

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA GOLDEN PEN AWARD

Writers' Guild of Alberta Golden Pen Award
Supported by Aritha van Herk

The WGA Golden Pen Award is presented to acknowledge the lifetime achievements of an outstanding Alberta writer. Past recipients have been **Alice Major, George Melnyk, Fred Stenson, Aritha van Herk, Robert Kroetsch, Merna Summers, Myrna Kostash, Grant MacEwan, W.O. Mitchell, and Rudy Wiebe.**



This year's recipient is **Betty Jane Hegerat**

Betty Jane Hegerat is a lifelong Albertan who left a career in social work to devote the past 22 years to writing. She has had two novels, a story collection, and a book of creative non-fiction published and has a novel for teens due for release in fall 2015. Her most recent book, *The Boy*, a hybrid of investigative journalism, fiction, and memoir, was a finalist for the City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell book prize, shortlisted for the WGA Wilfrid Eggleston non-fiction award, and a finalist in the High Plains Book Awards. Betty Jane has taught in numerous venues, was the Writer in Residence for the Calgary Public Library in 2009, and has had the privilege of mentoring many emerging writers. She has a Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing degree from the University of British Columbia and has served on numerous juries, editorial boards, and committees. She has been involved in various literary workshops and mentorship programs.

"As a teacher, mentor, and editor for the writing community at large, Betty Jane's impact reaches far and wide, young and old, beginning and emerging. Her solid contributions have influenced an up-and-coming generation of writers, both established and starting out."

"Her own writing has been described by one of her peers as "beautifully accomplished but noticeably marked by personal integrity."

Congratulations, Betty Jane Hegerat!

The Golden Pen Award will be presented at the [Alberta Literary Awards Gala](#) on **May 23** at the **Chateau Lacombe Hotel, Alberta Ballroom**. Tickets for the Awards Gala may be purchased online through the [registration page](#) on Writers' Guild of Alberta website.

WriteClick is an electronic newsletter, produced by staff in the Edmonton office of the Writers' Guild of Alberta and distributed weekly by e-mail to members of the organization. WriteClick is a supplement to information contained in our print newsletter, but it is not edited by the WestWord editor. To receive it, your e-mail address must be in our Membership database, so check with the Edmonton office to ensure we have updated information. To have your announcement posted here send an e-mail to: mail@writersguild.ab.ca. WGA members may use WriteClick to announce upcoming events (be sure to include location and time) and make other brief announcements of interest to WGA members. Please put the words "For WriteClick" at the beginning of your submission. Please have announcements for the Wednesday edition submitted by the preceding Tuesday noon. If you are asking for response from other WriteClick subscribers, you must include your e-mail address so others can communicate directly with you.

The WGA staff retains the right to exclude, edit, or limit the number of placements of messages submitted to WriteClick. Priority will be given to messages from WGA members or concerning WGA activities. While announcements from other individuals or organizations that are of potential interest to WGA members will be considered, including notice of writing- and arts-related fund-raising events, direct appeals for financial support will not be published in WriteClick. The WGA staff tries to verify the accuracy of information sent out in WriteClick, but cannot be held responsible for illegitimate contests or markets, etc. You are encouraged to do your own research before submitting your work. WriteClick is not a forum for expressions of opinion or advocacy concerns, although we do occasionally alert members to news that affects the writing community. We are not taking any particular political stand, but simply presenting the forums for discussion. Members are

encouraged to raise such issues with the entire WGA membership by writing a letter to the editor of WestWord Magazine, c/o the Writers' Guild of Alberta, 11759 Groat Road NW, Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6.

The Writers' Guild of Alberta gratefully acknowledges the support of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Calgary Arts Development, and the Edmonton Arts Council.

www.writersguild.ab.ca
11759 Groat Road NW
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada
T5M 0T3

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