

**Press Release**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
10/03/2011



On Saturday, Oct. 1 nearly 100 guests were in attendance at the 33rd Annual Thorpe Menn award luncheon, sponsored by American Association of University Women-Kansas City, Missouri Branch and the Kansas City Public Library. The event recognizes excellence in writing by Kansas City area authors.



(l-r) 2011 Award winner Christie Hodgen, keynote speaker Candice Millard and finalists Tasha Haas and Barbara Stuber.

The 2011 award was presented to:  
Christie Hodgen, *Elegies for the Brokenhearted*

The finalists for this year's award were:  
Tasha Haas, *Certain Dawn, Inevitable Dawn*  
Barbara Stuber, *Crossing the Tracks*

The award was initiated to honor Thorpe Menn's work for recognizing excellence in writing by a local author. As book editor of the *Kansas City Star*, Menn sought to encourage all aspects of Kansas City's cultural life—art, jazz, poetry and fiction.

Candice Millard, distinguished local author, delivered the keynote address, and captivated the audience with details about her new book, *The Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine & the Murder of a President*.

Books by the winner, finalists and speaker were available for purchase courtesy of Rainy Day Books and authors provided autographs following the event.

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**A CALL TO LOCAL AUTHORS!** Nominations for 2012 Thorpe Menn Award are now being accepted.  
The award includes \$500 and a name-engraved plaque. Books must have been published in 2011.  
For more information, please call Pam Chaudoin at 816-728-1304 or e-mail [pamelachaudoin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamelachaudoin@sbcglobal.net)