THE 2020 PATERSON POETRY PRIZE WINNER

JERICHO BROWN, The Tradition (Copper Canyon Press, Port Townsend, WA)

Jericcho Brown's book, The Tradition, is a brilliant and breathtaking exploration of contemporary life infused as it is with violence and fear, racism and terror, love and hate. In this book he interrogates his own past and memory to arrive at an understanding of what it is like to live as a black man in America and what it means to survive and overcome.

— Maria Mazziotti Gillan

FINALISTS

REGINALD DWAYNE BETTS, Felon (W. W. Norton & Company, New York, NY)

CARRIE CONNERS, Luscious Struggle (BrickHouse Books, Inc., Baltimore, MD)


MARTIN JUDE FARAWELL, Odd Boy (Sibling Rivalry Press, Little Rock, AR)

DORIANNE LAUX, Only As the Day Is Long: New and Selected Poems (W. W. Norton & Co., NY, NY)

VIVIAN SHIPLEY, An Archaeology of Days (Negative Capability Press, Mobile, AL)

MATTHEW THORBURN, The Grace of Distance: Poems (Louisiana State Univ. Press, Baton Rouge, LA)

The Paterson Poetry Prize of $1,000 is given annually by the Poetry Center to a book of poetry (48 pages or more) published in the previous year.

Submission deadline is February 1, 2021.

For 2021 award rules and application forms, visit www.poetrycenterpccc.com/awards/
Any questions, write to sdesai@pccc.edu.