



2018 MAAH STONE BOOK AWARD

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Boston • Nantucket

James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation





African Meeting House, Nantucket, c. 1824

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

The Museum of African American History inspires all generations to embrace and interpret the authentic stories of New Englanders of African descent, and those who found common cause with them, in their quest for freedom and justice. Through its historic buildings, collections, and programs, the Museum expands cultural understanding and promotes dignity and respect for all.

The Museum was founded in 1967 and is New England's largest museum dedicated to preserving, conserving and interpreting the contributions of African Americans. The Museum has two locations – one in Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood and the other on Nantucket Island – and two Black Heritage Trails® that tell the story of organized black communities from the Colonial Period through the 19th century.

In Boston, two of the Museum's most significant sites are the Abiel Smith School, built in 1835, and the African Meeting House, which was built in 1806 largely by the labor of free blacks. The African Meeting House served as the center of the free black community in the nineteenth century and is the oldest surviving black church structure in the United States and a National Historic Landmark. On Nantucket Island, the historic Seneca Boston-Florence Higginbotham House (c.1774), the African Meeting House (1824), and three smaller buildings comprise the Museum's Nantucket Island campus.

For more information about the Museum sites, programs, and exhibits, visit the website at www.maah.org

ABOUT THE STONE FOUNDATION

The mission of The James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation is to promote a more knowledgeable and inclusive society with an emphasis on education, science, mitigation of economic inequality, biodiversity, and urban sustainability.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The 2018 MAAH Stone Book Award celebrates writing on the subject of African American history and culture by awarding a \$25,000 prize to the author of an exceptional adult non-fiction book written in a literary style. The award will be presented at Boston's African Meeting House.

AWARD OBJECTIVES:

- To recognize new literary work in the field of African American history and culture
- To nurture and inspire future scholarly writing in the field
- To reinforce the necessity of continuously examining history
- To foster community engagement and dialogue centered around a widely accessible new literary work
- To celebrate the joy of learning through reading in partnership with an appreciation of the American historical, cultural artifacts held by the museum to tell stories of the African American experience
- To celebrate the history of the successful abolitionist movement that began in Boston and the unity between races that it exemplified and fostered

2018 SUBMISSION RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. All books must have been published in the U.S. with a publication date between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018.
2. All books must be printed in English. Translations are not eligible.
3. All authors must be U.S. residents.
4. Books must be submitted by publishers and literary agents only. Books may not be submitted for consideration directly by the author.
5. Neither self-published works, where the author is the publisher, nor e-books are eligible for this award. Textbooks and anthologies are not eligible. Co-authored books are not eligible.
6. All books must be adult non-fiction. Graphic novels are not eligible.
7. Books must be submitted for consideration via our online submission process at bit.ly/MAAHStoneBookAward between March 1, 2018 and March 31, 2018. A high-resolution image (at least 300 dpi) of the book cover, and a high-resolution photo and short biography of the author will need to be uploaded during the online submission process as well.
8. Physical copies of the books must be received by April 15, 2018.
9. Four (4) printed copies of the book (galley proofs are acceptable) must be mailed at the publisher's/ literary agent's expense to:

The MAAH Stone Book Award
c/o Rasky Partners
70 Franklin St, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110
10. Submitted copies of the books will NOT be returned.
11. The MAAH Stone Book Award reserves the right to call for additional submissions after April 15, 2018.
12. There is no submission fee in this inaugural year of the award.

JUDGING PROCESS

1. The Museum reserves the right to decline submissions it deems unacceptable. These books will not be returned.
2. A jury of three academic scholars will review eligible, acceptable submissions and determine the winner.

POST-AWARD AUTHOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The author must be present at the award ceremony (Summer 2018; date TBD) to accept the prize. Travel to the award ceremony and lodging will be at the expense of the submitting agency, i.e., publisher or literary agent.
2. The winning author must agree to participate in at least two public events that will be organized by the Museum – one in Boston and one on Nantucket Island – both of which will take place within 1 week of the award ceremony. Expenses related to these Museum-sponsored events (lodging and travel) will be covered by the Museum.