

ARTS

Contest Promotes Emerging SciFi Writers and Illustrators

NewsUSA



(NU) - Aspiring artists and authors in the science fiction and fantasy arena have an outlet to finding a wider audience, thanks to the L. Ron Hubbard Achievement Award.

The award, now in its 36th year, has long been an opportunity for a promising debut for professional writers and illustrators in science fiction and fantasy.

“The contest was formed for a purpose beyond simply giving awards - it was intended to help foster the next generation of master writers,” states Joni Labaqui, the Contests' Administrator.

L. Ron Hubbard, one of the most recognized and prolific American writers, created and endowed the Writers of the Future Contest in 1983 to help foster new talent in science fiction and fantasy writing.

For writers, the contest is a chance to have their work judged by professional authors who are among the masters of the SciFi and fantasy genre and to be discovered by a wide audience. Entrants retain all publication rights to their work, and there is no entry fee. The contest awards quarterly first, second, and third prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500 every three months. One of these four quarterly first-place

winners is selected as the Grand Prize winner for the year. The Grand Prize Winner receives the L. Ron Hubbard Golden Pen Award and an additional \$5,000.

The judging protocol and prize structure is the same for illustrators. The Grand Prize Winner is chosen from quarterly winners to receive the L. Ron Hubbard Golden Brush Award and an additional \$5,000 cash.

The 35th annual award winners were Andrew Dykstal and Aliya Chen, who were honored at a gala event this spring in Hollywood, Calif. Prior to the awards ceremony, writer and artist winners spent a week enjoying workshops with established writers, artists, and publishing professionals.

“I feel that my career as a writer has now been catapulted,” says Mr. Dykstal, Grand Prize Writing Award Winner for 2019.

Ms. Chen, winner of the Grand Prize Illustrator's Award, says: “Winning this Grand Prize Award is validation for me that illustration, which is a passion for me, doesn't have to be limited to a hobby, but it's definitely possible as a career.”

Writers can enter the contest at: www.writersofthefuture.com/enter-writer-contest/.