

## Local Author Honored in 2017 Indie Book Awards

*Talk Matters! Saving the World One Word at a Time* by Arcata resident Mary V. Gelinias was named one of the best indie books of 2017 by the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group.

Gelinias' book was a finalist of the General Non-Fiction Category in the 2017 Next Generation Indie Book Awards program for independent publishers and self-published authors.

Gelinias is a co-director of the Cascadia Center for Leadership, a program of the Humboldt Area Foundation dedicated to developing the skills of leaders in the region. She is also the managing director of Gelinias James, Inc. that provides consulting, training, facilitation and coaching services to leaders and organizations in all sectors locally, nationally and internationally.

Steve O'Meara, President and Founder of Kokatat, said, "*Talk Matters!* brings to the world what Mary Gelinias has been bringing to my company for decades: increased ability for leaders to have honest, frank conversations that result in stronger relationships and good decisions."

In her testimonial about the book, Dr. Lisa Rossbacher, President of Humboldt State University, wrote, "Dr. Mary Gelinias does an outstanding job of integrating multiple viewpoints about how we can all communicate, work, and solve problems together. This book will be valuable to anyone who wants stronger results from meetings, conversations, and any interactions with other people."

Leaders of the indie book publishing industry, including many with long careers at major publishing houses, judge the awards. The indies include: small presses, larger independent publishers, university presses, e-book publishers, and self-published authors. Catherine Goulet, Co-Chair of the 2017 awards proudly noted, "Our program has become known as the *Sundance* of the book publishing world."

*Talk Matters!* is available from most online book retailers and from Friesen Press. Readers can also find it locally at Blake's Books in McKinleyville, Booklegger in Eureka, and Northtown Books in Arcata.

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