

The National Book Awards

The National Book Awards, administered by the National Book Foundation, are considered one of the most prestigious literary honors, rivaled only by the Pulitzer Prizes. (Called the American Book Awards 1980–1986; reverted to original name in 1987.)

Fiction

1950 Nelson Algren	<i>The Man with the Golden Arm</i>
1951 William Faulkner	<i>The Collected Stories of William Faulkner</i>
1952 James Jones	<i>From Here to Eternity</i>
1953 Ralph Ellison	<i>Invisible Man</i>
1954 Saul Bellow	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
1955 William Faulkner	<i>A Fable</i>
1956 John O'Hara	<i>Ten North Frederick</i>
1957 Wright Morris	<i>The Field of Vision</i>
1958 John Cheever	<i>The Wapshot Chronicle</i>
1959 Bernard Malamud	<i>The Magic Barrel</i>
1960 Philip Roth	<i>Goodbye, Columbus</i>
1961 Conrad Richter	<i>The Waters of Kronos</i>
1962 Walker Percy	<i>The Moviegoer</i>
1963 J. F. Powers	<i>Morte d'Urban</i>
1964 John Updike	<i>The Centaur</i>
1965 Saul Bellow	<i>Herzog</i>
1966 Katherine Anne Porter	<i>The Collected Stories of Katherine Anne Porter</i>
1967 Bernard Malamud	<i>The Fixer</i>
1968 Thornton Wilder	<i>The Eighth Day</i>
1969 Jerzy Kosinski	<i>Steps</i>
1970 Joyce Carol Oates	<i>them</i>
1971 Saul Bellow	<i>Mr. Sammler's Planet</i>
1972 Flannery O'Connor	<i>The Complete Stories of Flannery O'Connor</i>
1973 John Barth	<i>Chimera</i>
1973 John Edward Williams	<i>Augustus</i>
1974 Thomas Pynchon	<i>Gravity's Rainbow</i>
1974 Isaac Bashevis Singer	<i>A Crown of Feathers and Other Stories</i>
1975 Robert Stone	<i>Dog Soldiers</i>
1975 Thomas Williams	<i>The Hair of Harold Roux</i>
1976 William Gaddis	<i>J R</i>

1977 Wallace Stegner	<i>The Spectator Bird</i>
1978 Mary Lee Settle	<i>Blood Tie</i>
1979 Tim O'Brien	<i>Going After Cacciato</i>
1980 William Styron	<i>Sophie's Choice</i>
1980 John Irving	<i>The World According to Garp</i>
1981 Wright Morris	<i>Plains Song</i>
1981 John Cheever	<i>The Stories of John Cheever</i>
1982 John Updike	<i>Rabbit is Rich</i>
1982 William Maxwell	<i>So Long, See You Tomorrow</i>
1983 Alice Walker	<i>The Color Purple</i>
1983 Eudora Welty	<i>Collected Stories of Eudora Welty</i>
1984 Ellen Gilchrist	<i>Victory Over Japan: A Book of Stories</i>
1985 Don DeLillo	<i>White Noise</i>
1986 E.L. Doctorow	<i>World's Fair</i>
1987 Larry Heinemann	<i>Paco's Story</i>
1988 Pete Dexter	<i>Paris Trout</i>
1989 John Casey	<i>Spartina</i>
1990 Charles Johnson	<i>Middle Passage</i>
1991 Norman Rush	<i>Mating</i>
1992 Cormac McCarthy	<i>All the Pretty Horses</i>
1993 E. Annie Proulx	<i>The Shipping News</i>
1994 William Gaddis	<i>A Frolic of His Own</i>
1995 Philip Roth	<i>Sabbath's Theater</i>
1996 Andrea Barrett	<i>Ship Fever and Other Stories</i>
1997 Charles Frazier	<i>Cold Mountain</i>
1998 Alice McDermott	<i>Charming Billy</i>
1999 Ha Jin	<i>Waiting</i>
2000 Susan Sontag	<i>In America</i>
2001 Jonathan Franzen	<i>The Corrections</i>
2002 Julia Glass	<i>Three Junes</i>
2003 Shirley Hazzard	<i>The Great Fire</i>
2004 Lily Tuck	<i>The News from Paraguay</i>
2005 William Vollmann	<i>Europe Central</i>
2006 Richard Powers	<i>The Echo Maker</i>
2007 Denis Johnson	<i>Tree of Smoke</i>
2008 Peter Matthiessen	<i>Shadow Country</i>
2009 Colum McCann	<i>Let the Great World Spin</i>
2010 Jaimy Gordon	<i>Lord of Misrule</i>

