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**For Immediate Release**

April 10, 2025

**Julie Navickas Wins First Place for the Book *Chasing Love*  
at the BookFest® Awards Spring 2025**

Bloomington, ILL—Julie Navickas is a first place recipient at The BookFest Awards Spring 2025 for the book titled *Chasing Love*. The book is honored in the contemporary romance category.

The BookFest honors authors who create outstanding works of fiction and nonfiction. The BookFest's dedication to honoring authors is rooted in a belief in the transformative power of literature and a desire to support and celebrate those who create it.

Desireé Duffy, Founder of The BookFest, says, "It is important to recognize authors for the role they play in creating and sharing stories that entertain, educate, and inspire readers. Books transport us to new worlds, broaden perspectives, and foster empathy. As the Founder of The BookFest, I believe that by saluting authors and their literary achievements we elevate the importance of literature in our society."

Navickas says, "Being selected as a winner of The BookFest Awards is an incredible honor—especially for a sixth time! *I Loved You Yesterday, I Love You Today, I'll Love You Tomorrow, Trusting Love* and *Finding Love* have been past recipients as well. I am grateful to be recognized for the hard work and dedication that went into all my titles. I hope this award will inspire others to pursue their own literary passions."

Desireé Duffy, Founder of The BookFest, says, "This year's competition was particularly fierce, and Navickas should be very proud of this achievement."

For more information about The BookFest Awards and to see the list of winners, please visit the [Awards Page](#) on The BookFest website. To watch the Salute to The BookFest Award Winners video montage, or to see recordings of The BookFest videos, please visit the [Programming Page](#) of The BookFest website.

Navickas' books can be purchased on [Amazon](#) and other major retailers. More information about Julie Navickas can be found at [www.authorjulienavickas.com](http://www.authorjulienavickas.com) and in her [digital press kit](#).

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**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Julie Navickas** is a best-selling author of contemporary romance with Inkspell Publishing.

She is known for her keen ability to tell heart-wrenching, second-chance love stories through relatable characters with humility, humor, and heroism. Her Trading Heartbeats trilogy is the recipient of a Literary Global Book Award and five first-place wins with the BookFest in the contemporary romance category.



Her debut trilogy has also earned three finalist designations with the American Writing Awards and a Clarion Award.

Julie is an award-winning university instructor in the School of Communication at Illinois State University and works in corporate communications at COUNTRY Financial. She has earned master's degrees in both organizational communication and English studies, as well as a bachelor's degree in public relations.

### **ABOUT THE BOOKFEST®**

The BookFest is the leader in virtual literary events and produces vital conversations on the world's stage for those who love to read, and those who love to write. It launched May 2020 at a time when lockdown forced many live events to be canceled. Free to attend, the biannual event happens in the spring and fall, and streams panel discussions, conversations, and live interactive sessions. As an award winner, The BookFest has recognitions from the Webby Awards with a nomination in 2021, a gold award from the Muse Creative Awards in 2020, and a silver award from the w3 Awards in 2020. The BookFest features an array of literary speakers, experts, and authors, which has included: Mitch Albom; Kevin J. Anderson; Angela Bole; Mark Coker; Robert G. Diforio; Cheryl Willis Hudson; Wade Hudson; Sarah Kendzior; Jonathan Maberry; Lisa Morton; Karla Olson; James Rollins; Connie Schultz; Michael Shermer; Mark K. Shriver; Danny Trejo; Helene Wecker; Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, and many others. The BookFest is presented by Books That Make You and produced by Black Château Enterprises. The BookFest is a registered trademark of Desireé Duffy, who is the founder of all three. For more information, visit [The BookFest.com](https://www.thebookfest.com).