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100 YEAR STARSHIP• ANNOUNCES THE FINALISTS FOR FIRST ANNUAL CANOPUS AWARD™ FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERSTELLAR WRITING

The Authors and Works in Categories of Previously Published and Original Fiction and
Nonfiction for the 2015 Awards Released

HOUSTON, September 23, 2015 — 100 Year Starship• (100YSS•) today announced the finalists in the inaugural Canopus Award for Excellence in Interstellar Writing. The Canopus Award is an annual writing prize recognizing the finest fiction and non-fiction works that contribute to the excitement, knowledge, and understanding of interstellar space exploration and travel.

Winners will be announced and honored on Friday, October 30, 2015 during the 100 Year Starship 2015 Public Symposium held at the Santa Clara Marriott, in Santa Clara, California October 29-November 1, 2015.

The finalists (listed in no particular order) in the four award categories are listed below.

In the category of “Previously Published Long-Form Fiction” (40,000 words or more):

- *Slow Bullets* by Alastair Reynolds
- *Other Systems* by Elizabeth Guizzetti
- *The Creative Fire* by Brenda Cooper
- *InterstellarNet: Enigma* by Edward M. Lerner
- *Aurora* by Kim Stanley Robinson
- *Coming Home* by Jack McDevitt

In the category of “Previously Published Short-Form Fiction” (between 1,000 and 40,000 words):

- "Race for Arcadia" by Alex Shvartsman
- "Stars that Make Dark Heaven Light" by Sharon Roest
- "Homesick" by Debbie Urbanski
- "Twenty Lights to the Land of Snow" by Michael Bishop
- "Planet Lion" by Catherine M. Valente
- "The Waves" by Ken Liu
- "Dreamboat" by Robin Wyatt Dunn

In the category of “Original Fiction” (1,000-5,000 words):

- “Landfall” by Jon F. Zeigler
- “Project Fermi” by Michael Turgeon
- “Everett’s Awakening” by Yelcho
- “Groundwork” by G. M. Nair
- “His Holiness John XXIV about Father Angelo Baymasecchi’s Diary” by Óscar Garrido González
- “The Disease of Time” by Joseph Schmidt

In the category of “Original Non-Fiction” (1,000-5,000 words):

- “Why Interstellar Travel?” by Jeffrey Nosanov
- “Finding Earth 2.0 from the Focus of the Solar Gravitational Lens” by Louis Friedman and Slava Turyshev

Judges for the Canopus Award are: writer and 100YSS Creative and Editorial director Jason Batt; author and former *Wall Street Journal* reporter August Cole; Founder of International Speechwriting Associates Kathleen Colgan, Ph.D.; teacher at the University of Edinburgh in the School of Education and Leadership, Janet DeVigne; editor Jaym Gates, 100YSS Principal and former astronaut Mae Jemison, M.D., Chapman University creative writing student Alec Medén; Rutgers University Professor Ronke Olabisi, Ph.D.; faculty and advisor to the Singularity University David Orban, Georgia high school freshman Bailey Stanley, writer and anthropologist Juliette Wade, Ph.D.; Aeronautical and Astronautical engineer Paul Webber; journalist Sofia Webber; astrobiologist and creator of Yuri’s Night Loretta Whitesides; and Major General Ken Wisian.

For more information about award criteria, visit <http://100yss.org/initiatives/canopusaward>.

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ABOUT 100 YEAR STARSHIP™

100 Year Starship™ (100YSS) is an independent, non-governmental, long-term initiative to explore the capabilities for human interstellar flight exist as soon as possible and begin with the next 100 years. 100YSS was started in 2012 with seed-funding through a competitive grant from DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) for the purpose of fostering the type of explosive innovation and technology and social advances born from addressing such an incredible challenge. To foster such innovation, 100YSS engages in collaborative international programs and projects in research and innovation, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) capacity building, entrepreneurship and education projects with and between organizations, companies, universities and individuals. Based in Houston, TX 100YSS recently opened an affiliate in Brussels, 100YSS@EU and is in development of affiliates in Africa and Asia.

About the 100YSS 2015 PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM

The 100YSS Public Symposium is a powerful four-day event of global, transdisciplinary experience of imagination, hands-on programs, thought-provoking discussions and action on the frontiers of science, civilization, space, technology, society, music, art and our present and future. The Symposium brings together experts, enthusiasts, students, celebrities, innovators, educators, and thought leaders from around the world. 2015 is the fourth Symposium and is themed around “Finding Earth 2.0”—how both the process to discover and the definitive identification of a planet outside our solar system capable of supporting Earth based life will be game changing across the spectrum of human activities.

100YSS is part of the Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence. For more information, visit www.100yss.org.

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<http://2015.symposium.100yss.org>.