

Maine Regional Library System
30th Annual Reading Round-Up of Children's and Young Adult Literature
Augusta Civic Center
April 16, 2020

MAINE EXAMINATION COLLECTION OF CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

Cream of the Crop

Total books: 109

KEY

L	Library binding	[GN]	Graphic Novel
R	Reinforced trade binding	[M]	Maine Author, Illustrator, Setting
T	Trade binding		

PICTURE BOOK FICTION [total books in this category: [30]

Agell, Charlotte. *Maybe Tomorrow?* Scholastic Press. 978-1-338214-888. T \$17.99. (PreK-Gr 2). Elba is a little hippo struggling with a big sadness; her sadness is so big it has formed a block that she is dragging around. Norris is a crocodile who dances and brings fluttery butterflies with him everywhere he goes. Norris gently coaxes Elba to share her block with him and as Elba opens up about her sadness, sharing it with her new friend, she finds that her block is not quite so heavy anymore. This simple metaphor is accessible to the readers of a picture book and will resonate with readers/listeners. The book is a lovely exploration of loss and the power found in being present with a person who has experienced that loss. Illustrations by Ana Ramírez González perfectly capture the stunningly beautiful text by Agell. A must-have for any collection.

Atteberry, Kevan. *Ghost Cat*. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4283-6. T \$18.99 (PreK-Gr 2). Losing a pet can be hard, especially for a child. This picture book is a comforting and relatable story of a little boy who has lost his cat and now thinks that it might be a ghost in his house. Sometimes he feels the ghost cat rubbing up against him or purring next to him. He can't quite see it, but he knows it is there, behaving in familiar ways. The digital illustrations are warm and soothing, and the boy never acts scared of the ghost cat. This simple story sends a powerful message to young readers that it is okay to feel sad and miss your pet. A beautiful and moving story with a hopeful ending to help caregivers give young children support after a loss.

Baker-Smith, Grahame. *Rhythm of the Rain*. Templar Books. 978-1-5362-0575-6. R \$17.99. (PreK-Gr 4). The water cycle has never been so gorgeously depicted as within the pages of Baker-Smith's book. The text follows a jarful of water that Isaac pours into the mountainside pool near where he plays. The water travels through different bodies of water and different forms until it returns back to its original mountainside. The text is light; the pictures stunning with full-bleed illustrations which depict life all over the world, all dependent on water. Would make a great read-aloud or an illustration of the water cycle in an elementary or middle school science class.

Bayer, Vanessa. *How Do You Care for a Very Sick Bear?* Feiwel and Friends. 978-1-250-29843-0. T \$16.99 (PreK-Gr 2). When a friend or family member is dealing with an illness, it is often difficult to know what to say or how to behave, especially for children. From visiting your friend, bringing cards and books, to understanding when your friend tires quickly or can't play the way you used to, Bayer gives reassuring and tender advice about how to help a friend in need. Rosie Butcher's warm and cheerful illustrations add to the comforting tone of the book. A gentle and moving story to help guide children and adults alike with the illness of a loved one.

Becker, Aaron. *You Are Light*. Candlewick Studio. 978-1-5362-0115-4. T \$15.99 (PreK-K). Aaron Becker celebrates light in this brilliant and unique concept board book. Becker's spare and lyrical words highlight the different ways that light touches our world, from the bright yellows of dawn to the brilliant blues of the sea and rain. This story helps young readers to understand the natural relationship between the earth and the sun. In a clever twist, there is a ring of twelve die cut circles that flow through the entire book and are gradually filled in by colorful translucent discs. Each colored disc corresponds perfectly to the words on each page and will appeal to tactile readers.

Bell, Cece. *Smell My Foot*. Candlewick Press. 978-0-7636-7936-1. R \$12.99. (K-Gr 2). In a riff on Dick & Jane book, Bell uses simple vocabulary with lots of repetition and large, clear illustrations to slip a story about manners into a hilarious early reader in graphic format. Each page has one to four panels and the action is broken into four chapters for those emerging readers. Recommend for classrooms and public library collections.

Blabey, Aaron. *Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas*. Scholastic Press. 978-1-338-29713-3. T \$14.99 (PreK-Gr 1). In this hysterically clever story, Brian the piranha tries to convince his fellow piranhas to eat bananas. When they reply "What's wrong with you, Brian? You're a piranha.", Brian persists in tempting his friends with other fruits and vegetables. Each of the piranhas' replies rhyme with the offering

(silverbeet? We eat feet) helping children to guess the body parts that the piranhas prefer over peas and plums. Blabey's bold and sparse acrylic and watercolor illustrations keep the focus on the four piranhas. The book cleverly starts with a dictionary definition of piranha and ends with the dictionary definition of banana. A perfect fit for a food or fish themed storytime, young readers will be giggling from the first page.

Byron, Nathan. ***Rocket Says Look Up!*** Random House. 978-1-9848-9442-7. T \$17.99. (K-Gr 3). Rocket is a little girl obsessed with all things space. Though she tries her best, she can't get her friends and especially her brother, who is constantly staring at his phone, to share her enthusiasm. With a meteor shower coming, Rocket does everything she can to get everyone to LOOK UP! The text paired with bold, bright, fun illustrations make this fun to read and listen to. Pair with Jennifer Berne's book on Neil deGrasse Tyson.

Cooper, Susan. ***The Shortest Day***. Candlewick Press. 978-0-7636-8698-7. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 2). Susan Cooper's beautiful and simple poem celebrates the rituals of the winter solstice throughout the ages. Mirroring this lyrical poem, Carson Ellis's earthy gouache illustrations show people welcoming the solstice with singing and dancing and the lighting of candles and fires. Through both words and pictures, the reader is immersed in the feelings of renewal and hope and the welcoming of the Yule. There is an author's note at the end of the book.

Dakos, Kalli & Deborah Cholette. ***Get Me Out of This Book: Rules and Tools for Being Brave***. Holiday House. 978-0-8234-3862-4. T \$17.99. (PreK-Gr 5). This picture book uses the three rules for Navy Seals to deal with stressful situations, 1. Breathe Deeply 2. Make a Plan, and 3. Think Good Thoughts. When Bookmark is forced to hold the page on scary, creepy, or haunted books, it practices the rules and tools to calm down and work through a tough situation. This metaphor along with the practical advice is great for story time or classroom management.

Denise, Anika Aldamuy. ***The Love Letter***. Harper. 978-0-06-274157-8. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 2). It all started when grumpy Hedgehog found something on the ground, something unusual. It was a letter, but not just any letter, a love letter. After reading the letter, Hedgehog goes from grumpy to unusually cheerful as he plays with his friends Bunny and Squirrel. Soon the letter is lost and found by another and then lost and found again. Each creature thinks that the other wrote it. But when they find out that the letter was written by someone else, it helps them to realize how they really feel about each other. A sweet story of friendship. Would make an excellent read aloud in a Valentine's Day lesson.

Ferrari, AG. ***I Like My Bike***. Holiday House. 978-0-8234-4097-9. T \$15.99 (PreK-Gr 1). This book follows a young girl as she rides her bike around town. Though the words are simple and repetitive, the story is funny and engaging as the girl rides past several different types of transportation, each with a driver (some human, some animals) that like their vehicles too. Ferrari's mixed media imaginative illustrations, in bold colors, add an extra layer to the whimsical feel of the story. Perfect for beginning readers.

Gay, Marie-Louise. ***Fern and Horn***. Groundwood Books. 978-1-773-06226-6 T \$18.95. (PreK-Gr 2). A picture book celebrating the imagination and improvisation of childhood. Fern and Horn are siblings who like to create things, Fern, in a more traditional and neat way and Horn, in a more ferocious polar bear eats your creation kind of way. The book offers many tactics for compromise and distraction when one sibling can't conform to the ideas or projects of another. This book could be used in art units, behavior units, or as a fun read aloud, just be sure to have some paper, crayons, and scissors ready!

Guojing. ***Stormy***. Schwartz & Wade Books. 978-1-5247-7176-8. T \$17.99 (Gr K-3). In this heartwarming, wordless picture book a shaggy stray dog huddles under a park bench until a young woman comes along and tries to befriend the dog. The scared pup stays away. The determined woman comes back to the park the next day with a ball. The woman visits the park each day and slowly gains the dog's trust. But it takes a terrible thunderstorm for their trust and friendship to truly blossom. Alternating between panels and full page spreads, the beautiful pencil and watercolor illustrations capture the emotions and growing friendship between the dog and the woman perfectly. Dog lovers and readers who love a happy ending will want to read this one again and again.

Hare, John. ***Field Trip to the Moon***. Margaret Ferguson Books. 978-0-8234-4253-9. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 2). Blast off with this clever and imaginative wordless picture book. The story begins with a school space shuttle bringing a group of children and their teacher to the moon. As the class follows the teacher, one student loses interest and falls behind. The student finds a quiet spot, pulls out crayons, starts to draw and quickly falls asleep. The student awakens to the realization that the school shuttle has left. The student again sits down to draw while awaiting rescue and is soon surrounded by gray moon creatures who are fascinated with the colorful crayons. The skillful detailed acrylic illustrations make this inventive and funny story easy to follow. A perfect addition to a space themed storytime.

