

Regina Brett

Regina Brett is a New York Times bestselling author and two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist for commentary. She writes an inspirational column for Ohio's largest newspaper, The Plain Dealer in Cleveland, and for the Cleveland Jewish News.

Her best-selling book, *God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours*, has been published in more than 24 languages. She also wrote, *Be the Miracle: 50 Lessons for Making the Impossible Possible*. Her latest book, *God Is Always Hiring: 50 Lessons for Finding Fulfilling Work*, was published in 2015. All three books are bestsellers in Poland.

An award-winning columnist, Regina was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in both 2008 and 2009. Her columns are tucked in wallets, pressed in Bibles, stuck under refrigerator magnets and emailed all over the country.

Regina won the prestigious National Headliner Award for columns she wrote about being diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998.

During her chemotherapy and radiation treatments, she shared extensively and candidly about her experience. The award put her in the company of past Headliner recipients, which include Mitch Albom, Anna Quindlen, Dave Barry, Leonard Pitts and Carl Hiaasen.

In 2009, Regina was inducted into the Press Club of Cleveland's Journalism Hall of Fame. She is also a past president of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

The single most popular column ever written by Regina was "50 Life Lessons," written for The Plain Dealer when she turned 50 years old in 2006. It was included in the book, "Deadline Artists: America's Greatest Newspaper Columns."

REGINA BRETT - MEDIA APPEARANCES: Regina has appeared on the Today Show on NBC, Oprah & Friends Radio and scores local television news shows and radio programs.

REGINA BRETT – TEACHER: Regina has taught feature writing and news writing at the University of Akron. She has also been a guest lecturer at John Carroll University, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, Kent State University and Ursuline College.

REGINA BRETT – WRITER: Regina has been writing professionally since 1986, when she covered city hall for The Lorain Journal. She then moved to The Beacon Journal in Akron, Ohio where she covered business news, social services, breaking news and wrote nearly 30 magazine stories for paper's Sunday magazine. She is the author of three books.

REGINA BRETT – INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER: Regina has given keynote presentations at hospitals, universities, churches, commencements, conferences, fundraisers and annual meetings. She inspires audiences to take the next right step, magnify the good, make peace with their past, say yes to life and be the miracle they want to see in the world. She is represented by Hachette Speakers Bureau.

REGINA BRETT – AWARD WINNER: Regina was one of three finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in commentary in both 2008 and 2009.

She won two first place National Headliner Awards, one for columns about her experience with breast cancer; the other detailing her family history with the same subject.

Regina won the prestigious Batten Medal in 1999, awarded by Knight-Ridder for lifetime achievement. The award is given to those who embody understanding, fairness, courage and a deep concern for the underdog.

The American Bar Association awarded Regina the organization's Silver Gavel award for her columns on Open Discovery. This particular award is given to media professionals who help foster the public's understanding of the law and legal system. The award to Regina was based numerous columns about how the restriction of Open Discovery rules, where prosecutors share police reports and records with defense attorneys, affected criminal cases in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court.

She also won a humor writing award from the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Regina has received numerous state and local awards.

The recipient of two Awards of Achievement from Northern Ohio Live, the magazine said that "Regina's column is the heart" of the paper and "represents the soul" of the community.

She received the Citizen of the Year award from the Ohio Library Council for her efforts to garner support for the Save Ohio Libraries campaign.

In 2009, the Press Club of Cleveland inducted her into the Journalism Hall of Fame.

REGINA BRETT – EDUCATION: Regina has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Kent State University and a master's degree in religious studies from John Carroll University.

REGINA BRETT – PERSONAL: Before her writing career, Regina worked as a waitress, emergency medical technician, alcoholism counselor, traffic court clerk and legal secretary. She is married and has a daughter, two stepsons and three grandchildren. She lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Regina can be reached through her website at www.reginabrett.com.