

Yasnaya Polyana literature award announced 2016 winners with the support of Samsung

Moscow, November 2, 2016 – Awards ceremony of Yasnaya Polyana Award founded by Leo Tolstoy Museum-Estate and Samsung Electronics took place today.

Vladimir Makanin became the winner in the **“Modern Classics”** category. He receives a 1 500 000 rubles reward for his book **“Where the Sky meets hills”**.

For the first time in the Award’s history the jury chose two winners in the **“XXI century”** category: **Narine Abgaryan** with a short novel **“Three Apples Fell from the Sky”** and **Alexandr Grigorenko** with a short novel **“A blind man lost a life”**. The laureates shared a monetary award, each of them received 1 000 000 rubles.

The amount of the short list award fund is 1 000 000 rubles. It will be evenly distributed for the finalists, who did not become winners in the **“XXI century”** category:

1. Aflatuni Sukhbat. Generation of maguses. – M.: Ripol Classic, 2015
2. Minaev Boris. Soft fabric. First title: Batiste. Second title: Cloth. – M.: Vremya, 2016
3. Eisner Vladimir. Pomegranate island. – Spb: “Napisano perom”, 2015
4. Yusefovich Leonid. Winter road. – M.: “Oktyabr” Journal, №4, 5, 6, 2015

Marina Nefyodova became the winner in the **“Childhood. Adolescence. Youth”** for a book **“Forester and his nymph”** and received a 500 000 rubles monetary award.

The finalists in the category shared 300 000 rubles:

1. Moskvina Marina, Govorova Yulia. You, above all, write about love. – M.: Gayatri, 2016.
2. Yakovleva Yulia. Raven’s children. – M.: Samokat, 2016

Orhan Pamuk and his book **“A Strangeness in My Mind”** became the winner in the **“Foreign Literature”** category which chooses most important foreign books of XXI century and their translations into Russian language. He received 1 000 000 rubles. The book’s translator, **Appolinariya Avrutina**, received a 200 000 rubles prize.

Translators, foreign literature publishers, journalists and literature critics are the experts in the **“Foreign literature”** category. They suggested foreign language books that they consider important while the members of the Award’s jury chose the winner. The long list in the **“Foreign literature”** category was announced in March, 2016. A short list is not selected in this category.

A special Samsung prize **“Readers’ Choice”** was also presented. The winner of the prize – a trip for two to South Korea – is **Narine Abgaryan**, the author of **“Three Apples Fell from the Sky”** which was included in the short list of the **“XXI century”** category and obtained the largest number of votes in the open readers Internet voting on the LiveLib.ru recommendation service.

“Yasnaya Polyana literature award has indeed 14 years behind it. It has entire history behind it. Previous years’ winners are admirable and I am not ashamed of any of them. However we have never had such a wide choice as this year in the award’s timeline. All the authors are worth becoming laureates, and the long list in the **“Foreign Literature”** category may be considered as a landmark and a guide to the world literature”, – said Vladimir Tolstoy,

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Chairman of the jury of the Yasnaya Polyana literature award, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation on Cultural Matters.

“An award becomes genuinely popular not only because of estimations of the highly professional jury. I am really grateful to our partners – Samsung Electronics – for a special prize “Readers’ Choice” that is being given for two years by now. This year the readers’ opinion coincided with the jury’s one. LiveLib.ru users chose “Three Apples Fell from the Sky” – a novel by Narine Abgaryan”, – said Ekaterina Tolstaya, Director of the Leo Tolstoy museum - estate Yasnaya Polyana

“There is such kind of books that make you forget that you are a member of the jury, forget about long lists and short lists, forget that it’s summer – forget everything. And then you just feel thankful to the author for leading you to a wonderful world”, – said Alexey Varlamov, a member of the jury of the Yasnaya Polyana literature award, writer and researcher of the 20th-century literature

“It’s been 14 years since Yasnaya Polyana award has been drawing attention to the works of talented promising authors and real contemporary classics. We are proud that by supporting it from year to year we contribute to the development of great literary traditions in the context of modern Russia. Besides we are happy to help readers discover new masterpieces which for sure will become a part of our country’s rich cultural legacy. I congratulate winners and finalists of 2016 and wish them further creative success”, – commented Uitack Kim, President of Samsung Electronics CIS headquarters.