Javaherbin, Mina. ***My Grandma and Me***. Candlewick Press. 978-0-7636-9494-4. R \$16.99. (Gr K-3). This book is a love letter from the author to her grandmother and to all grandmothers regardless of their culture. In this story, the reader is introduced to Muslim culture and traditions through the relationship between a little girl and her grandmother, and shows how faith and traditions are passed down from one generation to the next. Simple, informative text is supported by soft, bright illustrations that carry the flavor of the Middle East. We are more alike than different!

Johnston, Tony. ***Magic of Letters***. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4159-4. T \$18.99. (Gr K-3). This award winning team has come together to tell readers about the magic of letters. In this colorful, imaginative piece we read that each letter has a name, has power, and holds magic. Use this at the beginning of the school year in class or a story time to introduce new readers to the excitement and power of words.

Kreloff, Elliot. ***The Luckiest Snowball***. Holiday House. 978-0-8234-4105-1. T \$17.99. (PreK-Gr 2). A clever picture book that guides the reader through seasons as a snowball is saved in the freezer by a boy. Larry, the snowball, is taken out now and then allowing the viewer to see what foods cycle through the seasons as well as the outdoor touches of each season. The repeated refrain of Larry's "Help, I'm melting!" during each foray into the world would make this a fun read aloud. Kreloff's collage-style illustrations would be an entertaining addition to a unit on identifying the natural signs of the seasons.

Ledyard, Stephanie Parsley. ***Home is a Window***. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4156-3. T \$18.99 (PreK-Gr 2). This sweet and simple book introduces young readers to the concept of home and what it truly means beyond the physical space. Ledyard's gentle prose describes home in many different ways, from the tangible to senses and feelings. "Home is a table with something good and the people gathered there." Joining perfectly with Ledyard's prose are illustrator Chris Sasaki's detailed earth-toned pencil and marker illustrations. The illustrations deftly show a multiracial family moving to a new home. A beautiful story to help young children work through difficult transitions.

Magerl, Caroline. ***Maya and the Lost Cat***. Candlewick Press. 978-1-5362-0423-0. R. \$16.99. (Gr K-3). On a mission to find the home of a lost cat, Maya uses all manner of tricks to get the cat to lead her to its owner. The reader goes on this mission and has to keep reading to see if she can find the cat's home and how she will say goodbye. With simple sparse text and whimsical, fluid illustrations readers feel and see the "never give up" attitude of Maya.

Maillard, Kevin Noble. ***Fry Bread***. Roaring Brook Press. 978-1-62672-746-5. T \$18.99 (PreK-Gr 2). A sweet celebration of Native American families and their heritage. Juana Martinez-Neal's warm colored pencil and graphite illustrations show a grandmother inviting children to help her make fry bread. As the bread is made, the children learn the many things that fry bread represents, from the overt: food, shape, sound, color, flavor, to the deeper meaning: time, history, nation, everything. The backmatter includes a recipe for fry bread, and an author's note more fully explains each concept introduced in the story. The end pages list the many, many names of Native American tribes. Fry Bread is the winner of the 2020 Robert F. Sibert Medal.

McInlay, Meg. ***Let Me Sleep, Sheep!*** Candlewick Press. 978-1-5362-0547-3. R \$15.99. (PreK-Gr 2). When a boy can't sleep, he attempts to count sheep but the sheep demand a fence to jump. They then make the boy test his fences thereby tiring him out and putting him to sleep. Detailed illustrations from Leila Rudge in a soft palette add to this "turn the tables" tale. The book would make a great night time story for small children as it is hilarious and endearing at the same time.

Moore, Lindsay. ***Sea Bear: A Journey for Survival***. Greenwillow. 978-0-06-279-128-3. T \$17.99. (Gr K-3). Narrated by a polar bear mother, she explains to the reader what she must do to take care of her cub. What has been passed down from her mother must be tempered by the loss of habitat and climate changes that have occurred. The reader sees the relationship between the bear and her Arctic home. The recurring themes found here are patience and hope. Add to the sparse text, illustrations that are cold and crisp and you have a book to use for units on the Arctic and its inhabitants and climate change.

O'Byrne, Nicola. ***The Rabbit, the Dark, and the Cookie Tin***. Nosy Crow. 978-1-5362-0576-3. R \$15.99. (Gr K-3). A little rabbit not wanting to go to bed tricks the dark, capturing it in a cookie tin. But the night animals explain that they can't go about their lives without the dark, and vegetables and plants need darkness to grow. Can little Rabbit be convinced to free the dark? Readers will enjoy the cleverness of the story and learn the benefits of both day and night.

Perkins, Mitali. ***Between Us and Abuela: a Family Story From the Border***. Farrar Straus Giroux. 978-0-374-30373-0. R \$17.99. (Gr K-6). It is Christmas time when families come together, but for Maria and her brother, whose grandmother lives in Mexico, they must

travel to the border to see her. Only allowed to visit with a wall between them and not allowed to give her the gifts they have worked on, Maria must figure out a way to get their gifts to her. Love and perseverance in difficult times while teaching about another culture, this book is timely in many ways. Warm illustrations from Sara Palacios are filled with promise and pair well with the text. Would go well in a class discussion about culture and social issues.

Portis, Antoinette. ***Hey, Water!*** Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4155-6. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 2). A little girl plays a game with water. She tries to count all of the different ways, forms and places that she can see water, from a faucet and a dewdrop to fog, ice and snow. Each page highlights a different form of water with a bold caption and a few simple words of description. A simple reminder that water is all around us and gives us all life. Backmatter includes information regarding the three states of water, the water cycle, and things that we can do to conserve water. Perfect for a science themed storytime, spring storytime, or addition to a science unit about the water cycle.

Quintero, Isabel. ***My Papi Has a Motorcycle***. Kokila. 978-0-525-55341-0. T \$17.99. (Gr K-4). The look on Daisy's face on the cover of this picture book says it all. Daisy loves her Papi and she loves to strap on her helmet each evening and go for a ride through her neighborhood in Corona, California. The illustrations by Zeke Peña carefully capture the detail and touches of the sights, smells, and sounds of Daisy's beloved hometown. Neither author nor illustrator shy away from some of the touches of gentrification occurring but they are given a light touch that younger readers/listeners won't pick up on, but which older readers may find interesting to discuss. A book that radiates happiness with realism and honesty.

Ramstein, Anne-Margot and Matthias Aréguí. ***Inside Outside***. Candlewick Studio. 9781-5362-0597-8. T \$18.99. (Gr K-8). This book crosses many formats. It's a wordless picture book that demands higher thinking as each picture is presented as an inner layer and then an outer layer. It is a concept book that demands more than the picture book room shelf of concept books as it should be appreciated by children older than toddlers. Choice of colors, the depth within the illustrations, and the drama presented make this a winner. Add this to public libraries, elementary and/or middle schools, and to art teachers.

Smith, Sydney. ***Small in the City***. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4261-4. T \$18.99. (Gr K-3) At the beginning of this picture book, a boy explains that though small, one can survive in a big city. He goes on to give advice about staying safe and warm. With very little text, the reader relies on the illustrations to tell the story and help the reader ask if the someone he describes will be found. Some of the illustrations are dark and sharp, some are blurred and muted and are offered in almost graphic form. This is a unique and not to be missed selection.

Thompson, Carol. ***Deep Breaths***. Rodale Kids. 978-1-9848-9397-0. T \$14.99 (PreK-Gr 1). Dolly the Pig and Jack the Rabbit are best friends. They have a lot of fun together listening to music, visiting their favorite place and getting silly. Even best friends have disagreements, so when Dolly and Jack have a fight, they each use different tools to calm themselves down and remember how much they really do like each other. An adorable story that gives real and easy self-care strategies that children can use to calm themselves down. Thompson's playful illustrations brilliantly convey the messiness of relationships and emotions.

PICTURE BOOK NONFICTION [total books in this category: [17]

Adler, David. ***Telling Time***. Holiday House. 978-0-823440-924. R \$18.99. (Gr 1-4). A picture book that clearly outlines and explains the concept of how time is divided and practiced as well as telling time on both a digital and analog clock. Illustrations by Edward Miller bring this complex concept down to a kid-friendly level and perfectly complement the clear explanations offered by Adler. A great addition to any library; would be excellent paired with an educational classroom learning clock.

Alexander, Kwame. ***The Undeclared***. Versify. 978-1-328-78096-6. T \$17.99. (Gr 3-6). What started as a poem by Alexander broadcast on the ESPN show "The Undeclared," is now a stunningly gorgeous picture book that can be used to show how many and how much black Americans have contributed to the history of the United States. The book is oversized with clear font, perfectly-paced text, and breath-taking illustrations from Kadir Nelson. Mention of the slave trade, the bombing in Birmingham that killed four girls, and the police shootings of unarmed black citizens make this book for an older audience in terms of discussion, but it is not only a tool for conversations. It should be read with all young people because it is necessary for our continued humanity for kids to see heroes of all skin colors.

Anderson, Justin. ***Snow Leopard: Ghost of the Mountains***. Candlewick Press. 978-1-5362-0540-4. R \$16.99. (Gr K-3). Zoologist Anderson has given readers an insight into the life of one of the rarest and most elusive cats in the world. With large, soft, quiet illustrations readers will understand the beauty and need to protect this endangered species. Facts about the leopard are found at the bottom of each page as well as an author's note, index, and websites to visit. The readers of this book will one day be responsible for the fate of this beautiful and mysterious cat.

