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People & Places: Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award

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Posted: Sunday, October 25, 2015 12:00 am



Peggy V. Helmerich (center) is flanked by Lynda Brownson and Marcy Robinowitz, chairs of the 2015 Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award dinner, as they make plans for the event to honor journalist and historian Rick Atkinson. MATT BARNARD/Tulsa World

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AUTHOR

Rick Atkinson: The Pulitzer Prize winner is best known for the "Liberation Trilogy."

By JAMES D. WATTS JR. World Scene Writer | 0 comments

For 30 years, the Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award has brought to Tulsa some of the greatest writers of our time, from Nobel Prize winners such as Toni Morrison and Saul Bellow, iconic figures ranging from Norman Mailer and Ray Bradbury, John Updike and Eudora Welty, best-sellers such as John Le Carre, David McCullough and John Grisham, and international authors such as Ian McEwan and Kazuo Ishiguro.

This year's award, given annually by the Tulsa Library Trust, goes to Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Rick Atkinson, best known for the "Liberation Trilogy," chronicling the U.S. military's role in the liberation of Europe during World War II.

The Helmerich Award gives formal recognition, on behalf of the Tulsa County community, to internationally acclaimed authors who have written a distinguished body of work and made a major contribution to the field of literature and letters.

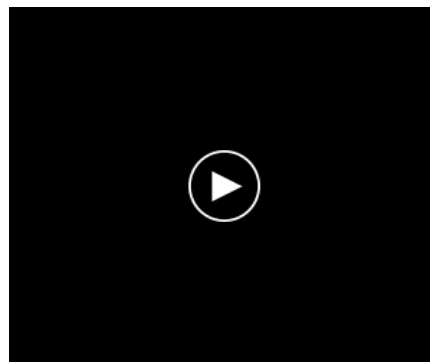
The award consists of a \$40,000 cash prize and an engraved crystal book and will be presented at a formal dinner at Southern Hills Country Club.

Atkinson will also take part in a free public event, where he will talk about his work and sign copies of his books, which include "The Long Gray Line," a narrative saga about the West Point class of 1966, and "Crusade," a narrative story of the Persian Gulf War. He also wrote "In the Company of Soldiers," an account of his time with Gen. David H.

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Event details: Public presentation, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 5 at the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd St. Award dinner, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at Southern Hills Country Club, 2636 E. 61st St.

Attire: Black tie

Tickets: \$175

To purchase: 918-549-7366

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