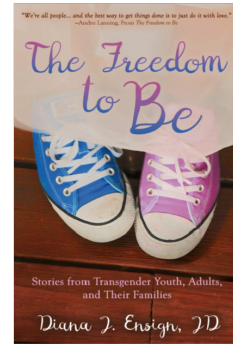


Diana J. Ensign, JD  
[www.dianaensign.com](http://www.dianaensign.com)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Author Diana J. Ensign's THE FREEDOM TO BE wins 2020 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) Outstanding Book of the Year Gold Medal!**

*Author's new book, THE FREEDOM TO BE: Stories from Transgender Youth, Adults, and Their Families, offers timely insights for creating supportive communities.*

INDIANAPOLIS, IN, 2020 — Award-winning author, Diana J. Ensign, practices the art of listening from the heart to people who teach us how to love and care for one another on this human journey. In this collection, she shares stories from transgender individuals and family members who voice their hopes and dreams for a better world.

"Recognizing Excellence in Independent Publishing," the IPPY Awards showcase the best books from throughout North America and the English-speaking world. The 2020 Outstanding Books of the Year are selected for being "The most heartfelt, unique, outspoken and/or experimental." Ensign's book, *The Freedom to Be*, was chosen for this recognition in the Freedom Fighter category. This is her second IPPY Gold Medal award; the first in 2018 was for *Heart Guide: True Stories of Grief and Healing*.

"*The Freedom to Be* highlights the amazing strength of LGBTQ+ people," according to Chris Paulsen, CEO of Indiana Youth Group. Here, parents, educators, healthcare providers, neighbors, friends, and allies learn how to support transgender, nonbinary, and/or gender nonconforming individuals in our communities. Together, we can stop the violence, end the hatred, advocate for transgender equality, and stand for freedom.

*The Freedom to Be* is available from the author's website [www.dianaensign.com](http://www.dianaensign.com), Amazon, and Barnes & Noble. A portion of book profits will go to Trinity Haven and BU Wellness.

This project is made possible by support of the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency.