Berne, Jennifer. ***Look Up With Me: Neil deGrasse Tyson: A Life Among The Stars***. Katherine Tegen. 978-0-06-284494-1. T \$17.99. (Gr K-6). In the Introduction to this picture book biography, astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson writes to his readers: "I've felt like a kid

my entire life. Why? Because I'm a scientist. Scientists are kids who never lost their natural childhood curiosity about the world." Featuring bold, colorful cut paper illustrations, this is a love letter to both his followers and the universe. The reader learns about a kid who fell in love with the sky at the Hayden Planetarium in New York City, continued that passion throughout his life, and eventually became the director of that very planetarium. Young scientists will find blue endpapers with the constellations, an illustrated page of quotes from deGrasse Tyson about space, an author's note about her connection to the scientist, and a glossary of terms. This is a must for all libraries, schools and public alike. Use in units about space, astronomy, and scientists making a difference.

Biebow, Natascha. ***The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 978-1-328-86684-4. T \$17.99 (Gr 1-5). Crayons are a staple in our everyday lives, but have you ever wondered who invented them and why? This book is the fascinating true story of the invention of Crayola crayons. This narrative nonfiction tells the story of inventor, Edwin Binney, a model for creativity and persistence. Biebow deftly weaves the need, Edwin's thought process, and his invention process throughout this creative story. Zteven Salerno's illustrations capture the color and magic of the This book would make a fantastic read aloud when introducing Genius Hour or a biography unit.

Carson, Mary Kay. ***Tornado Scientist: Seeing Inside Severe Storms***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 978-0-544-96582-9. T \$18.99. (Gr 3-up). Tornadoes, a word that strikes fear for those in their path. Scientists have been studying the hows and whys of them in hopes of saving lives and property. Author Carson introduces the reader to Robin Tanamachi, research meteorologist, radar expert, and veteran storm chaser. Young scientists follow Robin and her team, with their computers, rigged-out trucks, Doppler radars, and more into the path of oncoming tornadoes. This book explains how severe weather forms, why it forms and where it forms. Add extraordinary photographs by Tom Uhlman, information in the back that includes words and acronyms to know, websites to find out more, sources and bibliography, and an index, and the book is complete. With tornadoes becoming more and more prevalent and severe, the more that is known about these storms and the scientists who put themselves in their path, more lives will be saved. Add this to your "Scientists in the Field" collection.

Davies, Nicola. ***Hummingbird***. Candlewick Press. 978-1-5362-0538-1. R \$16.99. (Gr K-3). Each year the hummingbird, a bird that weighs no more than a nickel and fits in the palm of your hand, travels 2,000 miles from Mexico and Central America to make a nest and lay eggs, only to fly south in the fall. Author Davies, in simple story style, takes the reader on the hummingbird's journey while giving a plethora of information about this remarkable little bird. Jane Ray's signature illustrations done in watercolor are as bright and delicate as her subject. Art and science come together in this offering. Use this as part of units on birds, migration, and conservation. A worthwhile addition to any library, school or public.

Frost, Helen. ***Hello, I'm Here!*** Candlewick Press. 978-0-7636-9858-4. R \$16.99. (Gr K-3). Author Frost and photographer Rick Lieder have teamed up to offer readers a look at the life of a sandhill crane from its hatching through its first few days. The rhyming text is sparse yet is easy for the youngest readers to understand. What makes this more than just another science book is Lieder's large detailed photos. The reader is up close and part of the baby crane's early days. Science and art come together to make this book special. Use this with their other collaborations, *Step Gently Out*, *Sweep Up the Sun*, and *Among a Thousand Fireflies*, in units about the natural world.

Halls, Kelly Milner. ***Death Eaters: Meet Nature's Scavengers***. 978-1-5124-8200-3. T \$33.32. (Gr 3-6). There has been life on earth for over 4 billion years. So, where are all the bodies? Author Halls has given the reader the answer in this picture book filled with facts and photographs. The answer is "recycling!" Readers get up close with the "clean-up crew," also known as the "Death Eaters!" There are five stages of death and there are animals, birds, insects, bone eating worms, and finally bacteria and fungi that leave no trace of the dead. This is an extraordinary book with easily understood text that will hold the attention of both reader and listener. A must for every library.

Poliquin, Rachel. ***Beastly Puzzles: A Brain-Boggling Animal Guessing Game***. Kids Can Press. 978-1-771-38913-6. T \$16.99 (Gr 2-8). With monochromatic ink drawings by Byron Eggenschwiler, Poliquin has created a gem of a book. Each double page spread, with a fold-out page on top presents an animal puzzle to the reader. Using various items from a specific place, a house, a workshop, a firehouse, a laboratory, etc., Poliquin "builds" the animal parts and then asks the reader to guess. It is fun and clever. Teachers could model it for a project about animal adaptations, asking students to come up with their own beastly puzzle. It can be used for a very interactive read aloud or for a long car trip. Hopefully, a Book 2 is in the works; it would be most welcome. As it is, this book is an excellent addition to any school or public library.

Ritchie, Scot. ***Join the No-Plastic Challenge!: A First Book of Reducing Waste***. Kids Can Press. 978-1-5253-0240-4. T \$16.99. (Gr K-3). Reducing waste is finally being taken seriously. Part of that waste is single use plastic. Author Ritchie teaches readers through the outings of 5 friends as they visit the beach for a picnic. They see how much of their daily lives includes plastics that are used only once and then tossed. The text is easily understood by young readers and is supported by illustrations that are digitally rendered and inviting.

There is a glossary in the back in addition to suggestions on how to live a more plastic-free life. This is an excellent STEAM introduction one of the planet's largest contributors to pollution.

Roth, Susan L. ***Birds of a Feather***. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4282-9. T \$18.99 (Gr 2-4). This book cleverly starts with a dictionary definition of both a bowerbird and Susan L. Roth, perfectly setting up this charming compare and contrast informational picture book. Roth compares her collage making technique with that of bowerbirds creating their nests. Roth's clear and simple words reflect upon materials, purpose, tools, and outcome. Roth's vibrant collage illustrations add an extra layer of authenticity to the book and encourage the reader to take another look at the beauty of the natural world. Backmatter includes facts about bowerbirds, a concise list of how bowerbirds work, and how Roth works, as well as a bibliography. A perfect book to use when introducing the compare and contrast concept.

Robbins, Dean. ***The Astronaut Who Painted the Moon***. Orchard Books. 9781-338-25953-7. T \$17.99 (Gr 2-5). The story of Alan Bean, the fourth astronaut to walk on the moon, and the only artist to visit. Bean loved to fly and he wished he could paint from the cockpit. Inspired by his moonwalk, he was determined to paint what he saw so that people on Earth could understand the beauty of the barren and rocky landscape. Journalist Robbins's tale of this extraordinary astronaut is masterful, and artist Sean Rubin's illustrations are whimsical and unexpected. Back matter includes photos of the NASA mission, images of Alan's paintings, and a timeline of lunar space travel. A fantastic addition to any library's biography or space sections.

Salas, Laura Purdie. ***Lion of the Sky: Haiku For All Seasons***. Millbrook Press. 978-1-5124-9809-7. R \$19.99. (Gr K-4). A Author Salas has taken the form of haiku as an invitation to the reader to explore the four seasons, but with a twist! These poems are riddle-ku and mask poems. Something non-human narrates the poem and asks the reader to guess what the narrator is, a masked poem. Instead of the well known haiku form that describes something, a riddle-ku invites the reader to guess what object the poem describes. Each page offers a riddle with large acrylic illustrations that reflect the season where the object can be found. Poetry with a riddle to be solved will hold the reader's attention and make reading fun!

Thorn, Theresa. ***It Feels Good to be Yourself***. Henry Holt and Company. 978-1-250-30295-3. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 3). Thorn has written an inclusive, straightforward, informational picture book that explains gender identity terminology in simple, understandable language. The book normalizes terms such as non-binary, cisgender, and transgender. Noah Grigni's bright watercolor and ink illustrations are gender inclusive and pair perfectly with the text. Backmatter includes: helpful terms, a note about pronouns, and other helpful resources. An important book to have in an elementary collection for curious children and a helpful tool for adults.

Underwood, Deborah. ***Finding Kindness***. Godwin Books. 978-01-250-23789-7. T \$17.99 (PreK-Gr 2). A sweet, rhythmic, heartwarming story that celebrates kindness and community. Kindness can be found in so many small actions, such as reading a story, waving hello, or sharing a sandwich. This story reminds the reader just how easy and catching kindness can be. Irene Chan's bright watercolor illustrations depicting a diverse community brings this story together. An important book to share with young readers.

Wittenstein, Barry. ***A Place to Land: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Speech That Inspired a Nation***. Neal Porter Books. 978-0-8234-4331-4. R \$18.99.(Gr 4-6). Barry Wittenstein and Jerry Pinkney have given the reader the story behind the iconic "I Have a Dream" speech in both conversational text and classic Pinkney illustrations of watercolor, colored pencil, and graphite. The night before the speech, King looked for guidance from his inner circle on what to write that would inspire the crowd. This is a must for all collections on Martin Luther King, Jr. and gives this new generation a glimpse of what the civil rights movement was all about.

