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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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The Before Columbus Foundation announces the
Winners of the Thirty-Ninth Annual
AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS
Ceremonies, October 28, 2018, 12:00–2:30 p.m.

Oakland, CA—The Before Columbus Foundation announces the Winners of the Thirty-Ninth Annual AMERICAN BOOK AWARDS. The 2018 American Book Award winners will be formally recognized on Sunday, October 28, from 12:00-2:30 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 2018 American Book Award Winners are:

Thi Bui, The Best That We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir (Harry N. Abrams)

Rachelle Cruz, God’s Will for Monsters (Inlandia Books)

Tommy Curry, The Man-Not: Race, Class, Genre, and the Dilemmas of Black Manhood (Temple University Press)
Tongo Eisen-Martin, *Heaven Is All Goodbyes* (City Lights)

Dana Naone Hall, *Life of the Land: Articulations of a Native Writer* (University of Hawaii)


Victor Lavalle, *The Changeling: A Novel* (Spiegel & Grau)

Bojan Louis, *Currents* (BkMk Press at the University of Missouri-Kansas City)

Valeria Luiselli, *Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions* (Coffee House)


Rena Priest, *Patriarchy Blues* (MoonPath Press)

Joseph Rios, *Shadowboxing: poems & impersonations* (Omnidawn)


**Lifetime Achievement**

**Sequoyah Guess**

Walter & Lillian Lowenfels Criticism Award


Editor/Publisher Award

**Charles F. Harris**

Anti-Censorship Award

**Rob Rogers**

Oral Literature Award

**Heroes Are Gang Leaders**