

Event History

FRANK WATERS AWARD

In 1993, the Pikes Peak Writers Conference was established under the sponsorship of the Friends of PPLD. In order to encourage and recognize local writers, founders Mary Mashburn, Jim Bixler, Jimmie Butler and Andrea Corley also created the Award for Excellence in Literature. The first recipient of this award was Frank Waters himself. After that first year, the award was renamed to the Frank Waters Award.

Frank Waters was born in Colorado Springs in 1902. His father, being part Cheyenne, inspired his love for the Native American history and culture. As a young man, he lived among the Utes and Navajos. Later, he was closely associated with Hopi and Taos Pueblo cultures. Frank's ability to write about the culture he loved enabled his readers to better understand and appreciate the Native American history and people.

GOLDEN QUILL AWARD

In 2004, the annual Golden Quill Award was established by the Friends of the PPLD to acknowledge exemplary writing. Recipients must live in the Pikes Peak region and have written or revised a book of any genre within the past three years. Recipients must also be involved in the community; providing workshops, doing readings, teaching or participating in literary programs.

*Thank you for joining us.
We look forward to seeing you again in 2024!*

FRIENDS OF THE PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT

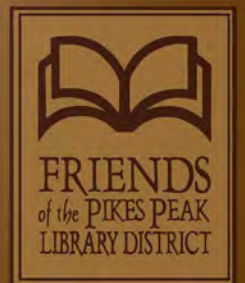
presents the annual

2023 LITERARY AWARDS LUNCHEON

Saturday, June 3 | 11:30 a.m.

honoring

W. MICHAEL & KATHLEEN O'NEAL GEAR | BARBARA NICKLESS | PEGGY SHIVERS



Honorees

Frank Waters Award



W. Michael Gear and Kathleen O'Neal Gear have authored dozens of books, together and separately, with more than 17 million copies in print in 29 different languages. They smoothly incorporate their expertise in archeology and history into their works of fiction and have received numerous accolades for their work, including the Western Writers of America's 2021 Owen Wister Award for Lifetime Contributions to Western Literature. They also have been inducted in the Western Writers Hall of Fame at the McCracken Library in the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

Golden Quill Award



Barbara Nickless, a Colorado Springs writer, is the author of a series of best-selling crime novels. She has won numerous awards, including the Daphne du Maurier Award of Excellence for *Blood on the Tracks*, Suspense Magazine's Best of 2016 for *Blood on the Tracks*, the Colorado Book Award in her category 2017 and 2018, and the Colorado Authors' League Writing Award 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Best Friend Award



Peggy Shivers and her late husband, Clarence, created the Shivers Fund at the Pikes Peak Library District, in concert with PPLD, in 1993. They introduced the Shivers African American Historical and Cultural Collection at PPLD, which currently holds over 2,028 books. The fund hosts concerts and other events, helping to expand educational and cultural opportunities for young people to encourage tolerance and diversity.

Event Agenda

2023

Welcome

Rita Jordan

President, Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District

Teona Shainidze-Krebs

Chief Librarian and CEO, Pikes Peak Library District

Luncheon

Presentation of Awards

Emcee: Rita Jordan

Presenter: Jim Ciletti

President Emeritus, Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District

Awardees include:

Peggy Shivers

Best Friend Award

Barbara Nickless

Golden Quill Award

W. Michael Gear and Kathleen O'Neal Gear

Frank Waters Award

Keynote Address

W. Michael Gear and Kathleen O'Neal Gear

Closing remarks

Rita Jordan

Book signing

Please join us after the program for a book signing by all three honored authors. Books will be available for sale.

