



The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction NOMINATION FORM

Established by Scott O'Dell in 1982, the Scott O'Dell Award is given for a distinguished work of historical fiction. To be eligible, a book must be published by a U.S. publisher; the setting must be South, Central, or North America; and the author must be a U.S. citizen. Books published during each calendar year are eligible for the following year's award.

The home of The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction is the Reinberger Children's Library Center at the Kent State University School in Kent, Ohio. **Elizabeth Hall**, widow of Scott O'Dell, and **Lauren Anderson Gerber**, Scott's granddaughter, continue to administer and fund the award. The 2026 Award Committee includes: **Mary Ann Stahr, Ph.D. (Chair)**, Assistant Professor, Kent State University, OH; **Kate Davis**, Youth and Inclusive Services Consultant, Prairie Lakes Library System, WI; **Sue Michalowski**, Librarian, St. John of the Cross School, IL; **Lisa Mulvenna**, Head of Children's and Teen Services, Clinton-Macomb Public Library, MI; **Stephanie Raub**, Media Specialist, East Woods Intermediate, Hudson City School District, OH; and **Emma Wright**, Graduate Student at Kent State and Children's Assistant at Wood County District Public Library, OH.

Submission Instructions:

Books may be submitted throughout the year to the Award Committee. Using this Nomination Form, for EACH title you wish to bring to the attention of the Award Committee, send the following information directly to Mary Ann Stahr Chair, at mstahr1@kent.edu.

1. **Indicate** O'Dell Award Nomination Candidate;
2. **Submit** Book Title (include a subtitle if there is one), Author, Publisher, Month and Year of Publication;
3. **Include** Name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the publishing house contact.

The Chair will send a roster to interested parties so that all committee members may receive a copy of the nominated title. *The Committee may consider any eligible book, but publishers' submissions are valuable in bringing books to the attention of the Committee. T*

Once the award recipient is selected and the publisher and/or literary agent is notified in January, the publisher must provide two additional copies of the selected book to the Committee for the O'Dell family representatives.

If you have inquiries regarding the submission process or timeline that the information provided doesn't address, please email Mary Ann Stahr mstahr1@kent.edu and put "O'Dell Award" in the subject line.



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Nomination Deadline: December 1, 2025

The Committee may consider any eligible book, but publishers' submissions are valuable in bringing books to the attention of the Committee. The committee will accept directly submitted PDFs or e-galleys via Edelweiss, which should whitelist the committee emails and have no expiration date, and committee members should be emailed notice of the Edelweiss submission.

O'Dell Award Nomination Candidate

Book Title: _____
include a subtitle if there is one

Author: _____

Publisher: _____

Month and Year of Publication: _____

Publishing House Contact:

Name: _____

Work Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Literary Agent Contact:

Name: _____

Work Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____