



Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc.

BCALA Literary Awards Committee

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For Immediate Release
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or

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BCALA Announces the 2017 Literary Awards Winners

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Inc. (BCALA) announces the winners of the 2017 BCALA Literary Awards during the Midwinter Meeting of the American Library Association in Atlanta, GA. The awards recognize excellence in adult fiction and nonfiction by African American authors published in 2016, including an award for Best Poetry and a citation for Outstanding Contribution to Publishing. The recipients will receive the awards during **BCALA's 10th National Conference of African American Librarians, August 9 - August 13, 2017 in Atlanta, GA.**

The winner of the 1st Novelist Award is *Grace: a Novel* by Natasha Deon (Counterpoint Press).

The Fiction category winner is *Another Brooklyn: a Novel* by Jacqueline Woodson (Amistad).

The Honor Books for Fiction are *Underground Railroad: a Novel* by Colson Whitehead (Doubleday) and *The Mothers: a Novel* by Brit Bennett (Penguin Random House).

The winner in the Nonfiction category is *Hidden Figures: the American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly (William Morrow).

Honor Book for Nonfiction is *Pushout: the Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* by Monique Morris (The New Press).

The winner for BCALA's Best Poetry Award is *Counting Descent: Poems* by Clint Smith (Write Bloody Publishing).

The Honor Book for Best Poetry Award is *Attraversiamo (let's cross over)* by Monique Ferrell (NYQ Books).

The BCALA Literary Awards Committee presents the Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Citation to *Olio* by Tyehimba Jess (Wave Books).

Members of the BCALA Literary Awards Jury are: Gladys Smiley Bell (Chair), Hampton University, Hampton, VA; Tiffany A. Duck, Phoebus Branch, Hampton Public Library, Hampton, VA; Grace M. Jackson-Brown, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO; LeRoy LaFleur, Tufts University, Boston, MA; Dominique Luster, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA; Ritchie A. Momon, Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence, MO; and John Page, Retired, Washington, D.C.