

## **Library of Virginia and VMFA Announce Winner of Annual Art in Literature Award Fourth recipient to be honored at 2017 Library of Virginia Literary Awards**

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Richmond, VA (August 21, 2017) – The Library of Virginia and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts are pleased to announce the winner of the annual Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award.

The judges selected *GEORGIA: A Novel of Georgia O'Keeffe* by Dawn Tripp as this year's winner. The winner will be recognized on Friday, October 13, 2017, at the VMFA and on Saturday, October 14, 2017, at the Library of Virginia's annual Virginia Literary Awards Celebration.

About the Work (Ann, I took this directly from the Amazon website.)

In a dazzling work of historical fiction, Dawn Tripp brings to life Georgia O'Keeffe, her love affair with photographer Alfred Stieglitz, and her quest to become an independent artist.

*This is not a love story. If it were, we would have the same story. But he has his, and I have mine.*

In 1916, Georgia O'Keeffe is a young, unknown art teacher when she travels to New York to meet Stieglitz, the famed photographer and art dealer, who has discovered O'Keeffe's work and exhibits it in his gallery. Their connection is instantaneous. O'Keeffe is quickly drawn into Stieglitz's sophisticated world, becoming his mistress, protégé, and muse, as their attraction deepens into an intense and tempestuous relationship and his photographs of her, both clothed and nude, create a sensation. Yet as her own creative force develops, Georgia begins to push back against what critics and others are saying about her and her art. And soon she must make difficult choices to live a life she believes in. A breathtaking work of the imagination, *Georgia* is the story of a passionate young woman, her search for love and artistic freedom, the sacrifices she will face, and the bold vision that will make her a legend.

About the Author

Dawn Tripp's fourth novel, *GEORGIA: A Novel of Georgia O'Keeffe*, is a national bestseller and finalist for the New England Book Award. Tripp is the author of three previous novels: *Moon Tide*, *The Season of Open Water* (which won the Massachusetts Book Award for Fiction,) and

*Game of Secrets*. Her essays have appeared in the Virginia Quarterly Review, The Believer, and NPR. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard and lives in Massachusetts with her family.

### About the Award

Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award recognizes an outstanding book in fiction or nonfiction published in the previous year that is written primarily in response to a work (or works) of art while also showing the highest literary quality as a creative or scholarly work. Submissions can include works of journalism, poetry, fiction, biography, or history, as well as museum exhibition catalogs. This unique award, established in 2013, is named in honor of Mary Lynn Kotz, author of the award-winning biography *Rauschenberg: A Life*. The inaugural award recipient was *The Innocence of Objects* by Nobel Laureate Orhan Pamuk. Last year's winner was Patrick Horrigan for his novel *Portraits at an Exhibition: A Novel*. The Art in Literature Award is presented each year during the annual Virginia Literary Awards celebration weekend, which will take place in Richmond, Virginia.

### Events

Friday, October 13, 2017 Art in Literature: An Undying Love Affair VMFA, Pauley Center Parlor, 6:00 PM–7:30 PM This event will feature a presentation by the award recipient, Dawn Tripp, followed by a book signing and reception.

Saturday, October 14, 2017 Literary Luncheon Greater Richmond Convention Center, Noon–2:00 PM The Library of Virginia's 2017 Literary Luncheon features a question-and-answer session with this year's Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, David Baldacci, as well as medal presentations for all Literary Award finalists and a keynote presentation. Baldacci and some finalists will be available for book signings after the luncheon.

Saturday, October 14, 2017 The Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration Library of Virginia, 6:30 PM–10:00 PM The winners of the fiction, nonfiction, and poetry awards—as well as the People's Choice Awards—will be announced on Saturday, October 14, 2017, at the 20th Annual Library of Virginia Awards celebration honoring Virginia authors & friends. This gala event, sponsored by Dominion Energy, attracts authors, publishers, and those who enjoy the written word. Award-winning author Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for this event.

For ticket information, please call (804) 692-3813 or visit [www.literaryva.com](http://www.literaryva.com).

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**August 21, 2017**