

# Will Rogers Gold Medallions Announced

*WRMA Awards Announced at Birthplace of Will Rogers, Claremore, Oklahoma*

TULSA, OK, UNITED STATES, November 3, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Gold medallion recipients of the 2025 Will Rogers Medallion Awards (WRMA) were announced during the organization's annual awards banquet at Tulsa's Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Saturday, Nov. 1.



Will Rogers Medallion Award

The honorees in more than 25 categories were selected from entries from 25 states and three countries. A complete list of all award recipients is available at the [Will Rogers Medallion Award](https://www.willrogersmedallionaward.net/2025wrmawinners) website at <https://www.willrogersmedallionaward.net/2025wrmawinners>.

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This year's distinguished winners embody the spirit of the American West and pays tribute to the legacy of Will Rogers. We are proud to celebrate these exceptional creators.”

*Chris Enss, Executive Director  
of the Will Rogers Medallion  
Award*

The 2026 WRMA competition opened for entries on Nov. 1. Details are available at <https://www.willrogersmedallionaward.net/contest-info>.

Top 2025 WRMA recipients and publishers are:

Lifetime Achievement Award: Preston Lewis

Golden Lariat Award: INSP Network

Illustrator of the Year: Melissa Bailey

Western Biography/Memoir: Edward S. Curtis, *Printing the Legends: Looking at Shadows in a West Lit Only by Fire* by Dr. Larry Len Peterson, independently published.

Western Cookbook: *End of the Trail Eats: Cowboy-*

Approved Recipes from the Cowtown Cafe to the Saloon by Natalie Bright, TwoDot.  
Western—Historical Fiction: *Nate: The Texas Story* by Mark Warren, Wolfpack Publishing.  
Western Inspirational: *Heidi's Faith* by Jill Dewhurst, independently published.  
Western—Modern Fiction: *Mary's Place* by Charlotte Hinger, University of Nebraska Press.  
Western Mystery: *Knife River* by Baron Birtcher, Open Road Media.

Western Non-Fiction: *Black Robes Enter Coyote's World: Chief Charlo and Father De Smet in the Rocky Mountains* by Sally Thompson, Bison Books.

Western Photographic Essays: *Indian City USA* by Dr. Bobbie Chew Bigby and Randy Palmer, Arcadia Publishing

Western Romance: *If the Boot Fits* by Karen Witemeyer, Bethany House/Baker Books.

Western—Traditional Fiction: *Blizzard* by Ron Schwab; Leafcutter Publishing Group, Inc., Uplands Press Imprint.

Maverick Book: *Driving Marilyn: The Life and Times of Legendary Hollywood Agent Norman Brokaw* by Joel Brokaw, Lyons Press.

Western Short Non-Fiction: *Love and the Gold Miner* by Chris Enss, Saddlebag Dispatches Magazine.

Western Short Fiction: "Go On" by Jim Jones from the anthology *Through Western Storms*, Lohman Hills Creative, LLC.

Western Film–Documentary Long: *The Birth and History of Western Swing* by Mike Markwardt, Mark A. Nobles, Cary Ginell and Robert Huston; executive producer, Mike Markwardt; production company, Cowtown Birthplace of Western Swing.

Western Film–Documentary Short: *Jefford's Secret* by Carol Markstrom; producer, Carol Markstrom, independently produced.

Western Film–Drama Feature: *Reagan* by Howard Klausner; executive producer, Mark Joseph; Rawhide Pictures.

Western Film–Drama Short: *Memoirs of Madame Moustache* by Manuela Schneider; executive producer, Manuela Schneider, Blind Shade Medial Productions.

Maverick Film: *Obsessed with Light* by Sabine Krayenbuhl and Zeva Oelbaum; executive producer, Elizabeth Chandler, Between the Rivers Productions.

Cowboy Songwriting: *Cowboy Heart* by Jim Jones and Deanna McCall, Jim Jones Music.

Western Songwriting: *This Old Barn* by Manuela Schneider and Dan Washburn; producer, Manuela Schneider.

Cowboy Poetry—Recorded: *Cowboyin' with God* by Rik "Yonder" Goodell; producer, Aaron Meador.

Cowboy Poetry—Written: *Yonderin' Tales* by Rik "Yonder" Goodell, Yonderin' Tales Press.

Western Poetry—Recorded: *The Last Sunset* by KC La Course, independently published.

Western Poetry—Written: *Tangled Trails: Family, Friends & Folly*; by Marcella F. "Marci" Broyhill, Prairie Poet Press.

Young Reader—Fiction: *The Horse Who Carries the Stars* by Darby Karchut, Owl Hollow Press.

Young Reader—Fiction/Illustrated: *The Horse Who Wanted to Fly* by Pamela Kleibrink Thompson; illustrator, Melissa Bailey; Firefly Books.

Young Reader—Non-Fiction: *Pint-sized Pioneers: Taming the Frontier, One Chore at a Time* by Preston Lewis and Harriet Kocher Lewis; Bariso Press.

Young Reader—Non-Fiction/Illustrated: *Georgia Jipp: Blizzard Pilot* by Laura Beth Dean; illustrator, Jeanne Bowman, South Dakota Historical Society Press.

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Chris Enss

Will Rogers Medallion Award

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