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# *The Written Word*

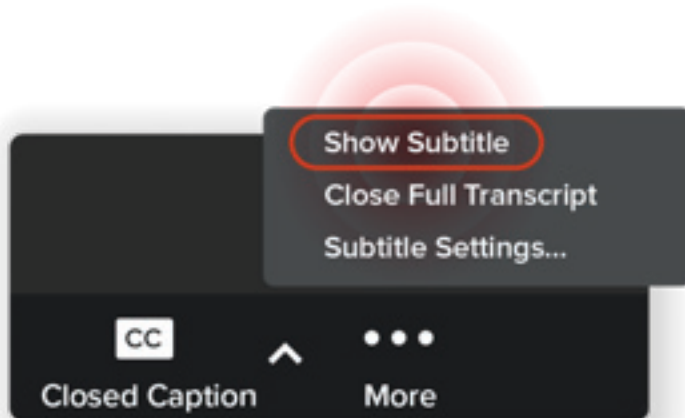
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## UPPAA'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE —VIRTUAL—TAKES OFF

### CLOSED CAPTIONING (CC) SUBTITLES TO BE OFFERED AT UPPAA FALL VIRTUAL CONFERENCE.

The Upper Peninsula Publishers & Authors Association (UPPAA) kicked off the Fall Virtual Conference series with keynote speaker Carolyn Howard-Johnson on Sept 12th, 2020. We are pleased to announce the beginning of Closed Captioning at no cost for our hearing-impaired members. This is UPPAA's first initiative in an ongoing commitment to making our programming and content more accessible. This service will also be available during UPPAA Board meetings and other programming.

The captioning is provided in real time by Rev.com using Artificial Intelligence to deliver captions about 4 seconds after the words are spoken. As a participant, you have full control over whether captioning is displayed and a choice of three font sizes (small, medium, large) for the subtitle. The controls for subtitles are located on the bottom row of your PC window or wherever your Zoom controls normally appear. An example is shown below:



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At this time we can only offer Closed Captioning (CC) subtitles on live events. YouTube will provide similar (but not the same) computer-generated subtitles on conference presentations that we upload after the event.

## KEY NOTE SPEECH A HIT

A good number of members tuned in to the inaugural UPPAA Zoom conference. The theme of Carolyn Howard-Johnson's keynote was Inspiration for Procrastinators: My Never-Too-Late Story. In this confidence-building opening address, Carolyn Howard-Johnson shared her story and tons of tips learned from launching her own sixteen books in several genres, many of them multi-award winners and many now reaching second and third edition heights. Her experience as a journalist, retailer, and consultant makes her the one to understand what your media contacts need and how the knowing helps you finagle free publicity from whichever marketing paths you choose—all free—and less work using recycling.

Carolyn Howard-Johnson brought her experience as a publicist, journalist, marketer, and retailer to the advice given in her *HowToDoItFrugally* series of books for writers and the many classes she taught for nearly a decade as instructor for UCLA Extension's world-renown Writers' Program. The books in her *HowToDoItFrugally* Series *The Frugal Book Promoter*, *The Frugal Editor*, and *How to Get Great Book Reviews Frugally and Ethically* and includes booklets focused on pesky word-trippers and book proposals we all love to hate.

Some members who couldn't tune in live emailed that they look forward to watching it later. So if you didn't make it, be sure to watch the recording posted at: <https://tinyurl.com/frugal2020>

## Improvements to the Member Book Catalog

BY BRANDY THOMAS

There are a couple of important changes that will be coming to the member catalog. The catalog will start using tags as well as categories to help make sure your books are more easily found by a wider audience. For example, if you have written a book that is both historical fiction and comedy it can now be tagged with both and not be limited to only one of those categories. We plan to have these changes in place by January 1st of 2021.

The other exciting is the addition of the #OwnVoices category and the ability to tag to the member catalog options. #OwnVoices is a term and twitter tag coined by the writer Corinne Duyvis, and refers to an author from a marginalized or under-represented group writing about their own experiences from their own perspective, rather than someone from an outside perspective writing as a character from an underrepresented group. Not all literature with diverse perspectives is "Own Voices" literature, but as long as the protagonist and the author share a marginalized identity it falls under that category.

