



Audio Publishers Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Announcing 2018 Audie Award® Finalists for Audiobook of the Year and Excellence Awards in Design, Marketing, and Production

New York, NY – The Audio Publishers Association (APA) has announced Audie Award® finalists for Audiobook of the Year and for Excellence in Design, Excellence in Marketing, and Excellence in Production. The winners of the Excellence Awards will be announced at the Audio Publishers Association Conference (APAC) on May 30, 2018, in New York. The winner of the Audiobook of the Year will be announced at the Audie Awards® Gala on May 31, 2018, at the New-York Historical Society in New York City.

The Audiobook of the Year recognizes the audiobook that, through quality, innovation, marketing, and sales, has had the most significant impact on the industry. Each nominated title is distinguished by excellence in production as well as its ability to create new interest in the audiobook format through creative marketing. “It’s another year of exciting growth for the audio publishing industry with clear enthusiasm for the format reflected in this strong list of Audiobook of the Year finalists,” says APA Executive Director, Michele Cobb.

The five titles competing for Audiobook of the Year are:

- ***Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*** written and narrated by Trevor Noah, published by Audible Studios
- ***Columbus Day: Expeditionary Force, Book 1*** by Craig Alanson, narrated by R.C. Bray, published by Podium Publishing
- ***The Handmaid's Tale: Special Edition*** by Margaret Atwood and Valerie Martin, narrated by Claire Danes, Margaret Atwood, and a full cast, published by Audible Studios
- ***Lincoln in the Bardo*** by George Saunders, narrated by George Saunders, Nick Offerman, David Sedaris, and 163 others, published by Random House Audio
- ***The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness***, written and narrated by Paula Poundstone, published by HighBridge Audio, a division of Recorded Books

This year's Judges provided their comments and insight into the selection of the Audiobook of the Year Finalists:

Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood (Audible Studios)

Trevor Noah's formidable storytelling skills combined with his facility with various South African dialects and accents immerse listeners in this captivating account of his coming of age during the apartheid era.

Columbus Day: Expeditionary Force, Book 1 (Podium Publishing)

A rousing military science fiction adventure read with humor and gusto by R.C. Bray, chock-full of compelling characters from across the galaxy.

The Handmaid's Tale: Special Edition (Audible Studios)

Claire Danes' flawless performance of this dystopian modern classic is supported by additional material written for the audio by author Margaret Atwood, extending the original work.

Lincoln in the Bardo (Random House Audio)

In a stunning choral performance featuring 166 voices, Saunders' innovative novel is transformed into an auditory experience unlike any other, revealing President Lincoln's grief after his son's death.

The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness (HighBridge Audio, a division of Recorded Books)

Paula Poundstone infuses the story of her career as a comedian and her experiences as a parent with self-deprecating humor and sharp wit, framed by her search for personal happiness.

The award for Excellence in Design recognizes the product design for packaging or display art.

The five finalists competing for Excellence in Design are:

In Death Limited Collector's Edition by J.D. Robb, design by Carissa Dreese, published by Brilliance Publishing

Indigo Girl by Natasha Boyd, design by Kathryn English, published by Blackstone Publishing

Inheritance: A Family on the Front Lines of the Battle Against Alzheimer's Disease by Niki Kapsambelis, design by Christa Douyard, published by Tantor Audio, a division of Recorded Books

Red Plenty by Francis Spufford, design by Amy Fernald, published by Tantor Audio, a division of Recorded Books

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead, design by Margo Goody, published by Macmillan Audio

The award for Excellence in Marketing recognizes the promotion campaign that contributed most to generating attention and bringing new listeners to spoken audio.

The five finalists competing for Excellence in Marketing are:

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by J.K. Rowling (writing as Newt Scamander), narrated by Eddie Redmayne, published by Pottermore from J.K. Rowling

I Can't Make This Up: Life Lessons by Kevin Hart and Neil Strauss, narrated by Kevin Hart, published by Audible Studios

Get Your Heart Racing Campaign by Macmillan Audio

What Happened, written and narrated by Hillary Rodham Clinton, published by Simon & Schuster Audio

Transform Your Commute Campaign by Penguin Random House Audio

The award for Excellence in Production recognizes a production that represents the best the format has to offer in listening excellence.

The six titles competing for Excellence in Production are:

The Home Front: Life in America During World War II an Audible Original, narrated by Martin Sheen, published by Audible Originals

Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders, narrated by George Saunders, Nick Offerman, David Sedaris, and 163 others, published by Random House Audio

Liner Notes: On Parents & Children, Exes & Excess, Death & Decay, & a Few of My Other Favorite Things written and narrated by Loudon Wainwright III, published by HighBridge Audio, a division of Recorded Books

New York 2140 by Kim Stanley Robinson, narrated by Suzanne Toren, Robin Miles, Peter Ganim, Jay Snyder, Caitlin Kelly, Michael Crouch, Ryan Vincent Anderson, Christopher Ryan Grant, and Robert Blumenfeld, published by Hachette Audio

Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle and Stephen Fry, narrated by Stephen Fry, published by Audible Studios

The X-Files: Cold Cases by Joe Harris, Chris Carter, and Dirk Maggs, narrated by David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson, Mitch Pileggi, William B. Davis, Tom Braidwood, Dean Haglund, and Bruce Harwood, published by Audible Studios

Additional information can be found online at www.theaudies.com.

For more information about the Audies Gala, contact Rachel Tarlow Gul at Over the River Public Relations: 201-503-1321 or tarlowgul@nj.rr.com.

To purchase tickets, visit www.audiopub.org.

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The Audio Publishers Association (APA) is a not-for-profit trade organization whose primary goals are to promote awareness of the audiobook industry, gather and disseminate industry statistics, encourage high production standards, and represent the interests of audiobook publishers. Since 1986, the APA has worked to bring audio publishers together to increase interest in audiobooks. Please visit www.audiopub.org for more information.