

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation Announces 2024 Award Winners

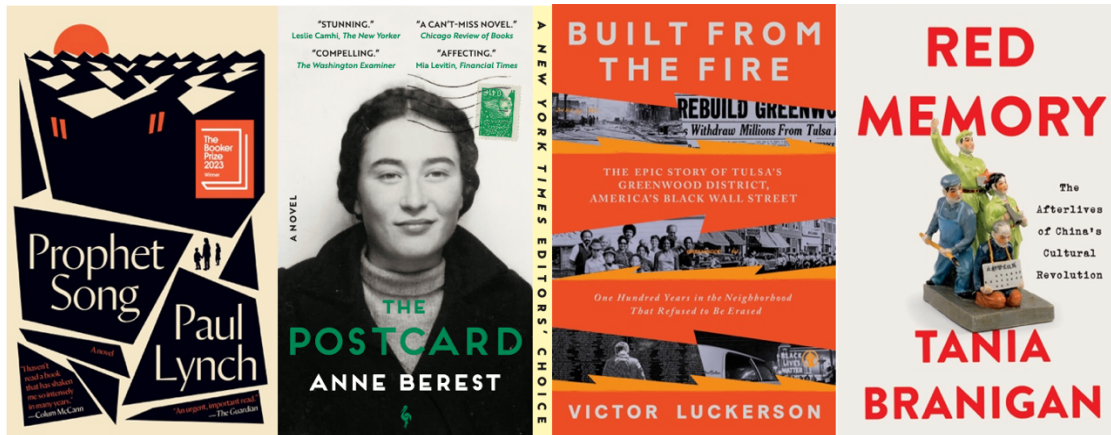
- **President Jimmy Carter** to receive the Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award.
- ***Prophet Song* by Paul Lynch** to receive Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Fiction; ***The Postcard* by Anne Berest** named runner-up.
- ***Built from the Fire* by Victor Luckerson** to receive Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Nonfiction; ***Red Memory* by Tania Branigan** named runner-up.
- **Jason Carter**, grandson of President Carter, to be interviewed live, on stage in Dayton 11/9/24 as part of the awards festivities.



Dayton, OH (September 19, 2024) — The Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation, which honors writers whose work demonstrates the power of the written word to foster peace, social justice, and global understanding, is pleased to announce **President Jimmy Carter** as the 2024 recipient of the **Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award**.

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation is also pleased to announce ***Prophet Song* by Paul Lynch** (Grove Press) as the winner of the 2024 Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Fiction, and ***Built from the Fire* by Victor Luckerson** (Random House) as the winner of the 2024 Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Nonfiction. ***The Postcard* by Anne Berest** (Europa Editions) has been named the runner-up in the Fiction category, and ***Red Memory* by Tania Branigan** (W.W. Norton) has been named the runner-up in the Nonfiction category.

The fiction and nonfiction winners each receive a \$10,000 cash prize, and the fiction and nonfiction runners-up each receive a \$5,000 cash prize. The Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation will honor this year's winners and runners-up at an awards ceremony in Dayton, Ohio the weekend of November 9-10, 2024.



Of the decision to honor Carter with the Holbrooke Award, **Nicholas A. Raines**, Executive Director of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation, said, “Jimmy Carter has dedicated his life to the pursuit of peace and human rights. As the author of thirty-two books and the recipient of the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize—to name just a few of his many, many accomplishments—there is perhaps no other single person in history who better represents ‘the power of the written words to foster peace, social justice, and global understanding’ than President Carter.”

When informed of the award for President Carter, **Jason Carter**, his grandson, said, “Throughout his long and remarkable life, President Jimmy Carter has had many passions. Two of his most enduring interests have been a devotion to literature and a near-constant pursuit of a peaceful resolution to conflict. It is gratifying to have the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation choose to honor my grandfather with the Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award for a lifetime of work melding two of his loves—literature and peace.

From authoring more than 30 books to brokering peace among nations both in office and as a private citizen, and his dedication to human rights for everyone around the world, my grandfather’s lifetime of work is wide-reaching. The Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation’s recognition of his unshakable commitment to finding words that inspire world leaders and people across the globe is a great honor and a wonderful acknowledgment of how my grandfather has helped shape history.

I look forward to being in Dayton to personally accept this award on behalf of my grandfather, President Jimmy Carter, and to celebrate and discuss his tireless and ongoing devotion to exploring the many paths to peace through the written word.”



