

Second Place: The Secret of Harper Lee- Melinda Farris