

The John Burroughs Association, Inc.

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For Immediate Release

February 24, 2009

Department of Communications

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Confluence: Merrymeeting Bay

(Tilbury House, 2006)

Wins

Burroughs 2009 Medal Award

The John Burroughs Association, founded and headquartered at the American Museum of Natural History, announces the winner of its Annual Medal Award in existence for 83 years for outstanding natural history writing. In *Confluence: Merrymeeting Bay*, Franklin Burroughs, reflects on the human and natural history of the bay with insightful observations of its wild nature, scenic beauty, and the people who inhabit it. He is being acknowledged as one of our strongest winners for his excellence in the tradition of the genre of nature essay-writing, which John Burroughs perfected.

Franklin Burroughs is the author of *The River Home: A Return to the Low Country*, and *Billy Watson's Croker Sack*. His essays have appeared in a variety of literary quarterlies and have been reprinted in such collections as *Best American Essays*, *The Pushcart*

Anthology, and *The Norton anthology of Nature Writing*.

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Along with Franklin Burroughs, Heather Perry is the photographer who has depicted the rich life of Merrymeeting Bay. She holds a degree in biology and her work has appeared in *Ocean Navigator*, *Maine Times*, *Trout*, *Atlantic Salmon*, *Dive International* (UK), *Le Monde* (Paris), and *Georama Experiment* (Greece). Her stock imagery collection is currently represented by National Geographic Image Collection. www.heatherperryphoto.com.

The John Burroughs Medal has been given annually since 1926 for a book that combines scientific accuracy, firsthand fieldwork, and creative natural history writing in the United States. Past Burroughs medallists include Rachel Carson, Joseph Wood Krutch, Loren Eiseley, Paul Brooks, John Hay, Ann Zwinger, Barry Lopez, Gary Nabhan, Robert Pyle, Richard Nelson, Carl Safina, Ted Levin, Jan Deblieu, and Julia Whitty.

The award is bestowed at the annual meeting of the Burroughs Association at a ceremony and luncheon that will be held at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

The John Burroughs Association, a membership organization of conservation and environmental literary professionals and stewards dedicated to preserving the environment, gives the Medal award that encourages writing in the Burroughs tradition and maintains sites associated with the famous naturalist John Burroughs. The Association publishes the newsletter, *Wake~Robin*.

The reservations-only luncheon will be held on Monday, April 6, at the American Museum of Natural History. For more information about the Association, and/or a web listing of medallists, visit our website at www.research.amnh.org/burroughs.

For reservations, please contact Lisa Breslof at 212-769-5169 and to arrange an interview with Franklin Burroughs or Heather Perry or to receive a review copy, contact Tilbury House Publishers.

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