2016-2017 CALA Annual Committee Report

Your Name: Xiying Mi  
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Committee Name: Best Book Award Committee  
Committee Roster: Haiwang Yuan, Western Kentucky University, haiwang.yuan@wku.edu, co-chair
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Committee Charge: The CALA Annual Best Book Award is to honor books originally published in North America and on topics about China or written by authors of Chinese descent. The Award is to raise awareness of these topics and authors in North America. Winners of the Award will be announced by CALA and published in the ALA Cognotes during the ALA Annual Conference.

Tasks completed (according to the goals outlined in the CALA 2020 Strategic Plan if applicable- be specific):
1. Successfully developed the selection criteria for the 2017 CALA Best Book Award
2. Sent out calls for nominations
3. Successfully gathered nominations
4. Successfully selected the awardee

Goals and objectives accomplished for the whole year (and highlight those accomplished after mid-year report):
We have done our best to raise the awareness of Chinese topic and Chinese descendant authors. We have also successfully identified an awardee.

Goals and objectives not completed (and concerns):
We have not received any nominees for juvenile works.

Budget requirements or reimbursement Requests (if any):
Our budget needs depend on if CALA needs to print out the certificate.

Questions/Comments/Suggestions for the Board (if any):

Summary: In a few sentences, highlight your achievements, concerns, or suggestions that you mostly want addressed. This should be the main point of your committee report.

Process: the committee was voluntarily decided into two teams, one for the adult works and the other for the juvenile works. A couple weeks after the nomination letters sent out on different listservs, we started to receive nominations online. In the following a few weeks, we started to receive printed books to our individual addresses. According to our timeline, at mid-April, the whole committee touched base on how many nominations each team has received. We found out that juvenile team has not received any nominations. At early May, the adult works team started to vote online for the nominations.
Results: Author: Minglu Zeng
Title: The Wonder of Encounters
Subtitle: A Collection of Short Stories
Category: Fiction

This book was selected as 2017 best award winner for adult works. The juvenile category was left blank.