

Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

## Reading the West award winners

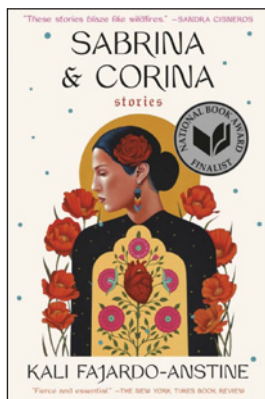
By the staff at Covered Treasures

Reading the West Book Awards honor the best fiction, nonfiction, and illustrated books for adults and children set in one of 12 Western and Midwestern states, created by an author or artist living or working in the region. This is the 30th Annual Reading the West Book Awards.

**Sabrina & Corina**

By Kali Fajardo-Anstine (*One World*), \$17

Fiction winner. Against the backdrop of Denver, Latinas of Indigenous descent living in the American West take center stage in this debut story collection on friendship, mothers and daughters, and an exploration of the experiences of abandonment, heritage, and an eternal sense of home.

**Lakota America: A New History of Indigenous Power**

By Pekka Hamalainen (Yale University Press), \$35

Narrative Nonfiction winner. The first comprehensive history of the Lakota Indians and their profound role in shaping America's history, tracing their rich and often surprising history from the early 16th to the early 21st century.

**National Geographic Atlas of the National Parks**

By Jon Waterman (National Geographic Society), \$65

Visual Nonfiction winner. The first book of its kind, this stunning atlas showcases America's spectacular park system from coast to coast, richly illustrated with an inspiring and informative collection of maps,

graphics, and photographs.

**The Field Guide to the North American Teenager**

By Ben Philippe (Balzer & Bray/Harperteen), \$10.99

Young Adult Fiction winner. Norris Kaplan, a Black French Canadian, moves to Austin, Texas and finds himself cataloging everyone he meets. Yet against all odds, those labels soon become actual people to Norris. He eventually realizes it might be time to stop hiding behind his snarky opinions and start living his life along with the people who have found their way into his heart.

**Dear Sweet Pea**

By Julie Murphy (Balzer & Bray/Harperteen), \$16.99

Young Reader Middle-Grade winner. Patricia "Sweet Pea" DiMarco wasn't sure what to expect when her parents announced they were getting a divorce and living in nearly identical houses on the same street. Her neighbor Flora, famed advice columnist, leaves for a trip and asks Sweet Pea to forward the letters for the column. Sweet Pea recognizes the handwriting on one of the envelopes. What she decides to do with that letter sets off a chain of events that will forever change the lives of Sweet Pea, her family, and many of the readers of Flora's column.

**The Little Snowplow Wishes for Snow**

By Lora Koehler, illustrated by Jake Parker (Candlewick Press), \$16.99

Best Picture Book winner. The little snowplow loves his job on the Mighty Mountain Road Crew, but the work he loves best is plowing snow. Will the little snowplow's birthday dreams come true?

**The Prairie Homestead Cookbook**

By Jill Winger (Flatiron Books), \$35

Eating the West winner. Winger's debut cookbook fea-

tures over 100 recipes made with fresh ingredients to bring the flavors and spirit of homestead cooking to any kitchen table. Beyond the recipes, Jill shares the tools and tips she has learned from life on the homestead. The runner-up in this category is Centennial Celebrations Cookbook by the Junior League of Denver.

**Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country**

By Pam Houston (W.W. Norton & Co.), \$15.95

Reading the West Advocacy Award and also the winner of the 2020 Colorado Book Award for Creative Nonfiction. In essays from living on her 120-acre homestead outside Creede, Colo., Pam Houston delivers meditations on what it means to care for a piece of land and the creatures on it.

**Lonesome Dove**

By Larry McMurtry (Simon & Schuster), \$19.99

Spirit of the West Literary Achievement Award winner. Of his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Lonesome Dove*, and this award, McMurtry says, "I am deeply grateful for this award from the Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association. My writings represent a long involvement with the landscape, politics, and culture of the West. I decided to write my novel *Lonesome Dove* in an attempt on my part to understand my father, William Jefferson McMurtry—a villager, a cattleman, and a thinker, who was captivated his entire life with the West, in particular the Plains West. He was the consummate working cowboy and was intrigued with the American steppe. I garnered my keen interest in the philosophy of the Western plains from him."

Until next month, happy reading.

The staff at Covered Treasures can be contacted at [books@ocn.me](mailto:books@ocn.me).

## August Library Events

## Limited indoor services continue

By Harriet Halbig

On July 1, the Monument Library reopened with limited indoor services, including the use of the public computers, picking up holds, and browsing the collection.

Cloth face masks are required, and staff is limited. Single-use masks are available for patrons.

Patrons may use the self-checkout stations, printer, and copier without staff assistance.

Staff is cleaning equipment between users for the safety of all.

The library looks very different, with much less furniture and new signage to indicate safe distancing practices.

The meeting rooms remain unavailable and programs are suspended for now. Online book clubs and other activities may be accessed via the district website, [ppld.org](http://ppld.org).

Incoming materials are quarantined for 96 hours before processing.

Curbside pickup service for holds continues indefinitely. For best results, please call ahead (488-2370) so that your materials are ready when you arrive.

The Palmer Lake Library can only offer curbside services right now since the building is not Americans with Disabilities Act compliant. Pikes Peak Library District leases the property from the Town of Palmer Lake and uses the space to serve the local community.



The library team is working with town officials to determine the best way to move forward so local residents can access an adequate public library.

Palmer Lake Library patrons wishing to take advantage of other indoor services can visit the Monument Library, four miles east on Highway 105.



Above: Tape and signs on the floor around equipment and service stations encourage social distancing. Photo by Harriet Halbig.



We look forward to seeing you again as our current situation unfolds.

Harriet Halbig can be contacted at [harriethalbig@ocn.me](mailto:harriethalbig@ocn.me).

## Palmer Lake Historical Society

## Celebrating Colorado in August: statehood, summing Pikes Peak, and suffrage

By Sharon Williams

August is a great time to be experiencing Colorado. This month's history gives us a view of our growth from a territory to statehood, our pioneering spirit, and the majesty of mountainous terrain and sprawling high desert plains.

We begin with Aug. 1, 1876 when Colorado became the 38th state to join the Union under President Ulysses Grant. On this first day of August, declared as "Colorado Day," we celebrate our "birthday" with various events including climbers carrying a state flag

to fourteen summits, historical presentations, and displays.

Later in the month, many area residents participate in the annual Pikes Peak Ascent (half marathon) and Marathon running event in our neighboring town of Manitou Springs. It was August 1956 when the starting gun of the first ascent and marathon launched runners to the 14,115-foot summit of Pikes Peak, and back down for a total of 26.2 grueling mountain miles. The ascent climbs 13.3 miles to the finish at the summit. In the 1980s, the ascent became

its own race, and to this day the half-marathon is run the same weekend, on Saturday before the Sunday round-trip marathon.

The Pikes Peak Marathon is the third-oldest in the country and the first to welcome female participants. Arlene Pieper became the first official female finisher of a U.S. marathon when she crossed the marathon finish line in 1959.

On August 5, 1858, another woman, Julia "Anna" Archibald Holmes became the first recorded woman to summit Pikes Peak. It took over another decade