

Willow Awards Program Updates for March 1, 2022

A Look Back – Memories of the Willows Past – if you are/were a supporter, member, or board member of SYRCA, The Willows, please send a short remembrance or support for the future. These will be compiled and shared later in the Anniversary year, along with some other surprises. Send notes to judyleenic@gmail.com. There will be a special edition of **The Willow 20th Anniversary History Part 2** published and distributed soon. Watch for it- it is going to be an amazing document.

20th Anniversary Willow Award Author Contest <https://willowawards.ca/20th-anniversary-willow-award-author-contest/> Contest entries close March 31, 2022. The Author Contest - Enter to win a zoom visit with this year's Willow finalist authors. More information is here: <https://willowawards.ca/20th-anniversary-willow-award-author-contest/>

- Enter in March to win a zoom visit with author Colleen Nelson for Snow Award finalist

Voting for this year's Willow Award finalists closes March 31, 2022. We would love to include the votes of your readers!

- Shining readers need to have read 5 of the 10 titles to vote.
- Diamond readers need to have read 4 of the 10 titles to vote.
- Snow readers need to have read 3 of the 10 titles to vote.

Willow Awards Virtual Bottle Drive Fundraiser

- Use the Drop & Go option at any Sarcas in Saskatchewan and choose "Willow Awards" to donate your deposits to SYRCA - The Willow Awards! It will provide much needed funds to keep The Willows going! Thank you! More information can be found here: <https://willowawards.ca/willow-awards-virtual-bottle-drive-drop-and-go/>

We are pleased to announce that Regent Place Public Library in Regina will be the host of the **20th Anniversary Gala on June 1, 2022! This will be a virtual event so watch for information about joining the event soon.**

Public libraries across our province have been an important promoter of the Willow Awards since we began. Staff members have served on a number of committees since our inception, have purchased the Willow finalists for their patrons to enjoy and promoted them through programming and displays. We appreciate all of their past

efforts and look forward to their involvement and partnership with local schools in this new way!

The Willow Awards Celebrate 20 Years – An Interview on CBC Radio

CBC Radio featured the Willow Awards on Saskatchewan Weekend hosted by Shauna Powers. She spoke with Willow Awards president, Erin Walton and Grade 6 teacher Darla Zimbaluk about the importance of the awards in the reading lives of children and youth in our province. This year is our 20th anniversary!

Listen to the interview here: <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-205-saskatchewan-weekend/clip/15889384-the-willow-awards-celebrate-20-years>

The **Launch winner for 2021/22** <https://willowawards.ca/20th-anniversary-launch-winners/>

The Winners of a full set of Willow books (Shining, Diamond and Snow):

- Yorkton Regional High School
- Bulyea Elementary School

Runners Up Winners of a set of Shining, Diamond or Snow Willow Books:

- Kincaid School
- Archerwill School

Honorable Mentions winning a selection of titles at various levels:

- Outlook Elementary School
- St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Saskatoon
- Harbour Landing School, Regina
- Schell School

Remember voting is by March 31, 2022.

Submitted by

Judy Nicholson

SLA Representative to the SYRCA Board