Photo credit: Joel Saget

Winner of the Booker Prize 2023 and a critically acclaimed instant national bestseller, Paul Lynch's ***Prophet Song*** is a shocking vision of a country sliding into authoritarianism and a deeply human portrait of a mother's fight to hold her family together. When scientist and mother-of-four Eilish Stack finds officers from Ireland's newly formed secret police on her doorstep looking for her husband, she is forced to contend with the dystopian logic of her new, unraveling country. To save her family, what—or who—is she willing to leave behind?

In response to winning the award, Lynch said: "I am pleased and honoured to be awarded the Dayton Literary Peace Prize which recognises the power of fiction to promote peace. The human cost of war is a story that must be retold again and again and it is our duty as artists to find new ways to tell it. The life of every human being is unto themselves a world."



Photo credit: Joseph Rushmore

Victor Luckerson's ***Built From the Fire*** is a multigenerational saga of a family and community in Tulsa's Greenwood district, known nationally as 'Black Wall Street,' that in one century survived the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, urban renewal, and gentrification. It follows four generations of the Goodwin family, from their survival of the massacre and the long life of their newspaper that chronicled Greenwood's resurgence and battles against white bigotry to their involvement in Oklahoma politics and Greenwood's revival today.

In response to winning the award, Luckerson said: "When I entered the world of Greenwood, I wanted to write a book about creation rather than destruction. The Dayton Literary Peace Prize amplifies that mission by highlighting the ingenuity and perseverance of this community. I'm grateful for the honor."

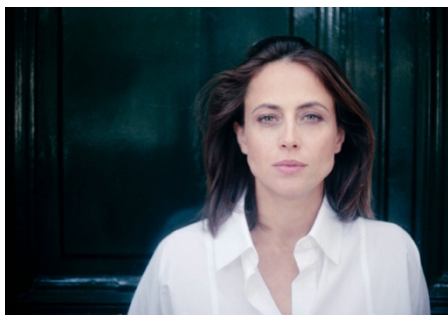


Photo credit: DR

Anne Berest's ***The Postcard*** is a novel based on the story of the author's real family. An anonymous postcard is delivered to the Berest home in Paris bearing the names of Berest's maternal great-grandparents and two of their children—all four killed at Auschwitz. Anne is moved to discover who sent it and why. What emerges is a poignant mother-daughter novel, a vivid portrait of twentieth-century Parisian intellectual and artistic life, and a breathtaking saga of a family devastated by the horrors of the twentieth-century and partly restored through the power of storytelling.

Upon being named the fiction runner-up, Berest said, "To receive an award that honors peace is especially significant to me, not only as a writer, but as a Frenchwoman and citizen of this world. I am deeply moved."



Photo Credit: Dan Chung

"It is impossible to understand China today without understanding the 'Cultural Revolution,' writes Tania Branigan, author of ***Red Memory***. During this decade of Maoist fanaticism between 1966 and 1976, children turned on parents, students condemned teachers, and as many as two million people died for their supposed political sins. Through the stories of individuals who lived through the madness, Branigan offers an indelible exploration of the invisible scar that runs through the heart of Chinese society and the souls of its citizens.

Upon being named the nonfiction runner-up, Branigan said, "I'm truly honoured to be recognised in this way by the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, among such remarkable and thoughtful titles."



Photo Credit: © Mercer University

President Jimmy Carter is the author of thirty-two books, many of which are now in revised editions: *Why Not the Best?* (1975, 1996), *A Government as Good as Its People* (1977, 1996), *Keeping Faith: Memoirs of a President* (1982, 1995), *Negotiation: The Alternative to Hostility* (1984, 2003), *The Blood of Abraham: Insights into the Middle East* (1985, 1993, 2007), *Everything to Gain: Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life*, written with Rosalynn Carter (1987, 1995), *An Outdoor Journal: Adventures and Reflections* (1988, 1994), *Turning Point: A Candidate, a State, and a Nation Come of Age* (1992), *Talking Peace: A Vision for the Next Generation* (1993, 1995), *Always a Reckoning and Other Poems*, (1995), *The Little Baby Snoogle-Fleejer*, illustrated by Amy Carter (1995), *Living Faith* (1996), *Sources of Strength: Meditations on Scripture for a Living Faith* (1997), *The Virtues of Aging* (1998), *An Hour Before Daylight: Memories of a Rural Boyhood* (2001), *Christmas in Plains: Memories* (2001), *The Nobel Peace Prize Lecture* (2002), *The Hornet's Nest: A Novel of the Revolutionary War* (2003), *Sharing Good Times* (2004), *Our Endangered Values: America's Moral Crisis* (2005), *Palestine Peace Not Apartheid* (2006, 2007), *Beyond the White House: Waging Peace, Fighting Disease, Building Hope* (2007), *A Remarkable Mother* (2008), *We Can Have Peace in the Holy Land: A Plan That Will Work* (2009), *White House Diary* (2010), *Through the Year with Jimmy Carter: 366 Daily Meditations from the 39th President* (2011), as general editor, *NIV Lessons from the Life Bible: Personal Reflections with Jimmy Carter*, revised as *NSRV Simple Faith Bible* (2012, 2020), *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power* (2014), *The Paintings of*

Jimmy Carter (2014), *A Full Life: Reflections at Ninety* (2015), *The Craftsmanship of Jimmy Carter* (2018), and *Faith: A Journey for All* (2018).