Nonfiction

- 1950 Ralph L. Rusk *Ralph Waldo Emerson* (article on Ralph Waldo Emerson)
- 1951 Newton Arvin *Herman Melville* (article on Herman Melville)
- 1952 Rachel Carson *The Sea Around Us*
- 1953 Bernard A. DeVoto *The Course of Empire*
- 1954 Bruce Catton *A Stillness at Appomattox*
- 1955 Joseph Wood Krutch *The Measure of Man*
- 1956 Herbert Kubly *An American in Italy*
- 1957 George F. Kennan *Russia Leaves the War*
- 1958 Catherine Drinker Bowen *The Lion and the Throne* (article on Edward Coke)
- 1959 J. Christopher Herold *Mistress to an Age: A Life of Madame De Stael*
- 1960 Richard Ellmann *James Joyce* (article on James Joyce)
- 1961 William L. Shirer *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*
- 1962 Lewis Mumford *The City in History: Its Origins, its Transformations and its Prospects*
- 1963 Leon Edel *Henry James, Vol. II: The Conquest of London, Henry James, Vol. III: The Middle Years*
- 1984 Robert V. Remini *Andrew Jackson & the Course of American Democracy, 1833-1845* (article on Andrew Jackson)
- 1985 J. Anthony Lukas *Common Ground: A Turbulent Decade in the Lives of Three American Families*
- 1986 Barry Lopez *Arctic Dreams*
- 1987 Richard Rhodes *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*
- 1988 Neil Sheehan *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam* (article on John Paul Vann)
- 1989 Thomas L. Friedman *From Beirut to Jerusalem*
- 1990 Ron Chernow *The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty and the Rise of Modern Finance*
- 1991 Orlando Patterson *Freedom*
- 1992 Paul Monette *Becoming a Man: Half a Life Story*
- 1993 Gore Vidal *United States: Essays 1952-1992*
- 1994 Sherwin B. Nuland *How We Die: Reflections on Life's Final Chapter*
- 1995 Tina Rosenberg *The Haunted Land: Facing Europe's Ghosts After Communism*
- 1996 James P. Carroll *An American Requiem: God, My Father, and the War that Came Between Us*

1997	Joseph J. Ellis	<i>American Sphinx: The Character of Thomas Jefferson</i>
1998	Edward Ball	<i>Slaves in the Family</i>
1999	John W. Dower	<i>Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II</i>
2000	Nathaniel Philbrick	<i>In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex</i>
2001	Andrew Solomon	<i>The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression</i>
2002	Robert A. Caro	<i>Master of the Senate: The Years of Lyndon Johnson</i>
2003	Carlos Eire	<i>Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy</i>
2004	Kevin Boyle	<i>Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age</i> ^[1]
2005	Joan Didion	<i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i>
2006	Timothy Egan	<i>The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl</i>
2007	Tim Weiner	<i>Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA</i>
2008	Annette Gordon-Reed	<i>The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family</i>
2009	T.J. Stiles	<i>The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt</i>
2010	Patti Smith	<i>Just Kids</i>

