



## Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist and Emerging Writer Winners Announced

Posted on 29. Apr, 2014 by [Tony Valenzuela](#) in [Foundation Updates](#)

**Michael Thomas Ford and Radclyffe named Dr. James Duggins Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize Winners**  
**Imogen Binnie and [Charles Rice-Gonzalez](#) named Dr. Betty Berzon Emerging Writer Award Winners**

The Lambda Literary Foundation, the nation's leading national nonprofit organization promoting LGBT literature and writers, is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 Dr. James Duggins Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize and the Dr. Betty Berzon Emerging Writer Award. This year the Mid-Career Novelist Prize recognizes Michael Thomas Ford and Radclyffe; the Emerging Writer Award recognizes Imogen Binnie and [Charles Rice-Gonzalez](#).



The judges for the Mid-Career Prize were Lammy Award winning author and USC professor, Chris Freeman, and best-selling author and preeminent feminist writer on sexual politics, Susie Bright. Commenting on Michael Thomas Ford, Bright stated, "What distinguishes Ford beyond his prodigy, is his remarkable empathy for the most tender and outrageous expressions of humanity, his ability to channel and articulate, with eloquence and un-erring authenticity. He is a writer's writer and reader's dearest friend. If he did nothing but sit in a garret with pen in hand, we would be lucky—but Michael has also been a colleague, mentor, and ally to other writers like few others. Our respect for his devotion and imagination, from his earliest efforts to today, is without compare."

Commenting on Radclyffe, Freeman stated, "Prolific and multi-faceted, Radclyffe has published more than forty novels. She has also edited more than a dozen anthologies, through which she nurtures and promotes the work of other writers. At Bold Strokes Books [which she founded in 2004], there are more than sixty authors who have published upwards of 300 titles in romance, mystery, sci-fi/fantasy/erotica, and young adult....For a decade, Radclyffe has conducted writing workshops and participated in countless panels, where she is a generous supporter of the work of her students and peers alike."

The judges for the Emerging Writer Award were Los Angeles-based authors, poets and educators Steven Reigns and Griselda Suarez. "This year's pool had many highly eligible applicants and in the spirit of Dr. Berzon, both winners are committed to making their communities more engaged in LGBT issues," said Reigns and Suarez in a joint statement. "Binnie and [Rice-Gonzalez](#) create literary space, both on the page and through activism, for underrepresented stories, characters and communities....These two writers have already established their voice in their respective communities and through their hard work have emerged onto the literary world with bold, provocative writing." Suarez continued, "Imogene Binnie's breaking of the standard narrative structure of trans literature makes her an exciting writer to read." Reigns added, "Charles Rice-Gonzalez's compellingly dynamic writings focus not only on the experience of queer Latino males but also how community impacts their identities."

The Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize, made possible by James Duggins, PhD, consists of two cash prizes of \$5000. To qualify, recipients must have published at least three novels or two novels and substantial additional literary work such as poetry, short stories, or essays.

The Emerging Writer Award, made possible by Teresa DeCrescenzo, and named after her late partner, the renowned author and psychotherapist, Dr. Betty Berzon, consists of two cash prizes of \$1000. To qualify, recipients must have published up to 2 books or 1 book and additional literary work such as short stories, essays or journalistic articles.

The awards will be handed out on June 2, 2014 at the 26th Annual Lambda Literary Awards [ceremony](#) in New York City.

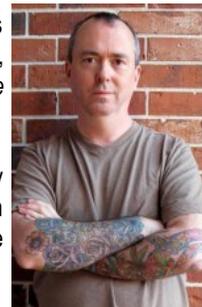
"This year's judges for the Duggins and Berzon prizes had to consider a wide field of outstanding nominations," said LLF Executive Director, Tony Valenzuela. "We congratulate the winners for their literary gifts to our community and for their exciting work that is yet to come."

To learn more about the Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize visit [here](#).

To learn more about the Emerging Writers Award visit [here](#).

**Michael Thomas Ford** is the author of more than sixty books for both young readers and adults. He is best known for his novels *Suicide Notes*, *Last Summer*, *Looking for It*, *Full Circle*, *Changing Tides*, *What We Remember*, and *The Road Home*, his trio of comic novels about Jane Austen living as a modern-day vampire (*Jane Bites Back*, *Jane Goes Batty*, and *Jane Vows Vengeance*), and for his five essay collections in the *Trials of My Queer Life* series.

His work has been nominated for 12 Lambda Literary Awards—twice winning for Best Humor Book, twice for Best Gay Romance Novel, and once for Best Gay Mystery—and he has also been a finalist for the Horror Writers Association’s Bram Stoker Award (for his novel *The Dollhouse That Time Forgot*) and a Gaylactic Spectrum Award (for his short story “Night of the Werepuss”). He currently lives in Texas with four badly-behaved dogs.



**Radclyffe** has written over forty-five romance and romantic intrigue novels, dozens of short stories, and, writing as L.L. Raand, has authored a paranormal romance series, *The Midnight Hunters*. She has also edited *Best Lesbian Romance 2009* through 2015 as well as multiple other anthologies.

She is an eight-time Lambda Literary Award finalist in romance, mystery, and erotica—winning in both romance and erotica. A member of the Saints and Sinners Literary Hall of Fame, she is also an RWA Prism, Lories, Beanpot, Aspen Gold, and Laurel Wreath winner in multiple mainstream romance categories. In 2004 she founded Bold Strokes Books, an independent LGBTQ publisher with 170 authors and an active title list of over 700. In 2013 she founded the Flax Mill Creek Writers Retreat offering writing workshops to authors in all stages of their careers.

**Imogen Binnie** writes the zines *The Fact That It’s Funny Doesn’t Make It A Joke* and *Stereotype Threat*. She also writes a monthly column for *Maximum Rocknroll* magazine, and her work has been featured in *The Collection: Short Fiction from the Transgender Vanguard*, as well as on [prettyqueer.com](http://prettyqueer.com), [LambdaLiterary.org](http://LambdaLiterary.org) and elsewhere.

She writes about books at [KeepYourBridgesBurning.com](http://KeepYourBridgesBurning.com) and her first novel, *Nevada*, was published in 2013 by Topside Press. It is the recipient of a MOTHA Award and a finalist for the 26th Annual Lambda Literary Awards.



**Charles Rice-González**, born in Puerto Rico and reared in the Bronx, is a writer, long-time community and LGBT activist, co-founder of BAAD! The Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance and a Distinguished Lecturer at Hostos Community College – CUNY. He received a B.A. in Communications from Adelphi University and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from Goddard College. His debut novel, *Chulito* (Magnus 2011), has received awards and recognitions from American Library Association (ALA) and the National Book Critics Circle. He co-edited *From Macho to Mariposa: New Gay Latino Fiction* (Tincture 2011) with Charlie Vázquez. He is also an award-winning playwright and his play *I Just Love Andy Gibb* will be published in *Blacktino Queer Performance: A Critical Anthology* co-edited by E. Patrick Johnson and Ramón H. Rivera-Servera in 2015. Charles serves on the boards of the **Bronx Council on the Arts** and the National Association of Latino Art and Cultures.

See more at: <http://www.lambdaliterary.org/foundation-updates/04/29/outstanding-mid-career-novelist-and-emerging-writer-winners-announced-2/#sthash.S285hCyl.dpuf>