



Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters

Now in its 43rd year!

OFFICERS

2021-2022

PRESIDENT

Sarah Frances Hardy, Oxford

VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT

Traci Stover, Hattiesburg

SECRETARY/EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Margaret Anne Robbins, Pontotoc

TREASURER

Jan Taylor, Jackson

ARCHIVIST

Nancy Guice, Laurel

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Scott Naugle, Pass Christian

BOARD OF GOVERNOR EMERITUS

Aubrey K. Lucas, Hattiesburg

Swan Yerger, Jackson

BOARD OF GOVERNOR EMERITA

Sandra Shellnut, Pass Christian

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Ann Abadie

Oxford

Ted Atkinson

West Point

Marion Barnwell

Jackson

George Bassi

Laurel

David Beckley

Holly Springs

Nicole Bradshaw

Brandon

Talamieka Brice

Ridgeland

Lawrence Deas

Jackson

Peter Halverson

Jackson

Laura Howell

Leland

Nancy LaForge

Cleveland

Donzell Lee

Lorman

Ebony Lumumba

Jackson

Jean Medley

Jackson

JoAnne Prichard Morris

Jackson

Bridget Pieschel

Columbus

Julian Rankin

Ocean Springs

R. Kim Rushing

Cleveland

Traci Stover

Hattiesburg

James G. Thomas, Jr.

Oxford

Mary McKenzie Thompson

Clarksdale

Mark Wiggs

Jackson

Lester Senter Wilson

Jackson

www.ms-arts-letters.org

The annual gala banquet was held at the Oak Crest Mansion Inn on June 12 in Pass Christian, Mississippi, to honor both 2021 and 2020 winners.



(Pictured left) Writer Richard Ford, long-time friend and classmate introduced Rea Hederman

The 2021 Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award winner: Rea Hederman

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Rea Hederman has been publisher of *The New York Review of Books* since 1984.

Hederman earned degrees at Mississippi College, the University of Virginia and the University of Missouri. After working as editor for a weekly newspaper in Canton, Mississippi, he served as city and then managing editor of the *Clarion-Ledger* and became executive editor in 1980. Under his leadership, the paper turned

away from its conservative roots to execute “one of the most dramatic turnarounds in American journalism,” according to the *Washington Post*.

Introducing Hederman was writer Richard Ford, a long-time friend and classmate. Copies of both the eloquent introduction by Ford and the inspiring acceptance by Hederman may be read on our website:

<https://www.ms-arts-letters.org/awards-weekend.html>

Additional photos by Ann Madden Photography + Design from the joint celebration of 2020 & 2021 MIAL award recipients may be viewed on this same page.



Award Winners

(Pictured above, top row, left to right)

- **Andrea Morales**, a documentary photographer, received the **Photography** award for the exhibition *Roll Down Like Water*, sponsored by the Center for Photographers of Color at the University of Arkansas. Morales is currently a candidate for an MFA in documentary expression at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, where she is also a producer at the Southern Documentary Project.
- **Deborah Wiles** from Tucker, Georgia, received the **Youth Literature** award for *Kent State*, written for students ages 12-18. She attended Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, Mississippi, and later received an MFA from Vermont College. *Kent State* provides extensive resources for student research.
- **James S. Sclater** received the **Classical Music Composition** award for *Angels*. This is his ninth award from MIAL. Born in Mobile, Sclater was on the faculty at Mississippi College for over forty years. Sclater often writes the texts for his vocal music, combining a love of music and poetry.
- **Eddie S. Glaude** won the **Nonfiction** award for his ninth book, *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*. Born in Moss Point and raised in Pascagoula, Glaude received an MA and PhD in religion from Princeton University and currently serves as James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of African American Studies at Princeton.

(Bottom row, left to right)

- **Catherine Pierce** received the **Poetry** award for her collection *Danger Days*. Born in Wilmington, Delaware, Pierce has lived in Starkville, Mississippi, since 2007 where she is the co-director of the creative writing program at Mississippi State University. In April of 2021, Pierce was named Mississippi's Poet Laureate.
- **Odie Lindsey** received the **Fiction** award for his first novel, *Some Go Home*. Lindsey received a master's degree from the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi and is currently Writer-in-Residence at Vanderbilt University's department of Medicine, Health, and Society.

