



PRESS RELEASE – JUNE 9TH, 2022

New England Society in the City of New York Announces Annual Book Award Finalists

WHAT: [The New England Society in the City of New York](#) (NES) is pleased to announce the finalists, or the “shortlist,” for the 2022 [New England Society Book Awards](#), which recognize books of merit that celebrate New England and its culture. The NES Book Awards are made in four categories— **Art & Photography, Fiction, Nonfiction,** and **Specialty Title**—and are presented annually to authors of books published in the previous 12 months. The winning authors will be selected from this shortlist and announced to the membership in July. The winners will then be lauded at a special evening at the National Arts Club on **September 21st**. “NES is delighted to recognize the achievement of these authors, as well their cultural contribution to an audience eager for both learning and entertainment,” said Ellen Scordato, 101st NES President., “We were thrilled with the wide selection of submissions this year. This made the selection process by the juries all the more competitive.” said NES Book Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Lucy Kirk and Marian Morrill.

FINALISTS:

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

- [FIERCE POISE: Helen Frankenthaler and 1950s New York by Alexander Nemerov](#) (Penguin Random House)
- [The Secret to Superhuman Strength by Alison Bechdel](#) (Harper Collins/Mariner)

FICTION

- [Dead by Dawn by Paul Doiron](#) (St. Martin’s Publishing Group)
- [Haven Point by Virginia Hume](#) (St. Martin’s Publishing Group)
- [Hour of the Witch by Chris Bohjalian](#) (Penguin Random House/Doubleday)

CONTEMPORARY NONFICTION/MEMOIR

- [The Empathy Diaries: A Memoir by Sherry Turkle](#) (Penguin Random House)
- [Finding Freedom: A Cook’s Story; Remaking a Life from Scratch by Erin French](#) (Celadon Books)

HISTORICAL NONFICTION/BIOGRAPHY

- [Battle Green Vietnam: The 1971 March on Concord, Lexington, and Boston by Elise Lemire](#) (University of Pennsylvania Press)
- [The Indispensables: The Diverse Soldier-Mariners Who Shaped the Country, Formed the Navy, and Rowed Washington Across the Delaware by Patrick K. O’Donnell](#) (Grove Atlantic/Atlantic Monthly Press)
- [The Transcendentalists and Their World by Robert A. Gross](#) (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

SPECIALTY TITLE

- [WBCN and the American Revolution by Bill Lichtenstein](#) (The MIT Press)

WHO: Founded in 1805, [The New England Society in the City of New York](#) (NES), is one of the oldest social, charitable, and cultural organizations in the United States. For more than 100 years, prominent writers such as Mark Twain, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Louis Auchincloss, William F. Buckley, Jr., David McCullough, and Dominick Dunne have been honored by NES. The [New England Society Book Awards](#) carry on these literary connections and recognize books of merit that celebrate New England and its culture.

WHERE & WHEN: **The September 21st event is open to the public**, offering all NES members and literary enthusiasts a chance to mingle with winners and jury members who evaluated this year’s submissions. This year’s event will be held at New York’s venerable **National Arts Club** and include a panel discussion with the winning authors, book signings, and the awards ceremony.

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