The #OwnVoices movement started in YA and Children's books but is now used throughout the publishing industry including adult books. If you would like your book to have the #OwnVoices tag or would like to add any additional tags or categories to your current book listings in the UPPAA member catalog, please contact Jenifer Brady at [webmaster@uppaa.org](mailto:webmaster@uppaa.org). If you have questions about #OwnVoices, please contact Brandy Thomas at [Membership@uppaa.org](mailto:Membership@uppaa.org).

## UPCOMING CONFERENCE SPEECHES on Zoom

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Visit <https://tinyurl.com/call-uppaa> or join from the Zoom app by entering with Meeting ID: 255 737 836 and password "SISU" (all CAPs). You can use Zoom from your PC, Mac, iPad, or other tablet or phone devices.

The conference series will continue on throughout September and October 2020, with one presentation each week by a different expert author. Upcoming topics will include:

**“Romance Writing – Tips and Resources to Capture your Reader’s Heart”**

Donna Winters

Saturday, September 19 at 2 p.m.

**“Writing and Researching Historical Fiction and Nonfiction”**

Tyler R. Tichelaar

Thursday, September 24 at 7 p.m.

**“Crafting the Self-Published Picture Book – Unique Product, Unique Issues”**

Aimée Bissonette

Thursday, October 1 at 7 p.m.

**“Diving into Character Development”**

Naomi Rawlings

Thursday, October 8 at 7 p.m.

**“Book Publicity 101”**

Smith Publicity

Thursday, October 15 at 7 p.m.

**“Self-Publishing 101”**

Jansina Grossman

Thursday, October 22 at 7 p.m.

**“Memoir as a Healing Tool”**

Theresa Pitts

Thursday, October 22 at 7 p.m.

*NOTE: Some of these may have taken place by the time this newsletter is sent out.*

For those who cannot attend in person, the conference presentations will be posted later on YouTube. Check for details on our web site: [www.uppaa.org](http://www.uppaa.org)





# UP Reader: DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE

Send your submission for the 2021 UP Reader as soon as you've finished it. Save the eyes and brains of the jury members by sending it before the dead line.

## Submission Guidelines

- Must be a *current member* of the UPPAA to submit.
- Submissions *must be original* with no prior appearance in web or print. Submissions will be accepted for *up to 5,000 words*. Writers who submit work which has previously appeared in blog posts, web pages, eBooks, or in print will be disqualified.
- Submissions *can be genre*, Fiction, Nonfiction (memoirs, history, essays, feature articles, interviews, opinions) and Poetry. These also can include photography or artwork, but author must show permission for use.
- All submissions will be *reviewed through a jury* and the submissions will be chosen through this process.
- We prefer *Microsoft Word Document* (.DOC) files only or plain text files (.TXT). Do not submit PDF files. If you have some other type of text file, please inquire.
- *Authors may include photos* with the understanding that they will be converted to black-and-white. We reserve the right to limit the number of photos per story that will be used. Photos should be at least 300 DPI and no smaller than 2 inches on a side (i.e. 600px minimum). If the Author is not the photographer, we may ask for a simple one-page "Photo Release" form to be sent in.
- *No more than 3 items* will be accepted from one person. This includes photos, stories, and poems. If more than 3 are received, the jury may choose to disregard all of them. We are looking for quality, not quantity.

The U.P. Reader will require **FIRST** time rights in print and digital. After one year, **ALL** rights will return to the author. UPPAA retains the right to use it in perpetuity. For Example, we anticipate a "Best of U.P. Reader" to be issued for the 10th anniversary.

- Nov. 16, 2020, Jury / Peer-review process begins
- Jan 15th, 2021 announcement of selected submissions
- April 1, 2021, official publication date

Send submissions to [submissions@upreader.org](mailto:submissions@upreader.org). Be sure to put "U.P. Reader Submission" in the subject line. For more information or to see previous issues, please visit [www.UPReader.org](http://www.UPReader.org)



Lucy Woods, winner in a previous year, holds her copy of the UP Reader the year she won.

