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EMBARGOED UNTIL THE 2014 CHRISTY AWARDS PRESENTATION CONCLUDES

15TH ANNUAL CHRISTY AWARDS PRESENTED IN ATLANTA ***Burning Sky* by Lori Benton 3-Time Winner**

ATLANTA—The fifteenth annual presentation of the Christy Awards honoring and promoting excellence in Christian fiction were presented at the Atlanta Marriot Marquis tonight.

The 2014 Christy Awards featured a keynote address from Marcia Z. Nelson, associate religion editor at *Publishers Weekly*, where her duties include reviewing Christian fiction. Celebrated author Davis Bunn emceed the event and was himself inducted into the Christy Hall of Fame in honor of his having won four Christy Awards.

For the second time in as many years, the Christy for Book of the Year—which debuted in 2013 and showcases the novel that had the greatest impact when placed against a set of criteria that includes literary quality, sales, and life impact—was awarded to a first-time author. The 2014 Christy Book of the Year is *Burning Sky* by Lori Benton (WaterBrook Multnomah). Benton also received the Christy in the First Novel and Historical categories.

The Christy Advisory Board is happy to announce the complete list of 2014 Christy Award winners.

- **Book of the Year:** *Burning Sky* by Lori Benton (WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group)
- **Contemporary:** *Stones for Bread* by Christa Parrish (Thomas Nelson, a division of Harper Collins Christian Publishing)
- **Contemporary Romance/Suspense:** *Dangerous Passage* by Lisa Harris (Revell, a division of Baker Publishing Group)
- **Contemporary Series:** *Take a Chance on Me* by Susan May Warren (Tyndale House Publishers)
- **First Novel:** *Burning Sky* by Lori Benton (WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group)
- **Historical:** *Burning Sky* by Lori Benton (WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group)
- **Historical Romance:** *Harvest of Gold* by Tessa Afshar (River North, an imprint of Moody Publishing)
- **Suspense:** *Outlaw* by Ted Dekker (FaithWords, a division of Hachette Book Group)
- **Visionary:** *Dragonwitch* by Anne Elisabeth Stengl (Bethany House Publishers, a division of Baker Publishing Group)
- **Christy Award Hall of Fame Inductee:** Davis Bunn (4 Christys)

The Christy Awards are online at:

www.ChristyAwards.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChristyAward
Twitter: www.twitter.com/ChristyAward

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