



WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2024

Media Contact:

Laura Sauser

Executive Director

Phone: 608-245-3640

Email: sauser@wisconsinlibraries.org

Wisconsin Library Association Announces 2024 Notable Wisconsin Author Awards

(Madison, Wisconsin) Authors Sandra Balzo and Patricia Skalka are the 2024 recipients of the Wisconsin Library Association's (WLA) Notable Wisconsin Authors Award.

The Notable Wisconsin Authors Award honors Wisconsin authors, past and present, for their literary contributions. WLA hopes to promote a greater awareness of the state's literary heritage through this recognition.

Author of the *Maggy Thorsen Mystery Series* among other titles, Sandra Balzo turned to mystery writing after twenty years in corporate public relations, event management and publicity in Wisconsin. Nominated for both Anthony and Macavity awards, Balzo's novels have received starred reviews from Kirkus and Booklist. In addition to her books, Balzo writes short stories, two of which have been published in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, winning the Macavity, Derringer and Robert L. Fish awards. A native of southeastern Wisconsin, Sandy now lives on the Central Coast of California. Learn more about her at SandraBalzo.com.

Skalka is the author of the popular *Dave Cubiak Door County Mystery Series*. She's won both the Midwest Book Award for Best Thriller/Mystery and the Edna Ferber Fiction Book Award. During the pandemic, USA Today named *Death Stalks Door County*, the first Cubiak mystery, as the book to represent Wisconsin in its special feature: "50 States/50 Books to Read." Skalka divides her time between Milwaukee and Door County, Wisconsin. Learn more about her at PatriciaSkalka.com.

The WLA Literary Awards Committee is very pleased to have selected Sandra Balzo and Patricia Skalka as this year's Notable Wisconsin Authors Award recipients. This annual award will be presented on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at the WLA Annual Conference at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

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About the Wisconsin Library Association

The Wisconsin Library Association is a professional organization representing all types of libraries – school, public, academic, and special. Its membership is comprised of librarians and support staff, library trustees, friends of libraries, and business vendors who advocate and work for the improvement of library services for all Wisconsin citizens.