

Preface

The year 2002 marked the twenty-first year of the Alcuin Society's Annual Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada. Invitations were sent to 600 Canadian publishers to submit books published in Canada during 2002 with each title representing the exclusive work of a Canadian book designer(s). In the eight separate categories over 275 books were entered, approximately the same number as last year.

Judging took place at Simon Fraser University, Harbour Centre, on 26th April, 2003, when this year's judges, Sue Colberg, Sharon Romero and Randall Speller, met to select the prize winners. The principles of the judging are that each book must be judged as a total entity. The judges examine every aspect of each book including the dust jacket, binding, end papers, half-title page, copyright page, title page, page layout, typography, integration of illustrations, chapter openings, running heads, reproduction of illustrations, clarity of printing, and choice of paper.

The Alcuin Society is most grateful to all publishers who have submitted books. Without such co-operation the competition would not occur. A copy of each winning book is donated to Simon Fraser University's Canadian Centre for Continuing Studies in Publishing. Special thanks also to publishers of winning books who provide extra copies to the Alcuin Society for use in exhibitions held in various Canadian cities.

The judges volunteer their time and talent to the exacting task of examining all the books and eventually choosing winners. The Alcuin Society thanks them all, but particularly Randall Speller who has written the commentary for the winning entries.

Anne Yandle
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