CHAPTER BOOK NONFICTION [total books in this category: 16]

Belge, Kathy. ***Queer: The Ultimate LGBTQ Guide for Teens***. Zest Books (Tm). 978-1-541578-586. L \$37.32. (Gr 9 & up). Teen life is hard enough, but for teens who are LGBTQ, it can be even harder. When do you decide to come out? Will your friends accept you? And how do you meet people to date? *Queer* is a humorous, engaging, and honest guide that helps LGBTQ teens come out to friends and family, navigate their social life, figure out if a crush is also queer, and challenge bigotry and homophobia.

Caplan, Bryan. ***Open Borders: The Science and Ethics of Immigration***. First Second. 978-1-250316-967. T[GN] \$19.99 (Gr 9 & up). Economist Bryan Caplan makes a bold case for unrestricted immigration in this fact-filled graphic nonfiction. With a clear and conversational tone, exhaustive research, and vibrant illustrations by Zach Weinersmith, *Open Borders* makes the case for unrestricted immigration easy to follow and hard to deny.

Engle, Margarita. ***Dreams From Many Rivers: A Hispanic History of the United States Told in Poems***. Henry Holt & Company. 978-1-627795-319. T \$18.99. (Gr 6-9). From Juana Briones and Juan Ponce de León, to eighteenth century slaves and modern-day sixth graders, the many and varied people depicted in this moving narrative speak to the experiences and contributions of Latinos throughout

the history of the United States, from the earliest known stories up to present day. It's a portrait of a great, enormously varied, and enduring heritage. A compelling treatment of an important topic.

Goldsmith, Connie. ***Pandemic: How Climate, the Environment, and Superbugs Increase the Risk***. Twenty-First Century Books (Tm). 978-1-512452-157. T \$42.65 (Gr 7 & up). *Pandemic* is a well written, well organized, informative book discussing the causes of and factors increasing the likelihood of a pandemic occurring within the next few decades. Climate change, increased travel, superbugs caused by overuse of antibiotics, conflict/crowding, and disruption of animal habitats all contribute to the risk of an upcoming pandemic (most likely influenza). Various viruses and bacteria are covered detailing their history, case studies, and probability of being the next threat.

Goldsmith, Connie. ***Women in the Military: From Drill Sergeants to Fighter Pilots***. Twenty-First Century Books (Tm). 978-1-541528-123. T \$37.32 (Gr 7 & up). This book gives a thoughtful look to the women in all branches of the United States Military, ranging from a brief overlook of their history in the military to powerful changes that have taken place. Even though women are still the minority in the military, their numbers are growing and providing them opportunities that hadn't been available in the past. Inside are mini-biographies of various women that share their outlook from just entering boot camp to well seasoned veterans.

Heiligman, Deborah. ***Torpedoed: The True Story of WWII Sinking of the 'Children's Ship'***. Henry Holt and Co. 978-1-62779-554-8. T \$19.99 (Gr 7-10). During World War II, England had a program called the CORB (Children's Overseas Reception Board) that took children away from the bombing to live in Canada, to return when the war was over. On September 13, 1940, 100 children with adult chaperones and other paying customers boarded and set sail on the *SS City of Benares* for Canada. Four days later, during the night when the children were asleep, a German U-Boat torpedoed the *Benares*. 258 people on board lost their lives; of the 100 children on board heading for safety, only 13 survived.

Keyser, Amber J.. ***No More Excuses: Dismantling Rape Culture***. Twenty-First Century Books. 978-1-541540-200. L \$37.32 (Gr 7 & up). The most common crime is the sexual assault of women. With accusations of rape against many well known men, the founding of the #MeToo movement and other organizations, the underlying causes of the rape culture have been brought into light. Amber J. Keyser discusses how restorative justice can address the rape culture and explores the gender norms along with how race and gender are disproportionately affected by rape.

Khor, Shing Yin. ***The American Dream?: A Journey on Route 66 Discovering Dinosaur Statues, Muffler Men, and the Perfect Breakfast Burrito***. Zest Books. 978-1-541578-524. T[GN] \$37.32 (Gr 8 & up). As a child growing up in Malaysia, Shing Yin Khor had two very different ideas of what "America" meant. The first looked a lot like Hollywood, full of beautiful people, sunlight, and freeways. The second looked more like The Grapes of Wrath--a nightmare landscape filled with impoverished people, broken-down cars, barren landscapes, and broken dreams. This book chronicles Shing's solo journey (small adventure-dog included) along the iconic Route 66, beginning in Santa Monica and ending up in Chicago.

Kuklin, Susan. ***We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults***. Candlewick Press. 978-0-763678-845. T \$19.99 (Gr 7 & up). Originally scheduled to be published in 2017 with full-color portraits of the 9 young adults that were interviewed; the publication was held back due to the executive actions of our government regarding DACA. These actions had many DACA recipients concerned for their lives, making it too risky for the participants of this book to have their pictures posted for all to see. So now in its new publication format the areas where there should be photographs of the interviewees were left to just white space with captions

Marrin, Albert. ***A Light In The Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, and The Holocaust***. Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers. 978-1-524701-208. T \$19.99 (Gr 7 & up). Story of a Polish Jewish doctor who, during World War II, turned down multiple opportunities for escape, standing by the children in his orphanage as they became confined to the Warsaw Ghetto. Dressing them in their Sabbath finest, he led their march to the trains and ultimately perished with his children in Treblinka.

Miller, Michael. ***Exposing Hate: Prejudice, Hatred and Violence in Action***. Twenty-First Century Books. 978-1-541539-259. T \$32.32 (Gr 7 & up). There has been an explosion in the number of hate groups since the elections of Presidents Obama and Trump. Michael Miller addresses the types of hate groups, the history and reasons behind their rise. The author also discusses ways to recognize and confront such hatred in this extremely well researched book.

Miller, Michael. ***Fake News: Separating Truth From Fiction***. Twenty-First Century Books. 978-1-541528-147. T \$32.32 (Gr 7 & up). Fake news has been around for centuries, despite what President Trump might claim. This book explores the journalistic and fact-checking standards that are involved with legitimate news stories along with the Constitutional protections and real-world case studies. Readers are educated about the 2 types of fake news and also how to be able to tell truth from fiction. Preventive tips are also shared to prevent further spreading of fake news.

Miller, Sarah. ***The Miracle & Tragedy of the Dionne Quintuplets***. Schwartz & Wade Books. 978-1-524713-812. T \$17.99 (Gr 10 & up). In May of 1934, in a small Canadian town, 5 baby girls were born into a family with 5 older siblings and became a global sensation as their lives and of their family were thrown into the spotlight. Their total birth weight was 13 pounds. Yvonne, Cecile, Emilie, Annette and Marie are subsequently removed from their home and basically raised by the government of Ontario across the street in a custom-built hospital — all of this to protect the girls from showmen and exploitation.

Montgomery, Sy. *The Magnificent Migration: On Safari with Africa's Last Great Herds*. HMH Books for Young Readers. 978-0-544761-138. T \$24.99 (Grades 5-8). Sibert medalist, Montgomery takes the reader to the plains of Africa to join a prestigious team of scientists, guides, and photographers on her greatest quest yet- follow the herds of wildebeests that migrate with the rains. Led by her friend and the world's foremost expert on wildebeests, Dr. Richard Estes, they will follow the wildebeest which according to Montgomery "drive the ecology and evolution of the largest savanna ecosystem in the world." She goes on to say that wildebeest migration defines wild Africa.

Sheinkin, Steve. *Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America*. Roaring Brook Press. 978-1-626721-302. T \$19.99. (Gr 4-6) Sheinkin presents the history of early aviation and the role that women played in it in this collective biography. Women like Amelia Earhart, Marvel Crosson and Louise Thaden are among the many women that changed how women challenged the current feelings about women in the air. Many of these women were curious girls that were told that flying wasn't lady-like, but they continued to break barriers. Many risk their lives to further the role women would take in the future of aviation.

Wein, Elizabeth. *A Thousand Sisters: The Heroic Airwomen Of The Soviet Union In World War II*. Balzer + Bray. 978-0-062453-013. T \$19.99 (Gr 9 & up). Wein introduces the reader to three Soviet regiments that were manned by female volunteers to fly combat missions for the Soviet Union during World War II. Wein tells about their ambitions, duty to country, their daily lives along with the horrors and successes of their combat missions. Most of these women were in their late teens and early twenties and many did not survive. The black and white photos in the book are of various individual women that are mentioned and of their regiments and comrades. This book would be considered a collective biography.

CHAPTER BOOK FICTION [total books in this category: 46]

Allen, Kate. *The Line Tender*. HMH (T) 978 (Gr 3-6). A story of loss, family, and sharks. X's mom was a shark biologist who died suddenly while on an expedition. X and her dad get along as best they can with help from wonderful neighbors. X's best friend is Fred, who lives next door, and with whom she does everything. The two are on the cusp of young adulthood and a first crush when tragedy strikes. The book is a heart-wrencher. It includes gorgeous black & white illustrations of sharks, many shark facts, a trip to Maine (the book is set in Cape Cod, Massachusetts which sees Great Whites in its waters), and a well-crafted, well-written story that will keep readers turning pages.

