

WILMINGTON, NC, October 02, 2013 /**24-7PressRelease**/ -- Don McCauley of the Free Publicity Focus Group and Danielle Hampson of The Authors Show have announced that voting for the 4th Annual '50 Great Writers You Should Be Reading' Awards Contest is taking place now. The 4th annual awards contest has been opened to the public for the first time.

In keeping with the tradition of creating maximum publicity opportunities for the works of both published and self-published authors, this year's contest has been carefully designed to maximize public awareness for authors. Finalists will be chosen by public vote which will be backed up by the show's ongoing publicity campaign.

Entrants will submit a 1000-word essay about their journey to becoming an author, how that journey has impacted their lives and will present the author's body of work to the public. Winners will also be chosen by public vote based on the essay submitted.

Winners will appear in the print and electronic versions of '50 Great Writers You Should Be Reading', which will be available to the public through online book outlets. Finalists and winners will appear on a dedicated website, 50GreatWritersYouShouldBeReading.com, with headshots, book covers and links to the author's website.

Contestants in the awards contest, by genre, include:

Fiction: Jeffrey W. Kern Robert Thornhill Melissa Pettignano Christi Kari Lynn Hobbs R. S. Guthrie Russell Warnberg Jim Armstrong RG Bud Phelps Scott D. Roberts Roland Allnach Jim Beck Jay Hartlove Susan K. Earl Jeffrey Hickey Linell Jeppsen Emeka Iwenofu Patrick Brigham Dr. MaryAnn Diorio Jacob Singer C. Robert Cales Maria Hammarblad Marcy Luikart Deborah M. Piccurelli

Nonfiction: Robb Hill Julie L. Kessler Thelma Zirkelbach Nancy Alvarez Deborah Clark JP Jones Rick Redner and Brenda Redner Ian Moore-Morrans Sgt. Clyde Hoch Carl O. Helvie R.N., Dr. P.H. Myrna Beth Haskell Clyde Bradley Kandy Kay Scaramuzzo

Children: Danielle Leibovici Laura W. Eckroat Charoletta Anderson G. R. Holton Joe Sergi Linda Maria Frank M. Ann Machen Pritchard

Christian: Laura J. Davis, CN Bring, William D. Burt, John DeFilippis, Toi Thomas, Serge Roux-Levrat, Tom Donnan, Myrlande E. Sauveur, C. Kay Jones, Bruce Atchison, Errol A. Gibbs

Authors and writers who wish to participate can find information on the contest at The Authors Show site. The public is invited to read submissions and vote for their favorite entry on the contest page at the Authors Show site.

Don McCauley is a marketing strategist and is the facilitator of the Free Publicity Focus Group, a marketing and publicity firm. He also serves as the host of The Authors Show Radio. Danielle Hampson is the Executive Producer of The Authors Show radio group of programs and is the CEO of KDResources Inc.