- **Steve Azar** is the **Contemporary Music Composition** award recipient for *My Mississippi Reunion*. Born and raised in Greenville, Azar is a singer, songwriter, and record producer. He received a BS degree from Delta State University and lived and worked in Nashville for 18 years. Moving back to Greenville in 2011, Azar hosts a radio show and podcast “In a Mississippi Minute” and serves as artist-in-residence for Delta Music Institute at DSU.
- **Rea Hederman** received the **2021 Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award** for his lifelong contributions to the literary world. Hederman has been publisher of the *New York Review of Books* since 1984.
- **Cathy Hegman** received the **Visual Arts** award for her show “Pandemic Perceptions.” She lives in Holly Bluff where she maintains two full-time studios. Hegman started painting in 1984 while pursuing a BA degree in Interior Design at Mississippi State University. She is the first Mississippi native to receive a Gold Medal from the American Watercolor Society. She is represented in galleries around the world and her work can be found locally at Fischer Gallery in Jackson.

Awards Banquet Photos



(L to R) Emily Liner, Bridget & Steve Pieschel



(L to R) Will Jacks, Andrea Morales & Annie Flannagan



(L to R) Scott E. Polk, Ann J Abadie and Catalina Polk



2020 Award Recipients (Back L to R): Tim Lee, Minrose Gwin, Steve Rouse, John Evans, Will Jacks, C. T. Salazar, Jen Waller. (Front L to R): Margaret McMullan, Susan Lee, Ann J. Abadie & Stacey Johnson. Not Pictured: Angie Thomas



MIAL 2020-2021 President Scott Naugle welcomed guests to Pass Christian.



2021 Awards by potter Brian Nettles, Pass Christian



2020 Award gifts by Jackson ceramist Kathleen Varnell

JUNE 11, 2022, IS THE DATE FOR THE 43RD ANNUAL MIAL AWARDS BANQUET TO BE HELD IN JACKSON AT THE MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF ART. MAKE YOU PLANS TO ATTEND.

2021–2022 MIAL Membership Dues

Please complete and return this form. Payment may also be made from our website:
<http://www.ms-arts-letters.org/membership.html>

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Renewal New Membership

CHECK the appropriate membership category:

- Student \$15
- Supporter \$35
- Contributing \$75
- Sustaining* \$150
- Institutional* \$150
- Patron* \$500
- Benefactor* \$1000+

Please make payments to MIAL and return to:

Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters
Jan Taylor, Treasurer
P. O. Box 2346
Jackson, MS 39225-2346

Contributions to MIAL are recognized by the IRS as tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

*Levels recoanized in newsletter. awards banquet proaram booklet. and website.

**2020-2021 DONORS AND FRIENDS
PATRONS, BENEFACTORS & AWARD SPONSORS**

Ann and Dale Abadie, Oxford
 Jenny Long and Damian Augsberger, Greenwood
 Johnnie and Bryant Bernhard, Ocean Springs
 Laura and John Bradley, Oxford
 MIAL Charitable Fund of the Community Foundation of
 Greater Jackson
 Elizabeth and Thomas Goodman, Carrollton
 Jennifer Polk and Michael Heidelberg, Ridgeland
 Holly and Robert Ivy, FAIA, Washington, D.C.
 Nancy and William LaForge, Cleveland
 Ella and Aubrey Lucas, Hattiesburg
 Jean and Tim Medley, Jackson
 Family of Keith Dockery McLean
 McCarty Pottery & Gardens, Merigold
The Mississippi Quarterly, Mississippi State
 Catalina and Scott Polk, Orlando, Florida
 Judy and Clarke Reed, Greenville
 Margaret Anne and Jimmy Robbins, Pontotoc
 Albert & Robinson Architects, Hattiesburg
 Nan and Mike Sanders, Cleveland
 George Shawhan, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
 Sandra and Tom Shellnut, Pass Christian
 Carol Tatum, Cleveland
 William Lewis Thames, Laurel
 Mary Thompson, Clarksdale
 Gingia and Swan Yerger, Fairhope, Alabama