## Please help promote the Dandelion Cottage Student Short Story Contest

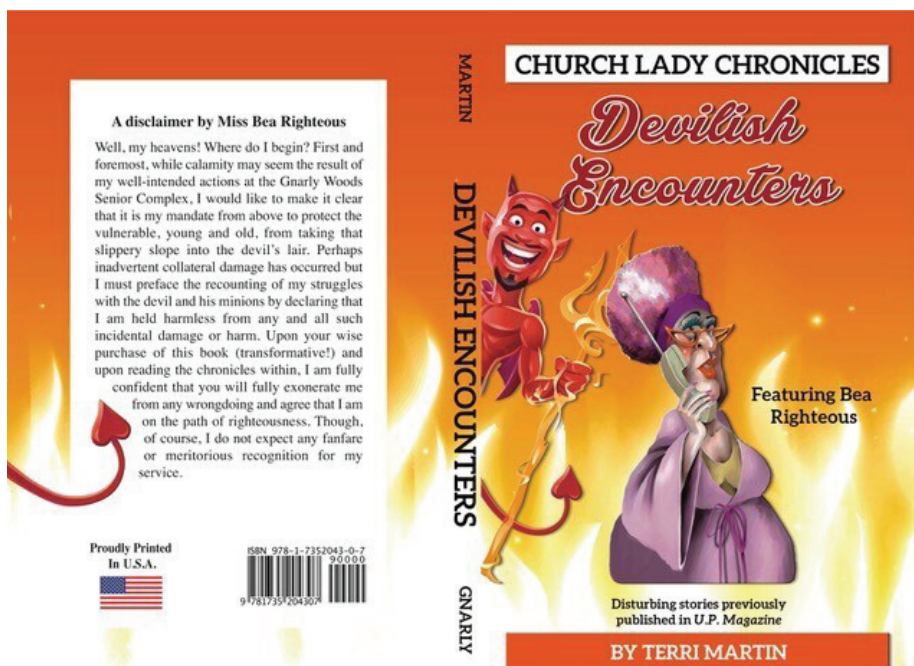
Please contact the school nearest you and share information on the contest. Encourage teachers of grades five through high school seniors to submit.

### Contest Rules

- Each teacher may nominate up to two short stories to represent their school.
- Home-schooled students may submit stories through their local school.
- Home-school co-ops representing more than ten students will be treated as a school.
- Maximum length: 5,000 words.
- Authors must attend or be home-schooled in an Upper Peninsula School District.
- Teachers, parents, and others may offer suggestions and comments, but all writing must be the work of the author. In the real literary world, editors will offer suggestions. This is to be a learning experience.
- Teachers, parents, and others may point out spelling and grammatical errors on the finished manuscript, but the author is responsible for understanding and correcting all errors. This is to be a learning experience. In the real literary world, copyeditors will be correcting these errors. Stories with profanity or vulgar language will be returned for revision. We expect polished submissions.
- Short stories must be submitted electronically in MS Word (preferred) or PDF format prior to January 31st.
- First place winner in the high school division will receive \$250.
- Second place winner will receive \$100.
- Third place winner will receive \$50.
- Winning school will receive a trophy for display during the coming year.
- Only one prize (\$150) will be awarded for the best middle-school entry.
- Authors will retain the copyright to their work, but UPPAA reserves first publishing rights for eighteen months after submission. Winning entries will be published in the annual U.P. Reader.
- Web site: <http://www.dandelioncottage.org/rules>







## MEMBER NEWS:

**Terry Martin's** newest book cover is outstanding. (see image on left)

*Cady and the Bear Necklace*, by **Ann Dallman** of Menominee has racked up multiple awards! She is the winner of a 2020 Midwest Book Award (Young Adult category). The book was also a finalist in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Dallman was also recently awarded a Member for Members Scholarship from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators/MI Chapter.

"I started out as a newspaper reporter/photographer and returned to journalism after retiring from teaching; which included 15 years at the Hannahville Indian School in Wilson, MI. Writing about 13-year-old Cady and the challenges she faces—while solving mysteries—is one of my favorite things. I'm thrilled that others enjoy reading about her," she said. She added, "Membership in UPPAA has been invaluable in helping me pursue my writing goals. I can't say enough about the generosity and expertise of its members."

