



A list of writing contests and awards compiled by Carolyn Niethammer and shared on the Women Writing the West Blog.

Multi-Genre Award Contests

Before Columbus Foundation (American Book Award)

Book Excellence Awards

Chanticleer International Book Awards

Emerging Writers Contest (unpublished books)

Eric Hoffer Book Award (for self-published and small, independent presses)

Evans Biography Award and Handcart Award

Feathered Quill Book Awards

Foreword Indies Book Awards

Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY)

- 90 subject categories

International Book Awards

- Dozens of categories

International Book Publishers Association/Ben Franklin Awards

Laramie Book Awards (part of Chanticleer)

Military Writers Society of America Book Awards

Mining History Association Awards

Next Generation Indy Book Awards

Orion Book Award (ecological in content exploring the human relationship with the natural world)

PEN America Literary Awards

PubWest Book of Award

Shelf Unbound Indie Best Book

SouthWest Writers

Story Circle Network

- May Sarton Awards

Thurber Prize for Literary Humor

Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award

- Best First Novel
- Best Novel
- Best Short Fiction

Western Heritage Awards/ Wrangler

Western Writers of America/Spur

Best Western Historical Novel

Best Western Traditional Novel

Best Western Contemporary Novel

Best Short Story, Best Short Nonfiction

Best Contemporary Nonfiction Best Biography

Best History

- Best Juvenile Fiction and Nonfiction

Best Drama

Best Documentary

Best First Novel

Best First Nonfiction Book.

Wild West History Association

Will Rogers Medallion

- Western Fiction
- Western Nonfiction
- Western Biography

Western Photographic Essay

- Western Short Story
- Western Inspirational Fiction
- Western Romance

Western Cookbook

Western Cowboy Poetry

Western Humor

Maverick

Western Fiction-Young Readers

Women's Fiction Assn Awards (published and unpublished)

Women Writing the West: WILLA Literary Award - Women's and girls stories set in the North

American West (West of Mississippi)

- Multiform Fiction
- Historical Fiction
- Romance
- Creative Nonfiction
- Scholarly Fiction
- Poetry
- Children's Fiction & Nonfiction
- Young Adult Fiction and Nonfiction

Women Writing the West: LAURA Short Fiction Award (For members of Women Writing the West)

Women Writing the West: DOWNING Journalism Award

Regional Contests

Arizona Author's Association

Bancroft (Caroline) History Prize

Colorado Authors' League

Colorado Book Awards/ Colorado Humanities

High Plains Book Awards

Mountain Plains Booksellers Award

Nancy Pearl Book Award (for members of Pacific NW Writers Assn)

National Federation of Press Women (start in state contest to advance to national)

New Mexico-Arizona Book Awards

Oklahoma Book Awards

Oregon-California Trails Association

Pen Center USA (writers living west of Mississippi)

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers

Society of Midland Authors

Texas Institute of Letters (many categories)

- Jesse Jones Award for Best Book of Fiction, \$6,000
- Sergio Troncoso Award for Best First Book of Fiction, \$3,000
- Carr P. Collins Award for Best Book of Non-Fiction, \$5,000
- Helen C. Smith Memorial Award for Best Book of Poetry, \$1,500
- John Robertson Award for Best First Book of Poetry, \$1,500
- Ramirez Family Award for Best Scholarly Book, \$2,500
- Jean Flynn Award for Best Young Adult Book, \$1,000
- Dierdre Siobhan FlynnBass Award for Best Middle Grade Book, \$1,000
- Fred Whitehead Award for Best Design of a Trade Book, \$1,500
- Brigid Erin Flynn Award for Best Picture Book, \$1,000
- Soeurette Diehl Fraser Award for Best Translation of a Book, \$1,000
- Kay Cattarulla Award for Best Short Story, \$1,000
- Edwin "Bud" Shrake Award for Best Short Non-Fiction, \$1,000

"In some cases, the author must live in the region; in other cases, the subject matter must reflect the region, author can live anywhere. Check also state historical societies."

(Carolyn)

Children's books

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators/Rocky Mt.

Women Writing the West: WILLA Literary Award - Women's and girls stories set in the North American West (West of Mississippi)

Western Writers of American Spur Best Juvenile Fiction and Nonfiction

Will Rogers Medallion – Western Fiction, Young Readers

“See other opportunities in some of the Multi-genre listings.” (Carolyn)

Poetry Awards

Eric Hoffer Medal Provocateur

Patterson Poetry Prize

Poetry Society of American

Texas Institute of Letters (Helen C. Smith Memorial Award and John Robertson Award)

Will Rogers Medallion-Poetry

Women Writing the West: WILLA Literary Award - Women's and girls stories set in the North American West (West of Mississippi)