Athaide, Tina. *Orange for Sunsets*. Katherine Tegen Books. 978-0-062795-298. T \$16.99 (Gr 5-7). This is a well written historical fiction of a time in Uganda's history that pitted friends, family and a country against each other. Told in alternating perspectives between Asha, who doesn't feel that their friendship is wrong and Yesofu, who is torn between friendship and the right thing to do. In the back of the book is a timeline for the "Countdown to the Expulsion" and the Author's Notes there is historical background information provided.

Azad, Nafiza. *The Candle and the Flame*. Scholastic Press. 978-1-338306-040. T \$18.99 (Gr 9 & up). Fatima lives in the city of Noor, on the Silk Road, which is currently protected by the Ifrit, djinn of order and reason, from attacks by the violent and ruthless Shayateen djinn--but Fatima was infused with the fire of the Ifrit who died saving her when she was four years old, and when one of the most important Ifrit dies she finds herself drawn into the intrigues of the court, the affairs of the djinn, and the very real dangers of a magical battlefield.

Capetta, Amy Rose. *The Lost Coast*. Candlewick Press (MA). 978-1-536200-966. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). Danny has just moved to Tempest, California with her mother. She's quickly adopted into the Grays, a group of friends who explain to her that, actually, they called her to Tempest with a spell. The Grays, as it turns out, are all witches, and they're missing a member. Imogen was a light in their lives, and now she's gone. Danny finds herself finally fitting in somewhere, with these four girls who all identify as queer, spanning across many different orientations, and it feels good to be so wanted and accepted.

Chapman, Elsie. *All the Ways Home*. Feiwel and Friends. 978-1-250-16679-1. T \$16.99. (Gr 4-6). How would one define home? Is it a place, feeling, person, physical thing? This is what the main character has to do to pass on to eighth grade. In Chapman's debut novel, the reader meets twelve-year-old Kaede who is in a state of chaos, shock, and grief. His mother has died, he is acting out at school, he is in danger of repeating seventh grade, and he is isolating himself from friends. Now living with a grandfather he barely knows and cannot connect with, he is sent to Japan to visit a father and brother he has neither seen nor heard from since he was three. Will he be able to get through the challenges before him, and will he be able to define what home is? A thought-provoking and honest look at one boy's search for identity.

Craft, Jerry. *New Kid*. Quill Tree Books. 978-0-062691-194. T [GN] \$12.99 (Grades 6 & up). Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two

worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

Emezi, Akwaeke. ***Pet***. Make Me a World. 978-0-525647-072. T \$17.99 (Grades 7 & up). There are no monsters anymore, or so the children in the city of Lucille are taught. Jam and her best friend, Redemption, have grown up with this lesson all their life. But when Jam meets Pet, a creature made of horns and colors and claws, who emerges from one of her mother's paintings and a drop of Jam's blood, she must reconsider what she's been told. Pet has come to hunt a monster, and the shadow of something grim lurks in Redemption's house. Jam must fight not only to protect her best friend, but also to uncover the truth, and the answer to the question--How do you save the world from monsters if no one will admit they exist?

Faring, Sara. ***The Tenth Girl***. Imprint. 978-1-250304-504. T \$18.99 (Grades 9 & up). In this psychological thriller, with its basis in Patagonian myths, Mavi attends the elite Vaccaro School for Girls as an English teacher to escape the people that took her mother. This remote school is cursed by the Zapuche Indians and has been reopened after 60 years. The school only selects 10 privileged young ladies from around the world, and things get interesting when things start happening that aren't explained, like the girls falling mysteriously ill, staff members hearing and seeing things, and storms that will not let up.

Fletcher, Tom. ***The Creakers***. Random House. 978-1-5247-7334-2. T \$16.99 (Grades 3-5). This middle grade novel has it all! A mystery, a funny and quirky story, scary creatures called Creakers, and an author who frequently interrupts the story to speak directly to the reader. Lucy wakes up to find her mother missing. And things get considerably worse when she finds out that it is not just her mother who is missing, but all of the grown-ups in the entire town of Whiffington. Lucy and her friends, Norman and Ella, figure out that the key to this mystery lies with the garbage-eating creatures, called Creakers, that sneak out from under the bed during the night. Lucy quickly realizes that she must go to the Creakers world, the Woleb, to find the grown-ups before it is too late. Give to fans of Land of Stories by Chris Colfer or the *Mighty Jack* series by Ben Hatke.

Funaro, Gregory. ***Watch Hollow***. HarperCollins. 978-0-062643-452. T \$16.99 (Grades 6-9). A mysterious man shows up to Lucy's dad's clock shop just as they were closing with an offer that her dad, Mr. Tinker, can't pass up — money that will help make Lucy, her brother Oliver and her dad's lives better. According to the stranger, he can't move into the house unless the clock is working and the only one that can fix it is Mr. Tinker. Once the clock is fixed, the house will have power to run. Not long after Lucy and her family arrive, strange things start to happen and small animal figures that look like they belong in the clock wake up and start talking to Lucy.

Gemeinhart, Dan. ***The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise***. Henry Holt & Company. T \$16.99 (Gr 6-9). In this book, readers dip their toes into the unforgettable world of Coyote and her father, Rodeo, who have been on the road for five years, traveling wherever they want in their home, Yager — a worn school bus converted into a mobile living space. Gemeinhart's knack for accessing the inner thinking of adolescents shines again in this heart-wrenching read.

Grabenstein, J.J. and Chris Grabenstein. ***Shine!*** Random House. 978-1-5247-1766-7. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). The reader is introduced to Milly Piper, a middle schooler who knows that some people are meant to shine and others are better off blending in; she is a blender. This has never been clearer as she is enrolled in a prestigious prep school where everyone shines at something. When a school wide contest sends everyone into overdrive, is there any way Piper can shine? A novel that pushes all of its readers to see that "to shine" is different for everyone. Bursting with humor, heart, science, possibilities, and big questions, this book would make a great read aloud or book group book.

Graley, Sarah. ***Glitch***. First Second. 978-1-338-17451-9. T[GN] \$14.99 (Gr 3-7). The newest video game is out and Izzy cannot wait to play. However, she has promised her best friend that she will wait. But that video game is calling out to her. When she gives in and turns on the game, she gets literally sucked into it and forgets all about the outside world. Using the powerful visual of a graphic novel format, Graley illustrates how unyielding the draw of a video game can be. With her friendships in jeopardy, her relationship with her parents strained, and her schoolwork suffering from neglect, Izzy struggles to put down the controller.

Heidicker, Christian. ***Scary Stories for Young Foxes***. Henry Holt & Co. 978-1-250-18142-8 T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). In eight interconnected stories, seven little foxes listen to stories of foxes who face unspeakable things that dwell in the darkness. As the kits drop away one by one, the littlest fox stays until the very end to hear the fate of the fox characters in the stories. There are plenty of jumps and creepy images here to satisfy fans of Alvin Schwartz's *Tales to Tell in the Dark* or R.L. Stine's "Goosebumps" series, but with a satisfying ending and a nod to the power of storytelling, this book would make a great (daytime) read aloud.

Hendriks, Jenni. ***Unpregnant***. Harperteen. 978-0-062876-249. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). What do you do when the pregnancy test comes back positive, the school weirdo is the one that knows your secret and to top it off, Kevin, the wonderful boyfriend, already suspected that you were pregnant, because he put holes in the condom for what reason — he didn't want her to go to Brown in the fall!! All of these things leads to a hilarious road to trip from Missouri to New Mexico, where Veronica can get an abortion and be back before her parents are any wiser and Bailey, she just wants to Roswell. This novel wonderfully brings up topics that are difficult with a sense of humor and the respect of individual rights.

Hunt, Linda Mullaly. ***Shouting at the Rain***. Nancy Paulsen Books. 978-0-399-17515-2. T (Gr 4-8). A coming-of-age middle grade book that brings in themes of family, loss, and hope and does it in Hunt fashion, with warmth and realism. Hunt sets the scene in Cape Cod, but not the summer story of Cape Cod, instead it's that of the year-round residents. Delsie lives with her grandmother and is obsessed with the weather. She meets Ronan and is drawn to him. Ultimately, Delsie has to figure out what family means to her. The book espouses the value of love and the importance of dealing with and moving on from loss and it does it well. Fans of Hunt's other books will not be disappointed.

Hutton, Keely. ***Secret Soldiers***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 978-0-374309-039. T \$16.99 (Gr 6-9). This historical fiction novel takes place during WW1. Thomas lies about his age because he is desperate to find his older brother who is missing in the war. Thomas and other underage boys end up working in the tunnels beneath the battlefield on a dangerous secret mission on the Western Front. These young soldiers form a lasting bond in spite of their different social classes and reasons for enlisting.