Dallman has previously received scholarships to study writing at the Split Rock Arts Institute/Univ. of MN and to attend Highlights Foundation sessions in Honesdale, PA as well as writer's residencies at Wild Acres Retreat Center, NC.



Ann Dallman

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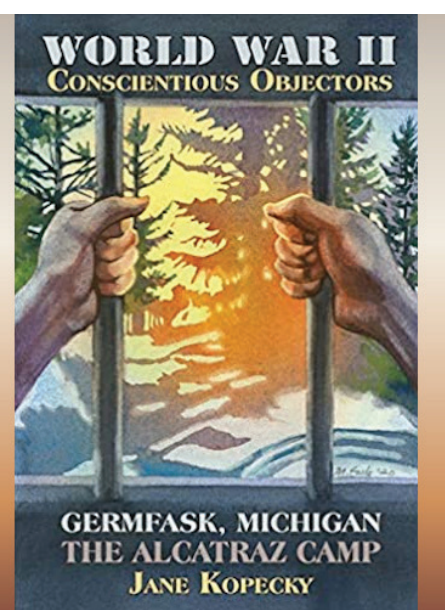
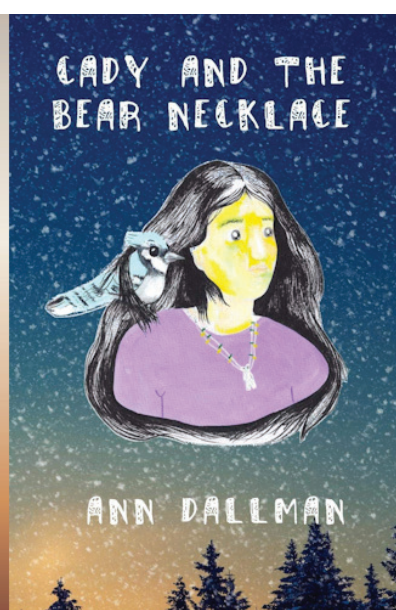
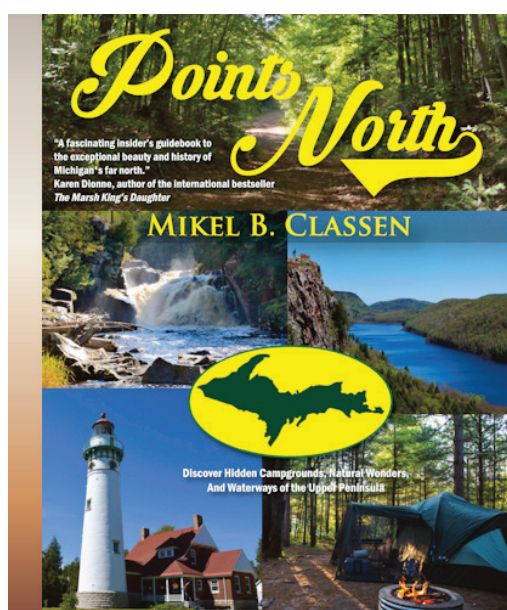
## Three Upper Peninsula Authors Win Historical Society of Michigan Awards

The Upper Peninsula Publishers & Authors Association (UPPAA) congratulates the three of its member authors – Mikel B. Classen, Ann Dallman, and Jane Kopecky – for winning the 2020 State History Awards presented by the Historical Society of Michigan (HSM).

**Mikel B. Classen's** book *Points North: Discover Hidden Campgrounds, Natural Wonders, and Waterways of the Upper Peninsula* (Modern History Press) won in the category of University & Commercial Press Books. The HSM describes the work as one that “steers readers off the beaten track to discover

leading her to solve a mystery that improves her personal and family life.

In the Private Printing Books category, UPPAA member **Jane Kopecky** won the HSM award for her self-published book *World War II Conscientious Objectors: Germfask, Michigan*



Presented during its annual Michigan History Conference annually in October, this year's conference has been made a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the six winners announced by the HSM in book categories, three are members of the UPPAA and their books were published between 2019 and 2020; this is an unprecedented success for UPPAA authors.

some lesser-known—but equally delightful—gems” in the Upper Peninsula region of Michigan.

