

SIMON NEWCOMB AWARD - BETTY R. ROBINSON

Betty Robinson has dedicated her career to spreading scientific knowledge, particularly the science of astronomy. As a professional educational science editor and writer, Betty has worked on many publications on astronomy for major educational publishers. She is also writing a series of STEM books for girls, following the adventures of a young science enthusiast named Elizabeth -- two of which are about astronomy.

Betty's most recent Elizabeth book was about the April 8, 2024, total solar eclipse: *Elizabeth's First Total Solar Eclipse*. In addition to informing readers about what happens during an eclipse, this book focused on the eclipse path through Canada. Betty also wrote *Elizabeth's Guide to Watching a Total Solar Eclipse*, which is a free handbook describing how anyone can be a citizen scientist and make real scientific observations and data recordings during a total solar eclipse. *Elizabeth's First Total Solar Eclipse* quickly sold out on the RASC's online shop. Her first Elizabeth book was about the technology that has to be in place in order for people to visit Mars: *Elizabeth Goes to Mars!*

When the Province of Ontario issued a new science curriculum in 2022, Nelson Education contracted Betty to write the Ontario Grade 6 Space unit for their Edwin platform, as well the Alberta Grades 4, 5, and 6 Space units.

Betty has also written two science readers for Rubicon Publishing: *Earth's Patterns and Space* and *Waves and Information*. In her role as a skilled book editor, Betty has helped many other writers clearly explain scientific concepts to their readers.

For all of the above, especially for *Elizabeth's First Total Solar Eclipse* and the free eclipse handbook, we nominate Betty R. Robinson for the 2025 Simon Newcomb Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Gainor, Victoria Centre
Lauri Roche, Victoria Centre