Poetry

1950	William Carlos Williams	<i>Paterson: Book III and Selected Poems</i>
1951	Wallace Stevens	<i>The Auroras of Autumn</i>
1952	Marianne Moore	<i>Collected Poems</i>
1953	Archibald MacLeish	<i>Collected Poems, 1917-1952</i>
1954	Conrad Aiken	<i>Collected Poems</i>
1955	Wallace Stevens	<i>The Collected Poems of Wallace Stevens</i>
1956	W. H. Auden	<i>The Shield of Achilles</i>
1957	Richard Wilbur	<i>Things of This World</i>
1958	Robert Penn Warren	<i>Promises: Poems, 1954-1956</i>
1959	Theodore Roethke	<i>Words for the Wind</i>
1960	Robert Lowell	<i>Life Studies</i>
1961	Randall Jarrell	<i>The Woman at the Washington Zoo</i>
1962	Alan Dugan	<i>Poems</i>
1963	William Stafford	<i>Traveling Through the Dark</i>
1964	John Crowe Ransom	<i>Selected Poems</i>
1965	Theodore Roethke	<i>The Far Field</i>
1966	James Dickey	<i>Buckdancer's Choice</i>
1967	James Merrill	<i>Nights and Days</i>
1968	Robert Bly	<i>The Light Around the Body</i>

1969	John Berryman	<i>His Toy, His Dream, His Rest</i>
1970	Elizabeth Bishop	<i>The Complete Poems</i>
1971	Mona Van Duyn	<i>To See, To Take</i>
1972	Frank O'Hara	<i>The Collected Works of Frank O'Hara</i>
1972	Howard Moss	<i>Selected Poems</i>
1973	A. R. Ammons	<i>Collected Poems, 1951-1971</i>
1974	Allen Ginsberg	<i>The Fall of America: Poems of these States, 1965-1971</i>
1974	Adrienne Rich	<i>Diving into the Wreck: Poems 1971-1972</i>
1975	Marilyn Hacker	<i>Presentation Piece</i>
1976	John Ashbery	<i>Self-portrait in a Convex Mirror</i>
1977	Richard Eberhart	<i>Collected Poems, 1930-1976</i>
1978	Howard Nemerov	<i>The Collected Poems of Howard Nemerov</i>
1979	James Merril	<i>Mirabell: Book of Numbers</i>
1980	Philip Levine	<i>Ashes: Poems New and Old</i>
1981	Lisel Mueller	<i>The Need to Hold Still</i>
1982	William Bronk	<i>Life Supports: New and Collected Poems</i>
1983	Galway Kinnell	<i>Selected Poems</i>
1983	Charles Wright	<i>Country Music: Selected Early Poems</i>
1985	No Award	
1986	No Award	
1987	No Award	
1988	No Award	
1989	No Award	
1990	No Award	
1991	Philip Levine	<i>What Work Is</i>
1992	Mary Oliver	<i>New & Selected Poems</i>
1993	A. R. Ammons	<i>Garbage</i>
1994	James Tate	<i>A Worshipful Company of Fletchers</i>
1995	Stanley Kunitz	<i>Passing Through: The Later Poems</i>
1996	Hayden Carruth	<i>Scrambled Eggs & Whiskey</i>
1997	William Morris Meredith, Jr.	<i>Effort at Speech: New & Selected Poems</i>
1998	Gerald Stern	<i>This Time: New and Selected Poems</i>
1999	Ai	<i>Vice: New & Selected Poems</i>
2000	Lucille Clifton	<i>Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems 1988-2000</i>
2001	Alan Dugan	<i>Poems Seven: New and Complete Poetry</i>
2002	Ruth Stone	<i>In the Next Galaxy</i>

2003	C. K. Williams	<i>The Singing</i>
2004	Jean Valentine	<i>Door in the Mountain: New and Collected Poems, 1965-2003</i>
2005	W. S. Merwin	<i>Migration: New & Selected Poems</i>
2006	Nathaniel Mackey	<i>Splay Anthem</i>
2007	Robert Hass	<i>Time and Materials: Poems, 1997-2005</i>
2008	Mark Doty	<i>Fire to Fire: New and Collected Poems</i>
2009	Keith Waldrop	<i>Transcendental Studies: A Trilogy</i>