

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
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Paper Shadows: A Chinatown Childhood wins 2000 Staebler Award
\$3000 award for creative non-fiction will be presented to Wayson Choy on October 18

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WATERLOO (Ont.) – Wilfrid Laurier University today announced that *Paper Shadows: A Chinatown Childhood* has won the 2000 Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction. Author Wayson Choy will receive the award, which includes a \$3000 prize, during a public reading on October 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Laurier's Paul Martin Centre.

"The judges enjoyed this compassionate, honest, vivid mystery which really makes the community in which it is set come to life," explained award administrator Kathryn Wardropper. "We really considered it to be an outstanding example of the genre."

Though *Paper Shadows* (Viking Penguin) is currently shortlisted for the Vancouver City Book Award, the Staebler Award is Wayson's first national prize. *Shadow Child: An Apprenticeship in Love and Loss* by Beth Powning (Viking), *Always and After: A Memoir* by Ellen Stafford (Viking), *The Water In Between* by Kevin Patterson (Random House Canada) and *Wardlife: The Apprenticeship of a Young Writer as a Hospital Clerk* (Vehicule Press) joined the *Paper Shadows* on the Staebler shortlist.

The Edna Staebler Award for Creative Non-Fiction is the only award of its kind in Canada. Writer and journalist Edna Staebler established it in 1991 to recognize works of creative non-fiction, a genre she believes had been much neglected. The award seeks to support the work of a developing Canadian writer, based on a first or second published book, set in Canada and of Canadian significance.

Wilfrid Laurier University administers the \$3,000 award annually.