

American Academy of Arts and Letters

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS ANNOUNCES  
2014 LITERATURE AWARD WINNERS**

New York, March 10, 2014 – The American Academy of Arts and Letters announced today the names of 20 writers who will receive its 2014 awards in literature. The awards will be presented in New York in May at the Academy’s annual Ceremonial. The literature prizes, totaling \$230,000, honor both established and emerging writers of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. The Academy’s 250 members nominate candidates, and a rotating committee of writers selects winners. This year’s committee members were Louis Begley, Louise Glück, Alison Lurie, Francine Prose, Mark Strand and Charles Wright.

**Arts and Letters Awards in Literature**

Eight Arts and Letters Awards in Literature honor exceptional accomplishment in any genre. This year, the awards of \$7500 each will be presented to

**DON BARTLETT · EMILY FRAGOS · GEORGE GREEN  
RAJIV JOSEPH · JAMES LONGENBACH · ERIC PUCHNER  
JEAN VALENTINE · BRENDA WINEAPPLE**

**Benjamin H. Danks Award**

of \$20,000 given every three years to an exceptional young writer.

**YIYUN LI**

**Blake Dodd Prize**

of \$25,000 given triennially to a nonfiction writer.

**ALEXANDER STILLE**

**E. M. Forster Award**

\$20,000 to a young writer from the United Kingdom or Ireland for a stay in the United States. Award jury: Anita Desai, Paul Theroux.

**SARAH HALL**

**Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction**

\$5000 for the best work of first fiction (novel or short stories) published in 2013.

**MANUEL GONZALES**

for *The Miniature Wife*

**Katherine Anne Porter Award**

of \$20,000 to be given biennially to a prose writer.

**SHERMAN ALEXIE**

**Arthur Rense Poetry Prize**

of \$20,000 to be given triennially to an exceptional poet.

**ELLEN BRYANT VOIGT**

**Rome Fellowships in Literature**

A one-year residency (2014–2015) at the American Academy in Rome.

**KRYS LEE**  
**LIZ MOORE**

**Rosenthal Family Foundation Award**

of \$10,000 to a young writer of considerable literary talent for  
for a work published in 2013.

**LAURA VAN DEN BERG**  
*The Isle of Youth*

**Harold D. Vursell Memorial Award**

of \$20,000 to a writer whose work merits recognition for the quality of its prose style.

**DANIEL MENDELSON**

**Thornton Wilder Prize for Translation**

of \$20,000 to a practitioner, scholar, or patron who has made a  
significant contribution to the art of literary translation.

**DAVID HINTON**

**Morton Dauwen Zabel Award**

of \$10,000 to a poet with progressive, original, and experimental tendencies.

**CLAUDIA RANKINE**

The American Academy of Arts and Letters was established in 1898 to “foster, assist, and sustain an interest in literature, music, and the fine arts.” Election to the Academy is considered the highest formal recognition of artistic merit in this country. Founding members include William Merritt Chase, Kenyon Cox, Daniel Chester French, Childe Hassam, Henry James, Theodore Roosevelt, Elihu Vedder, and Woodrow Wilson. The Academy is currently comprised of 250 of America’s leading voices in the fields of Art, Architecture, Literature, and Music. The Academy presents exhibitions of art, architecture, and manuscripts, and readings and performances of new musicals. It is located in three landmark buildings designed by McKim, Mead & White, Cass Gilbert, and Charles Pratt Huntington, on Audubon Terrace at 155 Street and Broadway, New York City.