

NEWS RELEASE

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November 12, 2025 hannah@caliballiance.org

CALIBA's Golden Poppy Award Winners to be Announced In Person for the First Time

Since its creation in 2020, the dream of the CALIBA Board has been an in-person Golden Poppy Award Ceremony to celebrate the best of California authors and creators. In 2026, CALIBA will be adding an in-person Award Ceremony on the final evening of Fall Fest, Tuesday, September 15th, 2026 in San Diego. All Finalists will be invited to attend the ceremony and mix and mingle with booksellers afterwards.

To make this possible, three major updates to the program have been made:

1. All 13 Golden Poppy Committees will now be juried. The Committee members will choose the five finalists and one winner for each category.
2. The Book Submission calendar will start and end sooner. Publishers, please review our schedule [here](#).
3. Bookstores will be promoting the Finalists and Winners throughout Q4 and again in the new year.

Learn more about the history of the Golden Poppy Awards and past winners [here](#). The CALIBA Staff and Board look forward to celebrating with authors, publishers, and booksellers more next year!