

Congratulations Are in Order!

by Margaret D. Bauer, Editor

I begin with hearty congratulations to the North Carolina book award winners reviewed in this issue: Michael McFee has won his second Roanoke Chowan Award for Poetry, and Marjorie Hudson her first Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction. Next, kudos to Ashley Harris for publication of her second essay to receive Honorable Mention in our Alex Albright Creative Nonfiction Prize contest (her first was published in the [2023 Winter](#) issue; read another of her finalist essays in the 2024 print issue's feature section). Finally, congratulations, too, to the several returning finalists of our James Applewhite Poetry Prize contest, whose poems are published in this section.

A new finalist in this contest, Loss Pequeño Glazier, is included here, along with several reviews of books that hearken back to (in Glazier's case, both) Appalachian Literature (2010) and Literature and the Other Arts (2017). In the 2017 feature, we published an essay about the art that complements the creative writing in *NCLR*, and given this aspect of our award-winning design, I took notice when UNC Press released Liza Roberts's book, *Art of the State: Celebrating the Visual Art of North Carolina*. I appreciate Cameron Art Museum Director Heather D. Wilson – who has so often helped *NCLR* acquire images and permission to feature art from the Cameron – for extending her generosity with her time for *NCLR* by reviewing this book

for us. (Congratulations go to her as well on her still relatively new promotion to Director of this renowned Wilmington institution).

And there's more, including more congratulations: to longtime advocate for North Carolina writers Marsha White Warren for the North Carolina Award for Literature, and to writer, musician, artist, professor Clyde Edgerton for North Carolina Humanities' highest honor, the John Tyler Caldwell Award for the Humanities.

So what are you waiting for? Turn the page to read Ashley Harris's essay. Then on to the poetry and reviews. Please be sure to buy books from your local independent bookstore. And if your town doesn't have one, check out *NCLR*'s listings on Bookshop.org, which allows you to direct proceeds from your purchase to one of North Carolina's stellar stores. Find *NCLR* Digital Editor Devra Thomas's convenient listing of the books reviewed in this issue [here](#).

Addendum: This issue was complete and ready for final production before the passing of North Carolina literary icon Fred Chappell. To honor his memory with the time and space we need (and that he certainly earned), we will celebrate the life of Ole Fred later this year. In the meantime, find Fred Chappell content from our back issues shared via our social media and website postings. ■

