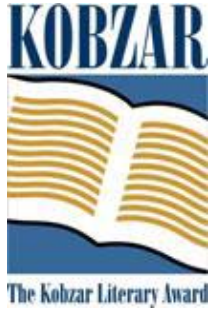


## MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



### **Laura Langston, Danny Schur Named Co-Recipients of \$25,000 Kobzar Literary Award**

TORONTO (March 2, 2006) – Laura Langston, author of the acclaimed novel *Lesia's Dream*, and Danny Schur, who composed and produced *Strike! – The Musical*, were named co-recipients of the \$25,000 Kobzar Literary Award at the inaugural dinner and ceremony Thursday night in Toronto.

Langston, of Victoria, BC, and Schur, of Winnipeg, accepted the award presented by Andrew Hladyshevsky, President of the Shevchenko Foundation, sponsor of the Award. Langston and Schur will share the \$25,000 award prize.

In *Lesia's Dream*, Langston tells the moving story of a young girl and her family who flee their ancestral European homeland for a promise of 160 acres of free land and a new beginning amid the harsh physical and social realities of life on the Canadian prairies in the early-20<sup>th</sup> century.

*Strike! – The Musical* is the compelling stage re-enactment of one of Canada's most infamous political disturbances – the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. Revolution, it was thought at the time, had been imported from Eastern Europe and taken root in the Manitoba capital.

The Kobzar Literary Award recognizes outstanding contributions to Canadian literary arts through the author or writer's presentation of a Ukrainian Canadian theme with literary merit. Categories include: literary non-fiction, fiction, young people's literature, poetry, plays, screenplays or musicals. The next Kobzar Literary Award will be announced in March 2008.

Thursday night's ceremony at Toronto's Eglinton Grand was attended by more than 270, and included the presence of the Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson and the Hon. Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, honorary patrons of the Award.

Other finalists for the Kobzar Literary Award 2006 included Lisa Grekul, of Kelowna, BC, for her novel *Kalyna's Song*, and author Larry Warwaruk, of Outlook, Sask., for *Andrei and the Snow Walker*.

The four-member judging panel was composed of writer Myrna Kostash, actor-director Mieko Ouchi, CBC broadcaster Bill Richardson, and journalist-author Antanas Sileika of the Humber School of Writers.

More information:

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