James, Anna. ***The Bookwanderers***. HarperCollins. 978-0-0082-2986-3. T \$18.99 (Gr 4-6). Tilly Pages has lived with her grandparents above their family bookshop ever since her mother disappeared when she was a baby. Like her grandparents, Tilly loves to curl up with a good book among the stacks, and revisit her favorite characters. But one day when Tilly bumps into a suspiciously familiar looking girl named Alice who invites her on an adventure in Wonderland, Tilly wonders if her imagination has gone too far. Then when Anne of Green Gables shows up and befriends Tilly, she starts to realize that she has an unusual gift. Tilly learns that she, like her mother and grandparents, is a bookwanderer, someone who connects with books so intensely that they can actually step into a book and interact with the characters inside. As Tilly tests out this new discovery, her adventures into books become more exciting and dangerous with each visit, especially when Tilly starts to find clues about her missing mother. A magical middle grade fantasy that will warm the hearts and excite the imagination of book lovers. Give this to fans of Mr. Lemoncello books.

Johnson, Terry Lynn. ***Dog Driven***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 978-1-328-55159-7. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). Fourteen-year-old McKenna has a family history of eyesight deterioration. It has taken the sight of her younger sister and though she hasn't said anything, she is showing the same slow loss of vision. She has always competed in dog sledding races and now is in a competition that will put herself and her dog team in danger. This middle grade selection, while educating the reader on Stargardt disease, is a fast-moving adventure of grit and survival.

Kelly, Lynne. ***Song for a Whale***. Yearling. 978-1-524-77026-6. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-7). Iris is deaf and lives in the world of the hearing as her parents and brother are not deaf. Her mother insists that Iris attend a "regular" school and be as "normal" as possible. When Iris learns about the whale Blue 55 who sings on a different sound level as any other whale, she feels drawn to this whale that cannot communicate with its kind. She and her grandmother, who is also deaf, go on an epic adventure to bring Blue 55 and Iris together. A story that has a deaf main character but is not about deafness. A story that stars a whale but is not about whales. The book is about the need to find one's place in the world and to stand up for what you need and ask for it, no matter your voice.

Khan, Sabina. ***The Love & Lies of Rukhsana Ali***. Scholastic Press. 978-1-338227-017. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). Rukhsana is afraid of the consequences of being a lesbian in an extremely conservative Muslim family. All she wants is to graduate and go to Caltech with her girlfriend, Ariana. The day that her mother catches her kissing Ariana leads to her being taken to Bangladesh and being forced into a marriage that she has no interest in. To be gay in her culture is a sin and in Bangladesh, many have been beaten or even killed.

Konigsberg, Bill. ***The Music of What Happens***. Arthur A. Levine Books. 978-1-338215-502. T \$17.99 (Gr 10 & up). This romantic novel is filled with poetry, food, and art, but it also tackles the serious issues of consent, grief, and gender conformity. Through happenstance, Max and Jordan end up in the hot, Arizona summer heat working on a derelict food truck, "Coq Au Vinny." The food truck belonged to Jordan's deceased father and Jordan desperately needs it to be successful. Max's lives with his mother since his parents divorced and his plans for sleeping in, playing video games, and hanging out with his friends have been thwarted by his mother who is forcing him to work instead. Romance ensues as the boys spend time learning about each other and making the food truck successful.

Korman, Gordon. ***The Unteachables***. Balzer + Bray. 978-0-062563-880. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). Kiana accidentally ends up in the class everyone calls The Unteachables. Each student in the class is deemed a loss cause, even their burned out teacher feels the same, at first that is. But as the class gets to know each other and their teacher gets to know them, both begin to change. It was kind of hard for me to believe that no one ever noticed (including her parents) that Kiana was in the wrong class and that no one had helped Parker with his reading problem before.

LaFevers, Robin. ***Courting Darkness***. HMH Books for Young Readers. 978-0-544991-194. T \$17.99 (Gr 10 & up). This dark and lusty tale set in 1489 begins where the His Fair Assassin series ends with the same sharply drawn characters, passionate decisions and political betrayals that made the series popular with historical fiction fans. Told in first person in alternating episodic chapters, Sybella and Genevieve are both trained assassins from the convent of Mortain, the god of Death, with different roles and gifts.

Logan, Claudia. **Pippa by Design**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR). 978-0-374359-560. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). This is a book about ballet, fashions and sisters. The story is about 2 sisters, both want to be the best at something- one a ballerina, the other a fashion designer. Sometimes they get along and other times they don't, a sibling relationship many readers will identify with. It is filled with facts about ballets and costumes from the past as well as how the costume department in a ballet company works.

Magoon, Kekla. **Light It Up**. Henry Holt & Company. 978-1-250128-898 T \$18.99 (Gr 9 & up). Magoon's latest novel houses an unapologetic, poignant narrative that forces readers to come face-to-face with the harsh realities of racial violence and racial profiling in America. Shae is a 13-year-old Black girl who leaves school one day and never makes it home. Rather, she is shot and killed by a police officer for doing nothing more than wearing headphones and simply existing, her body left lying in the street for hours. Her senseless death rocks her community and affects the lives of many around her. Following Shae's murder, unrest mounts in her community, and protesters bearing the message that Black Lives Matter clash with white-supremacist demonstrators.

McDonald, Brian. **Old Souls**. First Second. 978-1-626727-328. T[GN] \$24.99 (Gr 9 & up). Chris buys lunch everyday for a homeless man and is uncertain to why he feels obligated to do so. Eventually he understands the connection between him and the homeless man and it is unnerving. With his discovery, Chris enters into a world that leads him to his previous lives that maybe he should not have revisited. There is a previous life that needs closure in order for him to live in the present, can he do it or will his present life crash?

McGovern, Kate. **Fear of Missing Out**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 978-0-374305-475. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). When Astrid learns that her cancer has returned, she hears about a radical technology called cryopreservation that may allow her to have her body frozen until a future time when--and if--a cure is available. With her boyfriend, Mohit, and her best friend, Chloe, Astrid goes on a road trip in search of that possibility. To see if it's real. To see if it's worth it. For fear of missing out on everything.

Meconis, Dylan. **Queen of the Sea**. Walker Books Us. 978-1-536204-988. T [GN] \$24.99 (Grades 6 & up). When her sister seizes the throne, Queen Eleanor of Albion is banished to a tiny island off the coast of her kingdom. The island is also home to Margaret, a mysterious young orphan girl. Dylan Meconis paints Margaret's world in soft greens, grays, and reds, transporting readers to a quiet, windswept island at the heart of a treasonous royal plot.

Miller, Kayla. **Click**. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 978-1-328-70735-2. T[GN] \$24.99 (Gr 4-6). A graphic novel that explores what it's like to have friends across many friend groups and still feel excluded. Olive clicks with many groups but she doesn't have one, specific friend group. When a talent show is announced, kids start to align into performance groups, but no one thinks to ask Olive because each group assumes she is part of another. Olive is sad and disappointed, but she uses the exclusion to find the thing that she is best at in a very satisfying ending. Miller's illustrations are clear, the text is not too dense, and the panels are limited to a few per page and are well-defined. Perfect for kids in upper elementary/early middle school who are trying to navigate the ever-changing friendship scene.

Peirce, Lincoln. **Max and the MidKnights**. Crown Books for Young Readers. 978-1-101-93108-0. T[GN] \$13.99 (Gr 2-6). A highly-illustrated novel from the beloved creator of the Big Nate books, this one will appeal to readers of graphic novels, of adventure stories, and knight's tales. Max is a hero everyone can get behind and the antics of this wannabe knight and friends is entertaining and engaging. The twist in the story was pleasing and the ending, satisfying. An easy and necessary purchase for elementary/middle grade collections.

Philbrick, Rodman. **Wildfire**. The Blue Sky Press. 978-1-338266-900. T[M] \$17.99 (Grades 4-8). A wildfire in Maine — inspired by the Great Fire of 1947 — sweeps through Sam's summer camp. As Sam is about to board an evacuation bus, he remembers he left his cell phone in his cabin. In an all-too-believable scene, Sam runs back to his cabin for his phone and in an instant is cut off from the buses when the fire flares up. Suddenly, he is in survival mode. Along the way, he meets up with Delphy who got separated from her summer camp and together they race to escape the fast-moving flames.

Philippe, Ben. **The Field Guide to the North American Teenager**. Balzer + Bray. 978-0-062824-110. T \$18.99 (Grades 7 & up). In steps Norris Kaplan, straight off the plane into the Austin, TX air. Not that a boy from Canada would complain much about the heat and humidity that is by the way — not to be found in the land of the North. Norris is cynical and way too smart for his own good. Many times he has been warned about what comes out his mouth and sure as shootin' the first day of his new high school is well — against him. A witty and humorous read.

Rishi, Farah Naz. **I Hope You Get This Message**. HarperTeen. 978-0-062741-454. T \$17.99 (Gr 8 & up). The Earth has received a message from outer space — that Earth is really an experimental colony and the superior beings that created Earth will destroy the planet due to its failure. Life on Earth will cease to exist in 9 days. Three teens are running out of time to face the mistakes in their lives — will they succeed before the end of the Earth. The readers of this well written and interesting twist in apocalyptic fiction, will recognize the issues that are currently present in our society and will make one wonder if our path is not already in destructive mode.

