

AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ARTHURIAN SOCIETY, NORTH AMERICAN BRANCH

I. The James Randall Leader Essay Prize

The James Randall Leader Prize has been awarded by the branch since 1996. The prize, as announced by Bonnie Wheeler in the Editor's Report for *Arthuriana* 7.3 (1997), was enabled by Pamela Leader and "commemorates the brilliant, brief life of Pam's brother (1961-93)." The Leader Prize is awarded annually to the best article published in a given year on any topic in Arthurian studies. Although initially restricted to articles in *Arthuriana*, the prize has for several years been open to any article in any journal provided the author is a member of the IAS. The prize is adjudicated by a committee comprised of the previous three years' winners, and awarded at the annual branch business meeting.

The James Randall Leader Essay Prize in the 'Fair Well-Known' Category

This award was introduced in 2020. The same criteria apply as with the "regular" Leader Prize, but this category is for retired scholars who are still active researchers.

II. The Norris J. Lacy Prize for Outstanding Editorial Achievement in Arthurian Studies

The Norris J. Lacy Award, which is presented by the Executive of the International Arthurian Society-North American Branch every one to three years, is designed to recognize and reward distinction in editing. Such editing might be of primary texts, but also of collections of scholarly material; sometimes the winner has been notable for both types of editing.

III. The Fair Unknown Award for best paper on an Arthurian topic presented by a graduate student at the International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo

This award has been awarded since 2014. Graduate students submit their conference papers to the *Arthuriana* editorial team without changes. Entries will be judged on their originality, the strength of their arguments, their potential to intervene in Arthurian studies, and the quality of writing, with no preference for the language or period of their subject. The editorial team works with the winner on revising the paper into an article, which is published in *Arthuriana*.

IV. Dhira B. Mahoney Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Book in Arthurian Studies

Beginning in 2022, thanks to a generous bequest from the estate of Professor Dhira B. Maloney, an outstanding Arthurian scholar and beloved mentor and teacher, and to a matching subvention from the Editorial Board of *Arthuriana*, the IAS-NAB will award a cash prize for an outstanding book-length publication in Arthurian studies. The prize will be called the **Dhira B. Mahoney Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Book in Arthurian Studies**. Publications published in the two calendar years prior to the awarding of the prize (2020 and 2021 for the 2022 prize) will be

eligible for consideration. Branch members whose memberships are current should send eligible titles to the chair of the selection committee—self-nominations are not allowed. Any book-length Arthurian study reviewed in *Arthuriana* in the prior two calendar years will also be automatically considered for the award. Further details about the award are provided below.

The prize will be presented annually at the Kalamazoo business meeting.

Preference in awarding the prize will generally be given to English-language monographs, but the prize committee will also consider other outstanding works of Arthurian scholarship, including monographs in other languages, translations, editions. Edited collections are, however, excluded from consideration.

Book-length publications by IAS-NAB members and non-members are eligible to be nominated for the prize. But, in order to receive the prize, the winner must be(come) a member of the IAS.

The prize consists of a printed citation, which will also be published in *Arthuriana*, and a check for \$400.00.

The prize committee consists of the book review editor for Medieval Literature and the book review editor for Post-Medieval Studies from *Arthuriana*, and the Advisory Committee members of the branch EAC, who will annually at the Kalamazoo congress elect one of their members to serve as chair for next year's award.

The committee chair for the 2022 prize is Nicole Clifton.

The prize winner will be notified not later than the first week of April that the prize will be announced/presented at the upcoming Kalamazoo congress.

The chair of the prize committee or their delegate will present the prize and read the committee's citation at the annual Kalamazoo business meeting.

Details and information about the prize, along with a list of past winners, will appear on the IAS-NAB website.

V. The Grail Award

The Grail Award is a lifetime service award created by the International Arthurian Society-North American Branch. Because it is a lifetime service award, it is only given rarely; when it is awarded, it is given by the NAB Executive to recognize and celebrate a senior scholar's outstanding generosity and influence in shaping Arthurian Studies as well as that member's service to the branch and mentorship of rising members. This award is given at the discretion of the Executive in celebration of, and thanks for, such distinctive scholarly achievement and extraordinary service and mentorship.