Deep South Awards Winners

Winners in the 23rd annual Deep South Writers' Conference awards competition have been announced in fiction, non-fiction, science fiction, poetry, juvenile fiction and drama categories.

The competitions, sponsored each year by the conference, provide an opportunity to have literary work judged and critiqued by professional writers.

The Ione Burden Award for fiction was awarded to Albert Belisle Davis of Houma for his work “Leechtime.” The category had 52 entries. Davis was the recipient of a $100 cash prize.

Randall Silvis of Rimersburg, Pa. won the Dubus Award for his fictional short story, “One Night With a Girl by the Seine.” Silvis was presented with a $200 check.

Winner of the Julia Collier Award for juvenile fiction was June M. Boone of Oak Ridge, Tenn. She received a $25 prize for her work “Matthew and the Magic Watermelon.” Second place winner was Anne Butler Hamilton of St. Francisville for “Little Chase and Big Fat Aunt May Ride Again,” and third place went to Roz Montgomery of Laguna Beach, Calif. for her story “Bertram the Bear.”

Winning the Science Fiction Award of $25 was Deanna B. Durbin of Orlando, Fla. for “The Circle: Adra.” Second place went to Richard S. Halada of Rockwall, Tex. for “Local Help.”

The first place winner in the non-fiction category was Randolph Bates of New Orleans for his story “Rings: On the Life of Collis Phillips.” Second place was awarded to Agnes Howell of Pennville, Ind. for “Assignment in Memories.” “Grady Hospice” by Perry Treadwell of Covington, Ga. took third place honors.

The John Z. Bennett Memorial Award for Poetry was presented to Randolph Bates, the winner in the non-fiction category, for his work “Dolphin Island.” Bates was the recipient of a $25 cash grant. Taking second place in the competition was “How We Celebrate America” by Richard Grazide of Stillwater, Okla.

The Drama Award in the amount of $25 went to Randall Silvis for “Schiler is Dying.” Silvis was also the winner in the short story competition.

Honorable mention went to “The Very Last Juvenile Delinquent” by George Neal of Villas, N.J.

Awards were presented Friday, Sept. 23 in H.L. Griffin