Ross, Susan. **Searching for Lottie**. Holiday House. 978-0-8234-4166-2. T\$17.99 (Gr 3-5). A historical fiction mystery set in contemporary time but involving a family torn apart by WWII and the Holocaust. Based on a story from Ross's own story, this short novel will take hold of a young reader's heart. The ties to music and family and the unspeakable loss of wartime make this a gripping read. Recommended for readers who enjoyed *The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

Rowell, Rainbow. ***Pumpkinheads***. First Second. 978-1-626721-623. T[GN] \$17.99 (Gr 7 & up). For the last several years, high schoolers Deja and Josiah (Josie) have been best friends during autumn, working together at the Pumpkin Patch's Succotash Hut. On Halloween, the last day of their final year working at the Patch, outgoing Deja, a plus-size black girl who has dated many of the Patch's staffers—girls and boys alike—intends to make sure that responsible, quiet Josie, who is white, finally talks to his long-standing crush, a young woman who works at the Fudge Shoppe. A packed night at the Patch leads to the duo pursuing "Fudge Girl" through the grounds, reliving memories, averting catastrophes, eating all their favorite snacks, and savoring one last autumnal night together.

Ruby, Laura. ***Thirteen Doorways: Wolves Behind Them All***. Balzer & Bray/Harperteen. 978-0-062317-643. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). This evocative tale entwines the lives of two young women—one living, one dead—in Chicago on the cusp of WWII. In 1941, 14-year-old promising artist Frankie Mazza; her younger sister, Toni; and their older brother, Vito, are "half-orphans"—children left at orphanages by parents struggling financially. The nuns can be strict, even injurious, and the sisters are further abandoned when their father remarries and moves to Colorado, taking only Vito and his new wife's children along. Narrator Pearl Brownlow, a ghost who died when she was not much older than Frankie, haunts Chicago's streets and the orphanage, reflecting on Frankie's life and her own. As Pearl slowly comes to terms with the shocking events that preceded her death, she watches Frankie fall in love and experience devastating loss, and witnesses the sisters' eventual return to their father and his horrible new family.

Safi, Aminah Mae. ***Tell Me How You Really Feel***. Feiwel & Friends. 978-1-250299-482. T \$17.99 (Grades 7 & up). A tale told in alternative viewpoints and inspired by classic romantic comedies follows the unlikely on-camera romance between an overachieving cheerleader and the senior film project director who secretly hates her.

Sedgwick, Marcus. ***Voyages in the Underworld of Orpheus Black***. Walker Books Us. 978153620437. T \$17.99 (Gr 10 & up). Harry Black is lost between the world of war and the land of myth in this illustrated novel that transports the tale of Orpheus to World War II-era London. A conscientious objector, artist, and firefighter battling the blazes of German bombing in London in 1944, wakes in the hospital to news that his soldier brother, Ellis, has been killed. In the delirium of his wounded state, Harry's mind begins to blur the distinctions between the reality of war-torn London, the fiction of his unpublished sci-fi novel, and the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice.

Tamaki, Mariko. ***Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me***. First Second. 978-1-250312-846 T[GN] \$24.99 (Gr 9 & up). Freddy feels so lucky to be the girlfriend of the most popular girl in school. The problem is that Laura Dean keeps breaking up with her. And is maybe not the best girlfriend. Following the advice of her best friend, Doodle, she asks a relationship medium for help about what she should do. Freddy finds herself being drawn deeper and deeper into the relationship with Laura until she realizes that maybe the problem hasn't been Laura—or at least it hasn't only been Laura. Maybe she needs to work on herself and try to be a better friend, too.

Thomas, Angie. ***On The Come Up***. Balzer & Bray/Harperteen. 978-0-062498-564. T \$18.99 (Gr 8 & up). As the daughter of an underground hip hop legend who died right before he hit big, Bri's got massive shoes to fill. But it's hard to get your come up when you're labeled a hoodlum at school, and your fridge at home is empty after your mom loses her job. So Bri pours her anger and frustration into her first song, which goes viral . . . for all the wrong reasons. Insightful, unflinching, and full of heart, *On the Come Up* is an ode to hip hop from one of the most influential literary voices of a generation. It is the story of fighting for your dreams, even as the odds are stacked against you; and about how, especially for young black people, freedom of speech isn't always free.

Van Eekhout, Greg. ***Cog***. HarperCollins Publishers. 978-0-06-268607-7. T \$16.99 (Gr 4-6). Cog looks like a normal twelve-year-old boy but he is actually a highly advanced robot, programmed to learn and share his knowledge with others. Cog lives with his creator and teacher, a well meaning engineer named Gina, who unwittingly tells Cog that sometimes we learn by making mistakes. Cog decides to purposefully make mistakes to increase his learning and ends up getting damaged. When Cog wakes after being repaired, he learns that he has been taken away from Gina and locked in a room at the uniMIND technology corporation. Uncomfortable with the way he is being treated, Cog decides to escape. Along the way, Cog enlists the help of four more robots: ADA, his newly found sister, Proto, a dog, Trashbot, and Car. The five robots go on a funny and fast-paced adventure to find Gina and escape the evil uniMIND, while making a lot of mistakes and learning to work together. A clever and heartwarming science fiction early middle grade novel.

Venable, Colleen A. F. ***Kiss Number 8***. First Second. 978-1-596437-098. T [GN] \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). Mads feels pretty good about her life at the moment. Between church with her family, baseball games with her dad, and school with her best friend Cat, high school is going pretty well. Plus, Mads has kissed seven different people. They've all been okay so far, but she doesn't really get the fuss until she realizes that she doesn't want her eighth kiss to be Adam, her neighbor with an obvious crush on her. She wants it to be Cat. Add to that a family secret that her dad has been hiding, and Mads' good life has just become seriously messy.

Walden, Tillie. ***Are You Listening?*** First Second. 978-1-250207-562. T[GN] \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). Bea is a runaway and happens to run into Lou, a friend of her mother's, at a gas station in Texas. Both are running from truths in their lives that seem to be haunting them—grief and abuse. In their travels, Bea and Lou find a lost cat and set intentions of returning it to its rightful home in a town that doesn't seem to exist.

Waller, Sharon Biggs. *Girls On the Verge*. Henry Holt & Company. 978-1-250151-698. T \$17.99 (Gr 9 & up). Camille, ready to spend her summer at an advanced drama camp, is horrified to find herself pregnant from her first and only sexual encounter, and unwilling to give her future up for a baby with a boy she's never spoken to again. Realistically portraying a seventeen-year-olds pregnancy and the difficulties and laws surrounding the right to choose.

Wang, Jen. *Stargazing*. First Second. 978-1-250183-880.T \$12.99 (Gr 3-8). This graphic novel about friendship is based on an experience in Wang's childhood. The main character, Christine, is struggling with living up to the expectations of her parents and many of these include stereotypical behavior in the Chinese American community: do well at math, play violin, always obey your parents and strive to be the best. But Christine is not great at math and she is just okay at violin. When she meets Moon, another Chinese American girl, she realizes that not all Chinese Americans are the same, nor do they have to be.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CREAM OF THE CROP COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Andersen, School Librarian, Westbrook High School
Sarah Cropley - Scarborough Public Library, Scarborough
Patti Francis - School Librarian, Freeport Elementary Schools
Noelle Gallant, 8th Grade English Teacher, Saco Middle School
Kathy George, Children's Services Librarian, Gray Public Library
Jill O'Connor, Youth Services Librarian, Merrill Memorial Library
Kristin Taylor, Media Specialist, Biddeford High School

2020 National Award Winners

Award books listed here may or may not be included in the "Cream of the Crop" list.

American Indian Youth Literature Award - *Announced in even years and established to identify and honor the very best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians.*

Picture Book Winner: *Bowwow Powwow: Bagosenjige-niimi'idim*, written by Brenda J. Child (Red Lake Ojibwe), translated into Ojibwe by Gordon Jourdain (Lac La Croix First Nation), illustrated by Jonathan Thunder (Red Lake Ojibwe)

Picture Book Honors: *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*, written by Kevin Noble Maillard (Seminole Nation, Mekuskey Band), illustrated by Juana Martínez-Neal (Peruvian-American); *Birdsong*, written and illustrated by Julie Flett (Cree-Métis); *At the Mountain's Base*, written by Traci Sorell (Cherokee), illustrated by Weshoyot Alvitre (Tongva/Scots-Gaelic); *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*, written by Traci Sorell (Cherokee), illustrated by Frané Lessac; and *Raven Makes the Aleutians*, adapted from a traditional Tlingit story and illustrated by Janine Gibbons (Haida, Raven of the Double-Finned Killer Whale clan, Brown Bear House)

Middle Grade Winner: *Indian No More*, written by Charlene Willing McManis (Umpqua/Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde) with Traci Sorell (Cherokee)

Middle Grade Honors: *I Can Make This Promise*, written by Christine Day (Upper Skagit); and *The Grizzly Mother*, written by Hetxw'ms Gyetxw ("Brett D. Huson," Gitxsan), illustrated by Natasha Donovan (Métis Nation of British Columbia)

Young Adult Winner: *Hearts Unbroken*, written by Cynthia Leitich Smith (Muscogee)

Young Adult Honors: *Surviving the City*, written by Tasha Spillett (Nehiyaw-Trinidadian), illustrated by Natasha Donovan (Métis Nation of British Columbia); *Reawakening Our Ancestors' Lines: Revitalizing Inuit Traditional Tattooing*, gathered and compiled by Angela Hovak Johnston (Inuk), with photography by Cora De Vos (Inuk); *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People*, written by Debbie Reese (Nambé Owingeh) and Jean Mendoza; and *Apple in the Middle*, written by Dawn Quigley (Ojibwe, Turtle Mountain Band)

Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature - *award promotes Asian/Pacific American culture and heritage and is awarded based on literary and artistic merit.*

Picture Book Winner: *Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom*, written by Teresa Robeson, illustrated by Rebecca Huang

Picture Book Honor Book: *Bilal Cooks Daal*, written by Aisha Saeed, illustrated by Anoosha Syed

Children's Literature: *Stargazing*, written by Jen Wang

Children's Honor Book: *I'm Ok*, written by Patti Kim

Young Adult Literature: *They Called Us Enemy*, written by George Takei, Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott, illustrated by Harmony Becker

Young Adult Honor Book: *Frankly in Love*, written by David Yoon

Caldecott Medal – *Awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.*

Winner: *Undefeated*, illustrated by Kadir Nelson, written by Kwame Alexander

Honors: *Bear Came Along*, illustrated by LeUyen Pham, written by Richard T. Morris; *Double Bass Blues*, illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez, written by Andrea J. Loney; and *Going Down Home with Daddy*, illustrated by Daniel Minter, written by Kelly Starling Lyons

Charlotte Zolotow Award – Awarded to the best picture book text published in the United States.

