Creative Writing Graduate Students Win Utah Original Writing Competition Awards

10/29/2021

Several recent and current USU English Department graduate students took home awards at this year’s Utah Original Writing Competition.

Alyssa Witbeck Alexander (MS ’20) won first place in the Creative Nonfiction Essay category for “When Ice Isn’t Slippery.”

Andrew Romriell (MS ’21) won first prize in the Creative Nonfiction Book category for his memoir The Wolf Act. First prize in this category comes with $1,000 and possible publication with the University of Utah press.

Current graduate student Millie Tullis was awarded an honorable mention in the Book-length Collection of Poetry category for Saints.
Kylie Smith, also a current graduate student, received an honorable mention in the Creative Nonfiction Essay category for “In Chrysalis.”

The annual Utah Original Writing Competition has helped Utah fiction, nonfiction, and poetry writers achieve publication and recognition since 1958. These USU writers flourished out of the 278 entries from other Utah-based writers. Their achievement places them among past winners, which include four Utah Poet Laureates: David Lee, Ken Brewer, Katharine Coles, and Lance Larsen.