**Ann Dallman** won the award for *Cady and the Bear Necklace* (Three Towers Press/Henschel Haus Books) in the category of Children & Youth Books. Her book tells the story of a thirteen-year-old Native American girl who finds an antique Indian beaded necklace in her new home in Michigan,

*the Alcatraz Camp* in which Kopecky tells the story of a group of non-conformists rounded up at Public Service Camp 135 in Germfask, Michigan for refusing to serve in government/military during the Second World War. These “conscientious objectors” battle the legal system and government with peaceful protests.

UPPAA President Victor R. Volkman opined, “Regional

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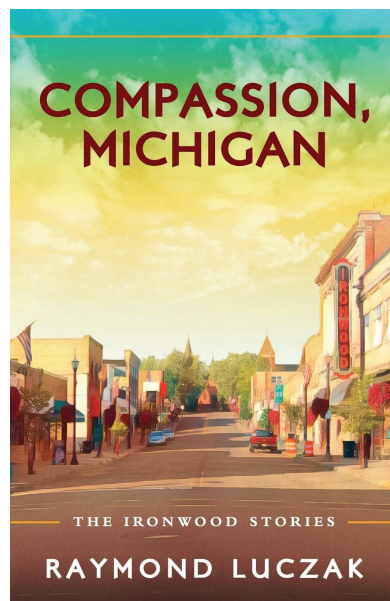
literature gives people both a sense of place and a connection to their own past. In this era, where daily national and world events have eclipsed smaller stories, our vital connection to the past with regional literature is more important than ever.”

Volkman appreciates the significance of the awards: “The HSM awards underscore the importance of the Upper Peninsula in the larger tapestry of Michigan history. The three winners represent the natural resources, native American heritage, and involvement in national events that make the U.P. a key contributor, despite its remoteness and its small town feel.”

### Raymond Luczak

is very pleased to share the good news that his latest book *Compassion, Michigan: The Ironwood Stories* (Modern History Press) is now available. Encompassing some 130 years in Ironwood’s history, the book illuminates

characters struggling to adapt to their circumstances starting in the present day, with its subsequent stories rolling back in time to when Ironwood was first founded. A trailer about the book can be found online at [YouTube.com/deafwoof](https://www.youtube.com/deafwoof). With his next book, *Once upon a twin: poems* (Gallaudet University Press), he explores the loss of his miscarried twin and imagines growing up with him and their large family in the U.P.; it is slated to appear in February 2021.



“These are stories of extremely real women, mostly disappointed by life, living meagerly in a depleted town in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Sound depressing? Not at all. Luczak has tracked their hopes, their repressed desires, and their ambitions with the elegance and precision of one of those silhouette artists who used to snip out perfect likenesses in black paper; people ‘comforted by the familiarity of loneliness,’ as he writes.” – EDMUND WHITE, author of *A Saint in Texas*

Learn more at [www.raymondluczak.com](http://www.raymondluczak.com)  
[www.ModernHistoryPress.com](http://www.ModernHistoryPress.com)

### Debbie Frontiera

managed to finish research for her upcoming book, *Superior Tapestry: Weaving the Threads of Upper Michigan History*, in spite of so many places being closed by Covid-19 and sent the manuscript to her beta readers. The book will be released by Modern History Press in the Spring of 2021.

## YOUR NEXT BOOK: start to finish

- Designed, typed, proofread, printed
- QR codes, ISBN numbers
- Hard or Soft Cover, PDF, E-reader, Amazon ready
- Low or high volume

***When you needed it yesterday, call us today.***

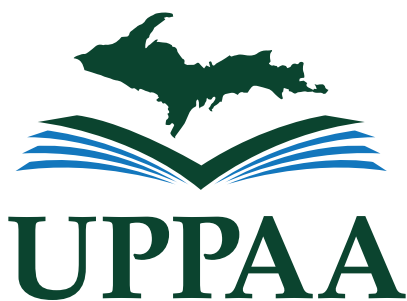
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