Yasnaya Polyana literature award was created by the Leo Tolstoy Museum-Estate and Samsung Electronics in 2003. Each year the Award is given to the authors whose works carry in themselves humanistic and moral ideals of Russian classics. The Award’s jury chooses best traditional form fiction books in the categories “Modern Classics”, “XXI century” and “Childhood. Adolescence. Youth” as well as in the “Foreign Literature” and “Readers’ Choice” categories introduced with support of Samsung in 2015. The total amount of the award fund is 7 000 000 rubles.

Today it is the largest annual literature award in Russia.

Central Russian State news agency TASS, Livelib.ru recommendation service – a platform for readers Internet voting, – and federal bookstores network Chitaj-gorod are the partners of Yasnaya Polyana award.

Detailed information is available on the award’s website www.yppremia.ru.

About the award:

Yasnaya Polyana literature award is the biggest annual literature award in Russia. It was created 14 years ago by the Leo Tolstoy Museum-Estate and Samsung Electronics. In the main category “XXI Century” Yasnaya Polyana award is given to the modern writers’ works that carry in themselves ideals of humanity, mercy and ethics. Guzel Iakhina, Evgenii Vodolazkin, Elena Katishonok, Mikhail Tarkovskii, Liudmila Saraskina, Zakhar Prilepin, Aleksei Ivanov became its winners at different times.

The award is also given in two additory categories. The “Foreign Literature” category chooses most important foreign books and their translations into Russian language. The “Childhood. Adolescence. Youth” category awards

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books, important for the time of growing up. In 2015 the award was given in the special Samsung “Readers’ Choice” category for the first time.

The total amount of the award fund has significantly increased in 2015 and is now 7 000 000 rubles. Here is how awards are allocated to the winners in the categories:

- Category “XXI Century” – 2 000 000 rubles
- Category “Modern Classics” – 1 500 000 rubles
- Category “Childhood. Adolescence. Youth” – 500 000 rubles
- Award fund for the short list finalists – 1 000 000 rubles
- Award fund for the “Childhood. Adolescence. Youth” category finalists – 300 000 rubles
- Award fund for category “Foreign Literature”: 1 000 000 rubles – a foreign writer winner, 200 000 rubles – the winner’s book translator into Russian language.

The jury of the award:

- **Anninskii Lev Aleksandrovich**, Soviet and Russian literary critic, writer, publicist, theorist of literature;
- **Basinskiy Pavel Valerevich**, Russian theorist of literature and literary critic;
- **Varlamov Alexey Nikolaevich**, writer and researcher of the 20th-century literature;
- **Vodolazkin Evgenii Germanovich**, writer, Doctor of Philology, Yasnaya Polyana literature award winner;
- **Kurbatov Valentin Iakovlevich**, writer, publicist, literary critic;
- **Otroshenko Vladislav Olegovich**, Russian writer and essayist, Yasnaya Polyana literature award winner;
- **Tolstoy Vladimir Ilich**, president of the jury, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation on Cultural Matters.

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Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. inspires the world and shapes the future with transformative ideas and technologies that redefine the worlds of TVs, smartphones, wearable devices, tablets, cameras, digital appliances, medical equipment, network systems, and semiconductor and LED solutions. The company is one of the leaders in the field of developments of the innovational industry Internet of Things, in particular through the implementation of the “Smart Home” and “Digital Health” concepts. We employ over 319,000 people across 84 countries with annual sales of US \$196 billion. To discover more, and for the latest news, feature articles and press material, please visit the Samsung Newsroom at news.samsung.com.

Samsung Electronics has been working in Russia for over 25 years. It has been actively participating in its social and cultural life. Samsung Electronics is the longest-standing official sponsor of the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre (since 1991), a partner of the State Hermitage (since 1997) and the Peterhof State Museum and Reserve (since 2013). Since 2003 in cooperation with Leo Tolstoy Yasnaya Polyana Museum-Estate Samsung is the co-founder of the Yasnaya Polyana annual Award. Samsung Electronics actively supports contemporary art exhibitions.

About Museum-Estate «Yasnaya Polyana»

The museum-estate “Yasnaya Polyana” is a unique memorial and nature reserve, the place where L.N. Tolstoy lived and worked. “Yasnaya Polyana” – is a large cultural center, where International writers’ meetings, International translators’ seminars of L.N. Tolstoy and other Russian writers, scientific/educational lectures in partnership with the “Prosvetitel” award, International art festival “Geniuses’ garden”, literature and art exhibits take place.