On December 10, 2002, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2002 to Jimmy Carter “for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.”

Jimmy Carter served as president from January 20, 1977, to January 20, 1981. Significant foreign policy accomplishments of his administration included the Panama Canal treaties, the Camp David Accords, the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel, the SALT II treaty with the Soviet Union, and the establishment of U.S. diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China. He championed human rights throughout the world. On the domestic side, the administration’s achievements included a comprehensive energy program conducted by a new Department of Energy; deregulation in energy, transportation, communications, and finance; major educational programs under a new Department of Education; and major environmental protection legislation, including the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which doubled the size of the national park system and tripled the wilderness areas.

President Carter and The Carter Center have engaged in conflict mediation in Ethiopia and Eritrea (1989), North Korea (1994), Liberia (1994), Haiti (1994), Bosnia (1994), Sudan (1995), the Great Lakes region of Africa (1995-96), Sudan and Uganda (1999), Venezuela (2002-2003), Nepal (2004-2008), Ecuador and Colombia (2008), the Middle East (2003-present), and Mali (2018-present). Under his leadership The Carter Center has sent 114 election-observation missions to the Americas, Africa, and Asia. These include Panama (1989), Nicaragua (1990), China (1997), Nigeria (1998), Indonesia (1999), East Timor (1999), Mexico (2000), Guatemala (2003), Venezuela (2004), Ethiopia (2005), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2006), Nepal (2008), Lebanon (2009), Sudan (2010), Tunisia (2011), Egypt (2011-2012), Kenya (2013), Mozambique (2014), Myanmar (2016), Liberia (2017), and Guyana (2020).



Photo Credit © The Carter Center

Jason Carter is the Chairman of the Carter Center Board of Trustees and a partner at the law firm of Bondurant, Mixson & Elmore, LLP in Atlanta, Georgia. As the grandson of the Carter Center’s founders, Jason has been involved with the Center’s programs for 20 years, working to advance peace and health across the globe. Prior to becoming Chairman of the Board, he oversaw the Center’s strategic planning and participated in the Center’s programs in Liberia, Egypt, Myanmar, and the West Bank/Gaza. From 2010 to 2015 he served in the Georgia State Senate. Jason has received numerous awards for his legal work and community service, including the Anti-Defamation League’s Stuart Eizenstat Award. In addition to his work at the Carter Center, Mr. Carter serves on the boards of a number of

civic organizations in the Atlanta area, including Hands on Atlanta, and the Women’s Resource Center to End Domestic Violence.



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To purchase tickets for the November 9th conversation with Jason Carter, please visit:
<https://daytonlive.org/events/dlpp>. **To purchase tickets for the gala on November 10th,**
please contact info@daytonliterarypeaceprize.org or visit the [DLPP website](#).

About the Dayton Literary Peace Prize

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize honors writers whose work uses the power of the written word to foster peace, social justice, and global understanding. Launched in 2006, it is recognized as one of the world's most prestigious literary honors and is the only literary peace prize awarded in the United States. An offshoot of the Dayton Peace Prize, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize awards a \$10,000 cash prize each year to one fiction and one nonfiction author whose work advances peace as a solution to conflict and leads readers to a better understanding of other cultures, peoples, religions, and political points of view.

Additionally, the Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award is bestowed upon a writer whose body of work reflects the Prize's mission. Previous honorees include Margaret Atwood, Wendell Berry, Taylor Branch, Geraldine Brooks, Sandra Cisneros, Wil Haygood, Louise Erdrich, John Irving, Barbara Kingsolver, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, N. Scott Momaday, Tim O'Brien, Marilynne Robinson, Gloria Steinem, Studs Terkel, Colm Tóibín, and Elie Wiesel.

About the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation

The Foundation offers programming to high schools, colleges & universities, and libraries, including its Student Author Series, Community Conversations with the Ohio Public Library Network, among others. A primarily volunteer organization since its conception, the DLPP Foundation depends on donations from individuals, corporations, universities and local government to sustain its efforts. Learn more about how you can get involved via the [DLPP website](#).

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