



THE UNITED CHAPTERS
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1984 PHI BETA KAPPA BOOK AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Washington, D.C., November 28 -- Phi Beta Kappa, the national scholarly honor society, will present its 1984 Book Awards at a dinner in Washington, D.C. on Friday, December 7. The Phi Beta Kappa Book Awards are made annually to outstanding books in the fields of literature, science and the social sciences. Authors to be honored this year are Irvin Ehrenpreis, for his book Swift: The Man, His Works, and the Age; George Greenstein for Frozen Star: Of Pulsars, Black Holes and the Fate of Stars; and David G. Roskies for Against the Apocalypse: Responses to Catastrophe in Modern Jewish Culture.

Irvin Ehrenpreis, Professor of English Literature at the University of Virginia, will receive the Christian Gauss Award for literary scholarship and criticism for the final volume of his trilogy Swift: The Man, His Works, and the Age, published by Harvard University Press. Ehrenpreis' account of the private, public and literary life of Jonathan Swift, the eighteenth century English satirist and churchman, most widely known as the author of Gulliver's Travels, has been described as magisterial, shrewd, spirited, and certain to remain "the most authoritative life of Swift ever written."

The Phi Beta Kappa Award in Science, presented for outstanding contributions by scientists to the literature of science, will be awarded to George Greenstein, an astrophysicist and Professor of Astronomy at Amherst College, for Frozen Star: Of Pulsars, Black Holes and the Fate of Stars. A dynamic, forceful and engaging book about the marvels of modern astrophysics, Frozen Star captures the fascinating, confused, and unplanned process by which real scientists make real discoveries. The book, published by Freundlich Books, also has been awarded the American Institute of Physics 1984 prize for the best book by a scientist.

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David G. Roskies, Associate Professor of Jewish Literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, will be honored as the winner of the 1984 Ralph Waldo Emerson Award for his book Against the Apocalypse: Responses to Catastrophe in Modern Jewish Culture, published by Harvard University Press. The Emerson Award recognizes outstanding studies of the intellectual and cultural condition of man. In Against the Apocalypse, Roskies writes of the long tradition of Jewish responses to suffering and persecution, taking as his focus the modern Jewish experience in eastern Europe. The book is an ambitious, serious and beautifully written study of an issue central to Jewish history and consciousness, with insights and messages worth pondering by everyone.

The Phi Beta Kappa Book Awards were established in the 1950s. Each award carries a \$2,500 prize, which goes to the winning author. The awarding of the Phi Beta Kappa Book Awards takes place each year at the society's annual Senate dinner, which will be held this year at Washington's Embassy Row Hotel.

The Phi Beta Kappa Book Awards are among the programs sponsored by Phi Beta Kappa to honor and encourage scholarship, scholarly writing and learning in the United States. Founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary, the organization today has chapters at 234 colleges and universities throughout the country, and its membership numbers more than 350,000. In addition to the Book Awards, the national organization, the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, sponsors visiting scholar, academic fellowship, and professorship programs and publishes The American Scholar, a quarterly magazine with articles on current affairs, culture, philosophy, science and the arts. The offices of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa are in Washington, D.C.

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