The Poetry Center at Passaic County College awarded the $1,000 annual Paterson Fiction Prize for 2009 to Debra Dean of Coral Gables, Florida for her book *Confessions of a Falling Woman* (Harper Perennial, New York, NY). Judges described Dean’s book as “riveting, surprising, serious, and ironic,” and remarked, “*Confessions of a Falling Woman* by Debra Dean is an unforgettable journey. Her clear and unflinching voice has, at its root, tenderness.”

2009 Finalists

*Blind Speed* by Josh Barkan of New York, New York  
(Northwestern University Press, Evanston, IL)

*Jazz and Twelve O’Clock Tales* by Wanda Coleman of Marina Del Ray, California  
(Black Sparrow Books, Boston, MA)

*She Was* by Janis Hallowell of Boulder, Colorado  
(Harper Collins, New York, NY);  

*Little Lost River: A Novel* by Pamela Johnston of Universal City, Texas  
(University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV);

*Water: Nine Stories* by Alyce Miller, of Bloomington, Indiana  
(Sarabande Books, Inc., Louisville, KY);

*In The Mouth: Stories and Novellas* by Eileen Pollack, New York, New York  
(Four Way Books, New York, NY);

*The Theory of Light & Matter* by Andrew Porter of San Antonio, Texas  
(The University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA).

The Paterson Fiction Prize is awarded annually by the Poetry Center for a novel or collection of short stories published in the previous year. To receive rules and an application form for the 2010 Paterson Fiction Prize, please send SASE to Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Executive Director, The Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College, 1 College Blvd, Paterson, NJ, 07505-1179, or visit [www.pccc.edu/poetry](http://www.pccc.edu/poetry).

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