

International Society for Contemporary Legend Research

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2026 Call for Prize Nominations

The Brian McConnell Book Award

The **International Society for Contemporary Legend Research** has established an annual book prize in honor of Brian McConnell. The purpose of the award is to encourage scholarship in the field of Contemporary Legend, to recognize and inspire standards of excellence in Contemporary Legend publications and to commemorate the life and work of Brian McConnell, a long-time member of ISCLR, celebrated crime reporter, author and legend scholar.

The prize is for a book receiving its first publication in the period 1st April 2024 to the following 31st March 2025, for award the following summer 2026. Eligible books include original material or new scholarly editions of previously published texts, but excludes reprints. Legend casebooks sponsored by ISCLR are not eligible.

Three copies of each book submitted for the award should reach the judges by **April 10, 2026**. Books submitted for the award will not be returned. The award winner will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of ISCLR (June 5, 2026). The main prize will be the award itself, but the winning author (or authors) will also be presented with a check for \$250 (USD).

There will be three judges appointed by the Society's Council. The judges may, at their discretion, consider books which have not been formally submitted for the prize. The winning book will be that which, in the opinion of the judges made the most distinguished contribution to the study of Contemporary Legend in the year in question.

Books to be considered for the McConnell Award should be sent in triplicate to:

Virginia Siegel
University of Arkansas Libraries
MULN 131C
365 North McIlroy Avenue
Fayetteville, AR 72701
USA

Please contact Virginia Siegel with any questions: secretary@contemporarylegend.org