

# BEFORE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

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



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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

**The Before Columbus Foundation announces the  
Winners of the Thirty-Seventh Annual  
AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS  
Ceremonies, October 30, 2016, 2:00–5:00 p.m.**

Oakland, CA—The Before Columbus Foundation announces the Winners of the Thirty-Seventh Annual AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS. The 2016 American Book Award winners will be formally recognized on Sunday, October 30th from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the SF Jazz Center, Joe Henderson Lab, 201 Franklin Street (at Fell), San Francisco, CA. This event is open to the public.

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.

**The 2016 American Book Award Winners are:**

**Laura Da'**

*Tributaries* (University of Arizona)

**Susan Muaddi Darraj**

*Curious Land: Stories from Home* (University of Massachusetts)

**Deepa Iyer**

*We Too Sing America:*

*South Asian, Arab, Muslim, and Sikh Immigrants Shape Our Multiracial Future* (The New Press)

**Mat Johnson**

*Loving Day* (Spiegel & Grau)

**John Keene**

*Counternarratives* (New Directions)

**William J. Maxwell**

*F.B. Eyes: How J. Edgar Hoover's Ghostreaders Framed African American Literature*  
(Princeton University)

**Lauret Savoy**

*Trace: Memory, History, Race, and the American Landscape* (Counterpoint)

**Ned Sublette and Constance Sublette**

*The American Slave Coast: A History of the Slave-Breeding Industry* (Lawrence Hill Books)

**Jesús Salvador Treviño**

*Return to Arroyo Grande* (Arte Público)

**Nick Turse**

*Tomorrow's Battlefield: U.S. Proxy Wars and Secret Ops in Africa* (Haymarket Books)

**Ray Young Bear**

*Manifestation Wolverine: The Collected Poetry of Ray Young Bear* (Open Road Integrated Media)

*Lifetime Achievement:*

**Louise Meriwether**

*Walter & Lillian Lowenfels Criticism Award:*

**Lyra Monteiro and Nancy Isenberg**

*Andrew Hope Award:*

**Chiitaanibah Johnson**