

**AUTHOR MARK DAVID GERSON SCORES SILVER MEDAL WIN  
IN INDEPENDENT PUBLISHER BOOK AWARDS*****The Voice of the Muse* Named a Top Writing Book of 2009**

Mark David Gerson's *The Voice of the Muse: Answering the Call to Write* was named one of the top writing books of the year on May 29 in the Independent Publisher Book Awards, also known as the IPPYs. Gerson's Silver Medal in the "writing/publishing" category was awarded in New York in conjunction with BookExpo America, the U.S. book industry's premier trade show.

The 2009 competition, the 13th for the Independent Publisher Book Awards, attracted more than 4,000 entries from the U.S., Canada and 10 other English-speaking countries and included winners published by Yale University Press and Kent State University Press.

"The excellence of the books was amazing and made judging very difficult," said Jim Barnes, one of the organizers. "The independent spirit of publishing is alive and well, as demonstrated by the creativity, originality and courageous spirit these books display."

This was Gerson's second IPPY. He won a gold medal last year for his novel, *The MoonQuest: A True Fantasy*, which continues to win awards in New Mexico and nationally. His screenplay adaptation of the book is currently in active development toward feature production.

*The Voice of the Muse*, distilled from Gerson's 33 years as a professional writer/editor and 16 years as a writing teacher and coach, is a dynamic blend of inspiration and instruction for anyone in any genre seeking to write more effortlessly, flowingly and engagingly. It has been likened to such classics in the genre as Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*, Natalie Goldberg's *Writing Down the Bones* and Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird*.

Lauded by critics as "the wise guide any writer would dream of" and a "phenomenal guide to overcoming writer's block and unleashing your creative potential," *The Voice of the Muse* has been equally praised by novice and published authors alike.

Gerson has also recorded *The Voice of the Muse Companion: Guided Meditations for Writers*, a two-CD set that includes powerful exercises to free up and deepen creative flow. It's sold separately from the book.

Both Gerson's books are available from Amazon.com and other online retailers, from the publisher at lightlinesmedia.com and at selected U.S. retailers. The CD is available from LightLines Media and Amazon.

Mark David Gerson lives in Albuquerque, NM, where he's currently working on a sequel to *The MoonQuest*.

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***THE VOICE OF THE MUSE: Answering the Call to Write***

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