

National Association of Real Estate Editors Announces 2017 Robert Bruss Real Estate Book Award Winners



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DENVER – (June 17, 2017) The National Association of Real Estate Editors (NAREE) has named the winners of the Tenth Annual Robert Bruss Real Estate Book Competition. The awards recognize excellence in books published in 2016 covering the broad field of real estate.

Author Hugh F. Kelly won the first place Gold Award in the Bruss competition for his book: “24-Hour Cities: Real Investment Performance, Not Just Promises,” published by Routledge. NAREE’s judges commented that this “highly readable” book is “fascinating for anyone who loves cities and wants to understand them.” One judge commented “Kelly has the ability — like an artist who under paints cheekbones to begin a portrait — to convey underlying factors which affect local economies.”

Dylan Chalk took the Bruss Silver Award for his book, “The Confident House Hunter: A Home Inspector’s Tips for Finding Your Perfect House,” published by Cedar Fort, Inc. Chalk used an “innovative approach to organize and evaluate home systems,” commented the judges. The judges also noted that the book offers “clear and helpful advice for anyone examining a home.”

The Bronze Award went to Sheri Koonen, for “Prefabulous Small Houses,” published by Taunton Press. Judges commented that the book contains, “valuable information beautifully presented” and that “anyone — of any age — thinking about downsizing would appreciate this book.”

Winner of the Leigh Robinson Best New Author Award was Ben Bowman for his book, “Beat the Lease: Real Estate Investing and the Art of Folding Burden into Abundance,” published by Assets & Architects. Judges commented the book contains “valuable tips” and that the author “goes beyond ‘the usual suspects’ of concepts and leads the reader toward the basis for decision-making in any field.”

NAREE’s esteemed panel of judges has many decades of experience as editors. Allen Norwood is a freelance journalist and retired homes editor of the Charlotte Observer; Christina Farnsworth is a freelance journalist with more than 20 years experience covering the “green” shelter industry; and Stephanie Murphy Lupo is the author of several books and former newspaper editor, columnist and writer for the Palm Beach Daily News and Boca Raton News.

NAREE’s Bruss Book Awards program is named for the late Robert Bruss, syndicated real estate columnist, prolific writer and a longtime NAREE leader. Bruss, who died in 2007, frequently wrote reviews of realty books.

