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## *Oxford American* wins 2016 National Magazine Award for General Excellence in the Literature, Science and Politics category

LITTLE ROCK, AR — The *Oxford American*, “A Magazine of the South,” was named winner of the 2016 National Magazine Award for General Excellence in the category of Literature, Science and Politics. Editor **Eliza Borné** accepted the award at the American Society of Magazine Editors’ annual awards dinner at the Grand Hyatt in New York. This is the magazine’s first win for General Excellence in its twenty-four-year history. The prize represents the highest honor in the magazine industry, and winners receive a brushed-gold metal stabile resembling an elephant, known as an Ellie, designed by Alexander Calder.

“This award is a tribute to the vast talents of our entire staff, and the many writers and artists who contributed to the *Oxford American* in 2015,” said Borné, who was named interim editor after **Roger D. Hodge**’s departure in June then promoted to editor in October.

The award recognized the *Oxford American*’s Spring, Summer, and Fall 2015 issues. In that period, the magazine published groundbreaking work in many genres: an epic poem by National Book Award–winner Nikky Finney; reportage by Justin Nobel, who walked the path of a deadly 2011 tornado; Jonathan Blitzer’s deep profile of a transgender drug counselor from the U.S.-Mexico border; a special section on Southern food guest-edited by John T. Edge; a fiction issue guest-edited by Jamie Quatro; and much more.

The award recognizes editorial and visual excellence, and judges evaluate web content in addition to the print magazine. **Tom Martin** is the *Oxford American*’s art director. The magazine’s website, OxfordAmerican.org, was redesigned in January 2015.

Other finalists for General Excellence in the category included *Aperture*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Nautilus*, *Poetry*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*. This is the *Oxford American*’s fourth National Magazine Award; the OA won in the Single-Topic Issue category in 1999 and 2004, and in the Video category in 2011.

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### ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

The *Oxford American* is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization and national magazine dedicated to featuring the very best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. Billed as “A Magazine of the South,” it has won four National Magazine Awards and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has featured the original work of such literary powerhouses as Charles Portis, Roy Blount, Jr., ZZ Packer, Donna Tartt, Ernest J. Gaines, and many other distinguished authors, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. In 2007, *The New York Times* stated that the *Oxford American* “may be the liveliest literary magazine in America.” The OA is published in affiliation with University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit OxfordAmerican.org.

### ABOUT THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE AWARDS

The National Magazine Awards honor print and digital publications that consistently demonstrate superior execution of editorial objectives, innovative techniques, noteworthy journalistic enterprise and imaginative art direction. Established in 1966, the awards are sponsored by the American Society of Magazine Editors in association with the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and are administered by ASME.