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for immediate release

Finalists for this year's [John W. Campbell Memorial Award](#) for best science fiction novel have been selected, announced Chris McKitterick, director of the [Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction](#). The awards will be presented during the [Campbell Conference Award Banquet](#) on Friday, June 28.

### Finalists for the 2019 John W. Campbell Memorial Award

<a href="#">Semiosis</a>	Sue Burke
<a href="#">A Spy in Time</a>	Imraan Coovadia
<a href="#">The Calculating Stars</a>	Mary Robinette Kowal
<a href="#">Time Was</a>	Ian McDonald
<a href="#">Blackfish City</a>	Sam J. Miller
<a href="#">Moon of the Crusted Snow</a>	Waubgeshig Rice
<a href="#">Theory of Bastards</a>	Audrey Schulman
<a href="#">Unholy Land</a>	Lavie Tidhar
<a href="#">Space Opera</a>	Catherynne M. Valente
<a href="#">The Freeze-Frame Revolution</a>	Peter Watts
<a href="#">The Loosening Skin</a>	Aliya Whiteley

The [Campbell Award](#) is one of the top annual awards for science fiction, and its [finalist lists](#) have been called the "gold standard" in science fiction. Harry Harrison and Brian Aldiss established the award to honor the late editor of *Astounding Science Fiction* magazine (now *Analog*), and continue his efforts to encourage writers to produce their best work. Many consider Campbell – who edited the magazine and guided its authors from 1937 until his death in 1971 – the father of modern SF. This year's jury included Gregory Benford, Sheila Finch, Elizabeth Anne Hull, Paul Kincaid, McKitterick, Pamela Sargent, and Lisa Yaszek.

The [Center](#) has hosted the [Campbell Conference](#) each year since 1978, usually in Lawrence, Kansas. It includes a Friday-evening banquet where the annual [Theodore A. Sturgeon](#) and [Campbell](#) awards are presented; discussions and presentations with scholars, scientists, and writers of science fiction; and other events.

The Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction is an educational, scholarly, and outreach organization housed at the University of Kansas.  
Wescoe Hall | 1445 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 3040 | Lawrence, KS 66045 | (785) 864-2518 | Fax (785) 864-1159

[sfcenter.ku.edu](http://sfcenter.ku.edu)