INSTITUTIONS & BUSINESSES

Alcorn State University, Alcorn
 Belhaven University, Jackson
 Coahoma Community College, Clarksdale
 Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Wesson
 Cotesworth Culture & Heritage Center, Carrollton
 Delta Magazine, Cleveland
 Delta State University, Cleveland
 Department of Languages and Literature, DSU
 East Mississippi Community College, Scooba
 Eudora Welty House & Gardens, Jackson
 GRAMMY Museum@ Mississippi, Cleveland
 Hinds Community College, Raymond
 Holmes County Community College, Goodman
 Itawamba Community College, Fulton
 Jones County Junior College, Ellisville
 Lauren Rogers Museum of Art, Laurel
 Lemuria Bookstore, Jackson
 MDA-Visit Mississippi, Jackson
 Meridian Community College, Meridian
 Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian
 Millsaps College, Jackson
 Mississippi Arts Commission, Jackson
 Mississippi Delta Community College, Moorhead
 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston
 Mississippi Humanities Council, Jackson
 Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson
 Mississippi State University, Starkville
 Mississippi University for Women, Columbus
 Northeast Mississippi Community College, Booneville
 Northwest Mississippi Community College, Senatobia
 Pass Christian Books/Cat Island Coffeehouse
 Pearl River Community College, Poplarville
 Rust College, Holly Springs

Southside Gallery, Oxford
 Square Books, Oxford
 Tougaloo College, Tougaloo
 University of Mississippi, Oxford
 University of Mississippi Friends of the Library, Oxford
 University of Mississippi Museums and Historic Houses
 University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
 University Press of Mississippi, Jackson
 William Carey University, Hattiesburg

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Ivy and Frank Alley, Jackson
 Virgie and Joe Azar, Greenville
 Sara Anderson, Jackson
 DeeDee and George Bassi, Laurel
 Minor Ferris and Virginia Buchanan, Jackson
 Stratton Bull, Natchez
 Michael Ching, Ames, Iowa
 Cindy and Scott Coopwood, Cleveland
 Doyce and Bill Deas, Tupelo
 Melanie and Lawrence Deas, Jackson
 Robin and Jon Dietrick, Clinton
 Kristina and Richard Ford, East Boothbay, Maine
 Linda Foshee, Hattiesburg
 Nancy Guice, Laurel
 Ralph Hamilton, Evanston, Illinois
 Martha Ferris and Kos Kostmayer, Garrison, New York
 Ginny Friend, Waterford, Virginia
 Lynn Gammill, Hattiesburg
 Sarah Frances and John Hardy, Oxford
 Laura and Frank Howell, Leland
 Beth Jacks, Taylor
 Colby H. Kullman, Oxford
 Holly and Alan Lange, Jackson
 Patti and William Lewis, Oxford
 Deborah and Michael Lightsey, Madison
 Jeanne Luckett, Jackson
 Natalie Maynor, Jackson
 Nora Miller, Columbus
 Debbie and Charles Morris, Ridgeland
 JoAnne Morris, Jackson
 Suzanne McGowan, Jackson
 Jennifer and Kennard McKay, Hattiesburg
 Selena and Charles Nause, Greenwood
 Marcy Fischer Nessel and Gilbert Rose, Flora
 John N. Palmer, Jackson
 Lisa and William Percy, Greenville
 Phoebe and Rob Pearigen, Jackson
 Lucy and Robert Phillips, Starkville
 Bridget and Steve Pieschel, Columbus
 Peggy Preshaw, Ridgeland
 Ellen Morris Prewitt, New Orleans
 Tom Rankin, Hillsborough, North Carolina
 Dorothy Roberts and Halle Ricketts, Pass Christian
 Eva and Steve Rouse, Louisville, Kentucky
 Mollie and Kim Rushing, Cleveland
 Sara and Daniel Smith, Pascagoula
 Jenny and Jamie Smith, Merigold
 Ward and Jim Sumner, Jackson
 Rebecca and Mark Wiggs, Jackson
 Wilma and Bob Wilbanks, Cleveland
 Mary Margaret and Barry White, Jackson

Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award Nomination MIAL members are encouraged to make nominations to honor the artistic achievements of living Mississippians (current residents or former ones with continuing, significant ties to the state). Judges will consider only work shown, published, or performed in **2021**. Members may nominate more than one individual in any category. Please make additional copies of this form if needed. **Nominations should include a complete address or e-mail**, if applicable. Cookbooks, edited works, and self-published works cannot be considered. All nominations are subject to board approval.

Only MIAL members may nominate

Award Categories:

FICTION (novel, short story collection, etc.)

LIFE WRITING (biography, autobiography, memoir, and travel writing)

NONFICTION (research-based books, including academic studies, popular history, and journalism)

POETRY Eligible are up to 15 poems published individually or in a collection (some poems in the collection may have been published earlier). Submit complete tear sheets or publication.

YOUTH LITERATURE (writing or illustration) Eligible are fiction or nonfiction works including picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and young adult.

