Author Gordon Korman to receive 2016 Zarrow Award - Tulsa World: Arts And Entertainment



Author Gordon Korman to receive 2016 Zarrow Award

■ The author will receive the award in Tulsa on May 6.





Novelist Gordon Korman is the 2016 recipient of the Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature. Courtesy

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

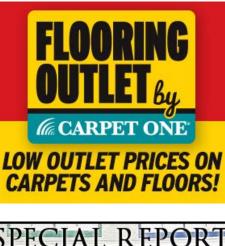
Gordon Korman, who began his literary career when he was 12 years old, is the winner of the Tulsa Library Trust's 2016 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature.

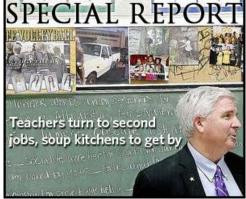
Korman, who has gone on to publish more than 80 books for young readers, will receive the award at a public presentation May 6 at Hardesty Regional Library's Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St. He also will present awards to winners of the 2016 Young People's Creative Writing Contest awards at the ceremony.

The Canadian-born author wrote his first book as a project for his creative writing class when he was in the seventh grade. He sent the manuscript off to Scholastic Corporation and "This Can't Be Happening At McDonald Hall" was published.

"It was a totally flukey and random way to launch a publishing career, but here's the thing: It worked," Korman writes on his website.

In a career spanning nearly four decades, his books have been translated into more than 20 languages and have sold more than 25





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million copies. In 1981, he was awarded the Most Promising Writer Under 35 by the Canadian Authors' Association. His latest book, "Masterminds," was released in 2015 and is the first in a new trilogy he is writing.

He is the New York Times bestselling author of three books in "The 39 Clues" series, as well as five books in his "Swindle" series. He also has written the trilogies "Island,"

"Everest," "Kidnapped" and "Titanic," as well as the series "On The Run."

In 2013, Nickelodeon produced an original movie based on Korman's book "Swindle," the first book in the series. After accidentally selling a valuable multimillion-dollar baseball card, a high school student enlists the help of his trusted friends to retrieve the baseball card from an unscrupulous collectible dealer.

The Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature gives formal recognition, on behalf of the Tulsa County community, to a nationally acclaimed author who has made a significant contribution to the field of literature for young adults. The award, presented by the Tulsa Library Trust, consists of a \$7,500 cash prize and an engraved crystal book.

Teachers for grades fifth through ninth in Tulsa County schools can prepare for Korman's visit by participating in the "Mr. Henry's Books Teacher Workshop," set 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 24 at Hardesty Regional Library.

Participants will enjoy a continental breakfast, receive 50 copies of Korman's "No More Dead Dogs," hear inspirational and educational speakers and get lesson plans on how to use the works of Korman for a variety of school subjects. One participant will win a visit from Korman to his or her classroom on May 6.

"Mr. Henry's Books" is a program of the Tulsa City-County Library, sponsored by the Tulsa Library Trust, made possible by a grant from the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation.

Registration is \$10 and must be received by Oct. 17. Call TulsaKids Magazine at 918-582-8504 for information on registration.

For more information on the Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature, call 918-549-7323 or go to <u>tulsalibrary.org</u>.

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