



INDEPENDENT PUBLISHER BOOK AWARDS

For Immediate Release

IPPY Award Winners Announced for 2023: "Independent Spirit Unites and Inspires"

(June 14, 2023 – Traverse City, MI) – Jenkins Group and IndependentPublisher.com are proud to announce the medalists in the 27th Annual Independent Publisher Book Awards. Conducted each year to honor the year's best independently published books, the "IPPY" Awards recognize excellence in a broad range of styles and subjects. In a year where war and economic crisis has been ever present in the headlines, the 2023 IPPY medal-winning books offer inspiration and reflection. These independent voices have added hope and enlightenment to readers.

"So, what's next? How do we live in stasis and plan for the future? What might the future look like and when does it even start? We think about how the world may change and how we may change with it," Lorainne Ash pondered in *Corona City: Voices from the Epicenter*, winner of Outstanding Audiobook. Though a reflection on life in New York and New Jersey as COVID-19 reshaped our world, three years later many of us find ourselves still grappling with these questions. Some award winners offer reflections on that time, like *Everybody Just Breathe: A COVID Nurse Memoir of Stamina and Swear Words* by Amanda V. Peterson, while other books on our list have similar questions and thoughts at their core but are focused on issues like Climate Change and Civil Rights.

This year our judges thought it was fitting to honor two books with the Outstanding award of Most Likely to Save the Planet. *The Evidence Project* by Britta Jaschinski, Keith Wilson, and Arturo de Frias uses a variety of often stark photographs from around the world to show the true toll of climate change

hoping the straightforward message will inspire people to push action. Children's book *Memories of a Birch Tree* by Daniel Cañas, illustrated by Blanca Millán produced by Spanish publisher Cuento de Luz is a simpler tale of a single birch tree planted in a city that grows roots and provides needed shade and oxygen to help its neighbors. The importance of environmental protection in various forms was not limited to the Outstanding books though, as it was a theme throughout many categories from Nature to Education to Popular Fiction.

While the IPPYs do feature categories for Multi-Cultural and LGBTQIA+ fiction and non-fiction for all ages, the voices and experiences of many marginalized communities were recognized across a wide variety of categories. From Fine Art to U.S. History and Children's Picture Books to Romance, winners explored the struggles and triumphs of peoples whose experiences and cultures have been long ignored- or worse, brought into laser focus recently as targets of hate.

In the end, you will find humanity and connection to the world every IPPY Award winning book. The stories that captured our judges illuminate. They offer stories of people, both real and fictional, who will inspire action and reflection. They lead us down new paths of discovery as to what we can achieve and how to get there. They allow us to live a life we have never imagined or understand some or something totally outside our daily lives.

“In a times like these, when the world can seem overwhelming, books offer us a bridge between what is and what can be,” says Amy Shamroe, director of the Awards. “Our medalist have created new worlds to escape to, shared new experiences and ideas, illuminated complex issues, and given us reflection with action. Each book is a new opportunity to move forward and find out what happens next with a little more insight and inspiration.”

Congratulations to all this year’s IPPY Award medalists for their independent spirit and dedication to changing the world, one book at a time! We look forward to celebrating them at a virtual Medalist Celebration Tuesday, June 20th.

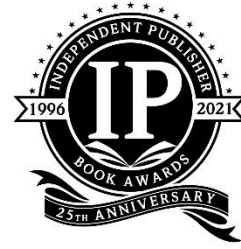
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See complete results listing for the [2023 Independent Publisher Book Awards](#).

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About the Awards:

Each year since 1996, the [Independent Publisher Book Awards](#) have identified a reading list of progressive, thought-provoking books, the kind that can touch lives, advance careers, and stretch our imaginations. With the tag line, "Recognizing Excellence in Independent Publishing," the IPPY Awards showcase the best books from throughout North America and the English-speaking world. Launched as the first unaffiliated awards program open exclusively to independent, university, and self-published titles, the awards are presented each spring by publishing services firm Jenkins Group of Traverse City, Michigan and [IndependentPublisher.com](#), "THE Online Voice of Independent Publishing."



CONTACT US

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