MUSIC COMPOSITION—CLASSICAL (song, opera, composition, instrumental music, etc.) Submit evidence of initial performance or publication (MP3 preferred, but also book, CD, tape, score).

MUSIC COMPOSITION—CONTEMPORARY (blues, country music, jazz, rock, etc.) Submit the commercial recording. At least five original compositions must be presented.

PHOTOGRAPHY (color, black and white, combination) Eligible are thematic bodies of work, or up to 15 individual photographs. Submit CD, website link, slides, prints, or published work.

VISUAL ARTS (painting, sculpture, drawing, print, graphic arts, etc.) Eligible are thematic bodies of work, or up to 15 individual pieces. Submit CD, slides, prints, or published work.

Deadline: Nominations must be postmarked on or before **January 15, 2022**. Attach the artist's representative work (books, slides, photographs, CD's, etc.). Please send the nomination to the appropriate category chair listed below.

POETRY

Mary Thompson
221 Clark Street
Clarksdale, MS 38614
marymckthompson@gmail.com

**MUSIC COMPOSITION
(Contemporary)**

James G. Thomas, Jr.
310 Dogwood Dr.
Oxford, MS 38655
jgthomas@olemiss.edu

**MUSIC COMPOSITION
(Classical)**

Donzell Lee
1000 ASU Drive #175
Alcorn State, MS 39096
donzell@hotmail.com

YOUTH LITERATURE

Nancy LaForge
Delta State University
Box 3231
Cleveland, MS 38733
ndlko@aol.com

NONFICTION

Ted Atkinson
1000 East Broad Street
West Point, MS 39773
tba34@msstate.edu

PHOTOGRAPHY

JoAnne Prichard Morris
801 Arlington Street
Jackson, MS 39202
jprichmo44@gmail.com

VISUAL ARTS

George Bassi
Lauren Rogers Museum of Art
565 North Fifth Avenue
P. O. Box 1108
Laurel, MS 39441
gbassi@LRMA.org

FICTION

Laura Howell
DSU Box 3213
Cleveland, MS 38733
lhowell@deltastate.edu

LIFE WRITING

Ted Atkinson
1000 East Broad Street
West Point, MS 39773
tba34@msstate.edu

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME OF MIAL MEMBER MAKING NOMINATION:

NOMINATOR'S ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

AWARD CATEGORY: _____ MEDIUM: _____

TITLE OF WORK: _____

FIRST SHOWN/PUBLISHED/PERFORMED: _____

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

NOMINEE'S ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: HOME/CELL _____ WORK _____

E-MAIL _____

NOMINEE'S DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: _____

DEGREES SINCE HIGH SCHOOL (institutions and dates) _____

NEW CATEGORY: LIFE WRITING

Those of you who regularly make nominations for MIAL awards will notice a new category on the nomination form: Life Writing. For many years we have been hearing our judges say the Nonfiction category was unwieldy. While acknowledging the quality of the books nominated, the wide scope made it difficult to judge, especially given the large number of books nominated in Nonfiction each year. Our thanks to category chair Ted Atkinson for defining and proposing a split into Nonfiction (journalism, popular history, and academic books) and Life Writing (biography, autobiography, memoir, travel writing, and personal essay/narratives). We feel this will make judging fairer and give more Mississippians the opportunity to be recognized for their scholarship and creativity. Dr. Atkinson has also agreed to chair both categories this year but will secure separate judges. We thank him for his service.



Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters
 P. O. Box 2346
 Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2346

Insert Postage

Memorial Donations to MIAL Endowment Fund

McKay Dockery by Ann & Dale Abadie

Margaret Anne & Jimmy Robbins

Jane McLarty by Ann & Dale Abadie

Cora Norman by Ann & Dale Abadie

Margaret Anne & Jimmy Robbins

Julia Reed by Jeanne Luckett

Dorothy Shawhan by Virginia Friend

Terry Simmons by Margaret Anne & Jimmy Robbins

Pat Stevens by Ann & Dale Abadie

Leila Wynn by Marion & Claiborne Barnwell

Ann & Dale Abadie

Margaret Anne & Jimmy Robbins



President Sarah Frances Hardy (top row, third from left) conducted the MIAL Board of Governors meeting on-line August 15, 2021. Twenty-two board members met virtually and kicked off our 43rd year honoring talented Mississippians.

In appreciation for
 21 years of outstanding service to
 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters
 the
 Board of Governors
 awards
Sandra Shellnut
 the distinction of
 Board of Governor Emerita