



## 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 iSchool 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 2027 Award Committee includes: **Kate Davis (Chair)**, Programming and Inclusive Services Consultant, Prairie Lakes Library System, WI; **Julia Schroeder**, M.Ed., Graduate Student, Kent State University, School Librarian, Atrium School, Watertown, MA; **Mariah Smitala**, Youth Services Librarian, Hedberg Public Library, Janesville, WI; **Jeni Schomber**, Public Library Consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Janesville, WI; **Hannah Hermann**, Youth Services Librarian, Genoa City Public Library, Southeast WI; **Christina Dorr, Ph.D.**, Retired Librarian/ Adjunct Instructor, Ohio Libraries and Universities, Ohio.; **Mandy A. Cenker, Ph.D.**, Program Director, Kent State University, Kent, OH; **Stephanie Raub**, Library Media Specialist, Hudson City School District, Hudson, OH; and **Rebecca Rissman**, Children's Nonfiction Author, Lisle, IL. Bringing together expertise from schools, libraries, and educational organizations across the Midwest, the 2027 committee continues the legacy of thoughtful selection and deep appreciation for quality historical fiction for young readers.

### **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 Kate Davis, Chair, at [kdavis@prairielakes.info](mailto:kdavis@prairielakes.info).

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.*

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 Kate Davis at [kdavis@prairielakes.info](mailto:kdavis@prairielakes.info) and put "O'Dell Award" in the subject line.



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**Nomination Deadline: December 1, 2026**

*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: \_\_\_\_\_