The winners of this year's John W. Campbell Memorial Award for the best science fiction novel, and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award for the best short SF, have been revealed, announced Chris McKitterick, Director of the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction. The honors were presented on Friday, June 13, during the Campbell Conference Awards Banquet, held annually at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Sarah Pinsker won the Sturgeon Award for her story "In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind." Ms. Pinsker was present to accept her award in person, and read "A Stretch of Highway Two Lanes Wide" on Sunday. Second place went to Robert Reed for "Mystic Falls." Vylar Kaftan took third with "The Weight of the Sunrise." The Sturgeon Award was established in 1987 by James Gunn, the Center's Founding Director, and Sturgeon's heirs, including his children and partner Jayne Engelhart Tannehill, as memorial to one of the great short-story writers in a field distinguished by its short fiction.

Marcel Theroux won the Campbell Award for his novel Strange Bodies. Mr. Theroux was unable to attend the ceremony but provided a video of his acceptance speech. Second place went to Paul McAuley's Evening's Empires. Linda Nagata took third for The Red: First Light. Writers and critics Harry Harrison and Brian W. Aldiss established the Campbell Award to honor the late editor of Astounding Science Fiction magazine (later named Analog) to continue his efforts to encourage writers to produce their best possible work. Campbell, who edited the magazine from 1937 until his death in 1971, is called by many the father of modern science fiction.

Other Conference events included a discussion of "Science Fiction and the Real World," a mass signing, readings in honor of Frederik Pohl, receptions, a film screening, other discussions and readings, and an informal "Science Fiction Sunday" event at a local home.

Congratulations to the honorees! Much appreciation to all who participated, and thanks to the winners for providing us with such fine reading - Ad Astra!