Through a generous gift from Wayne and Shirley Wiegand the
The H. Roland and Norma Abitz Endowment Fund was established
to support "The Abitz Family Dinner," an annual event to honor
the recipients of the Florida Book Awards.

This gift honors Shirley Wiegand’s parents: H. Roland and Norma Abitz,
and serves as a lasting testimonial to their appreciation for the value of
reading. “The Abitz Family Dinner honors the love of reading they
instilled in me,” said Shirley Wiegand. “Mom and Dad always encouraged
me and my sisters to read, and visits to our local public library were a
weekly routine.” There is one catch though, the Abitz Family Dinner must
honor the longstanding Abitz family tradition of serving ice cream.
“The Abitz family loved ice cream,” said Wayne Wiegand, “and Rollie
and Norma Abitz taught me the meaning of family love, much of it
on display at evening family dinners I was privileged to attend.”
WELCOME....................Julia Zimmerman, Dean of University Libraries

ABITZ FAMILY DINNER.............With comments by Wayne Wiegand

AWARDS PRESENTATION............Julia Zimmerman and Gloria Colvin

Children’s Literature.................Marsha Gontarski, FBA Juror
    Gold: Nancy Cavanaugh
    Silver: Dianne Ochiltree
    Bronze: Marianne Berkes*

Young Adult Literature
    Gold: Rick Yancey
    Silver: Mary Lois Sanders

Florida Nonfiction..................Wayne Wiegand, FBA Board
    Gold: Henry Knight
    Silver: Daniel Schafer
    Bronze: Nathaniel Millett*

General Nonfiction
    Gold: Tom Williams
    Silver: Dave Horner
    Bronze: Bruce Gamble

General Fiction........................Gloria Colvin, FBA Board
    Gold: Randy Wayne White*
    Silver: Laura Lee Smith
    Bronze: Steven Locklin

Popular Fiction
    Gold: John Tkac
    Silver: Brad Meltzer*
    Bronze: Alex Kava*

Poetry
    Gold: Craig Blais
    Silver: David Kirby
    Bronze: Terry Ann Thaxton*

Spanish Language........................Lester Abberger, FBA Board
    Gold: Manuel Lopez

Visual Arts
    Gold: Jerald T. Milanich* and Nina J. Root*
    Silver: Carlton Ward, Jr.*
    Bronze: Rick Kilby

Recognition of Janet Burroway
    Recipient of the Florida Lifetime Literary Achievement Award

CLOSING.................................................Kris Harper, FBA Board

BOOK SIGNING

*Awarded in absentia