Winner: *Johnny's Pheasant*, written by Cheryl Minnema, illustrated by Julie Flett

Honors: *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*, written by Kevin Noble Maillard, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal; *A Map Into the World*, written by Kao Kalia Yang, illustrated by Seo Kim; *Pokko and the Drum*, written and illustrated by Matthew Forsythe; *Saturday*, written and illustrated by Oge Mora; and *Truman*, written by Jean Reidy, illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins

Children's Literature Legacy Award - honors an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have made, over a period of years, a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children through books that demonstrate integrity and respect for all children's lives and experiences.

Kevin Henkes, whose works include *Kitten's First Full Moon* which won the Caldecott Award in 2005 and *The Year of Billy Miller*, recipient of a Newbery Honor in 2014. Henkes has also received two Geisel honors, two Caldecott honors and a second Newbery honor.

Coretta Scott King Award – Recognizes outstanding books for young adults and children by African American authors and illustrators that reflect the African American experience.

CSK Author Award

Winner: *New Kid*, written and illustrated by Jerry Craft

Honors: *The Stars and the Blackness Between Them*, written by Junauda Petrus; *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*, written by Kwame Mbalia; and *Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks*, written by Jason Reynolds

CSK Illustrator Award

Winner: *The Undefeated*, illustrated by Kadir Nelson, written by Kwame Alexander

Honors: *The Bell Rang*, illustrated and written by James E. Ransome; *Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace*, illustrated and written by Ashley Bryan; and *Sulwe*, illustrated by Vashti Harrison, written by Lupita Nyong'o

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award:

Genesis Begins Again, written by Alicia D. Williams

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award:

What Is Given from the Heart, illustrated by April Harrison, written by Patricia C. McKissack

Coretta Scott King/ Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

Mildred D. Taylor. Taylor's *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* won the 1977 Newbery Award and a Coretta Scott King Book Award honor. Taylor received the international 2003 inaugural NSK Neustadt Prize for Children's Literature. Her 2020 Logan family series conclusion *All the Days Past, All the Days to Come* continues addressing systemic injustice, entrenched inequality and the roots of racism.

Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media Award – Awarded to a digital media producer that has created distinguished digital media for an early learning audience.

Winner: *Molly of Denali*, produced by WGBH

Honor Recipients: *Seek*, produced by iNaturalist; and *States of Matter* by Tinybop, produced by Tinybop, Inc.

Katahdin Award – A lifetime achievement award given by the Youth Services Section of the Maine Library Association to recognize an outstanding body of work of children's literature in Maine by one author or illustrator. The award may be given annually but may not necessarily be given each year.

Lupine Award – Presented annually by the Youth Services Section of the Maine Library Association, to recognize an outstanding contribution to children's literature in Maine.

Picture Book

Winner: *Going Home with Daddy* by Kelly Starling Lyons, illus. Daniel Minter

Honor: *Maybe Tomorrow?* by Charlotte Agell, illus. Ana Ramírez González

J/YA

Winner: *Searching for Lottie* by Susan Ross

Honor: *American Trailblazers: 50 Remarkable People Who Shaped U.S. History* by Pau Morgan, Toby Newsome, and Cecelia Pugliesi

Margaret A. Edwards Award – Recognizes an author and his/her body of work for outstanding contribution to young adult literature.

Steve Sheinkin whose books include: *Bomb: The Race to Build-and Steal-the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*, *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights*, and *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, & Treachery*

Mildred L. Batchelder Award – Awarded to an American publisher for a children's book considered to be the most

outstanding of those books originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country and subsequently translated into English and published in the United States.

Winner: *Brown*, originally published in Norwegian as *Brune*, written by Håkon Øvreås, illustrated by Øyvind Torseter, translated by Kari Dickson

Honors: *The Beast Player*, written by Nahoko Uehashi, illustrated by Yuta Onoda and translated from the Japanese by Cathy Hirano; *The Distance Between Me and the Cherry Tree*, written by Paola Peretti, illustrated by Carolina Rabei, translated from the Italian by Denise Muir; *Do Fish Sleep?*, written by Jens Raschke, illustrated by Jens Rasmus, translated from the German by Belinda Cooper; and *When Spring Comes to the DMZ*, written by Uk-Bae Lee, illustrated by the author, translated from the Korean by Chungyon Won and Aileen Won

Newbery Medal – *The most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.*

Winner: *New Kid*, written and illustrated by Jerry Craft

Honors: *The Undeclared*, written by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Kadir Nelson; *Scary Stories for Young Foxes*, written by Christian McKay Heidicker, illustrated by Junyi Wu; *Other Words for Home*, written by Jasmine Warga; and *Genesis Begins Again*, written by Alicia D. Williams

Odyssey Award – *for best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States.*

Winner: *Hey, Kiddo: How I Lost My Mother, Found My Father, and Dealt with Family Addiction*, written by Jarrett J. Krosoczka and narrated by the author, Jeanne Birdsall, Jenna Lamia, Richard Ferrone and a full cast.

Honors: *Redwood and Ponytail*, written by K.A. Holt and narrated by Cassandra Morris and Tessa Netting; *Song for a Whale*, written by Lynne Kelly and narrated by Abigail Revasch with the author; *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*, written by Traci Sorell and narrated by Lauren Hummingbird, Agalisiga (Choogie) Mackey, Ryan Mackey, Traci Sorell, Tonia Weavel; and *We're Not from Here*, written by Geoff Rodkey and narrated by Dani Martineck.

Printz (Michael L.) Award – *Awarded for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature.*

Winner: *Dig*, written by A.S. King

Honors: *The Beast Player*, written by Nahoko Uehashi, translated by Cathy Hirano; *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me*, written by Mariko Tamaki, illustrated by Rosemary Valero-O'Connell; *Ordinary Hazards: A Memoir*, written by Nikki Grimes; and *Where the World Ends*, written by Geraldine McCaughrean

Pura Belpré – *Presented to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.*

Author Award

Winner: *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe*, written by Carlos Hernandez

Honors: *Lety Out Loud*, written by Angela Cervantes; *The Other Half of Happy*, written by Rebecca Balcárcel; *Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré*, written by Anika Aldamuy Denise, illustrated by Paola Escobar; and *Soldier for Equality: José de la Luz Sáenz and the Great War*, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh

Illustrator Award

Winner: *Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln*, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Margarita Engle

Honors: *Across the Bay*, illustrated and written by Carlos Aponte; *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*, illustrated by Zeke Peña, written by Isabel Quintero; and *¡Vamos! Let's Go to the Market*, illustrated and written by Raúl Gonzalez

Robert F. Sibert Medal – *Honors the most distinguished informational book published in English in the preceding year for its significant contribution to children's literature.*

Winner: *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*, written by Kevin Noble Maillard, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

Honors: *All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World*, written by Lori Alexander, illustrated by Vivien Mildenerberger; *This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality*, written by Jo Ann Allen Boyce and Debbie Levy; *Ordinary Hazards: A Memoir*, written by Nikki Grimes; and *Hey, Water!* written and illustrated by Antoinette Portis

Schneider Family Book Award – *Honors an author or illustrator for a book that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.*

Children's Winner(birth-age 10): *Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You*, written by Sonia Sotomayor, illustrated by Rafael López

Children's Honor Book: *A Friend for Henry*, written by Jenn Bailey, illustrated by Mika Song

Middle (age 11-13): *Song for a Whale*, written by Lynne Kelly

Middle Honor Book: *Each Tiny Spark*, written by Pablo Cartaya

Teen (age 13-18): *Cursed*, written by Karol Ruth Silverstein

Teen Honor Book: *The Silence Between Us*, written by Alison Gervais

Stonewall Book Award - Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children's & Young Adult Literature Award – Given annually to English language children's and young adult books of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience.

Winners: *When Aidan Became a Brother*, written by Kyle Lukoff, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita; and *The Black Flamingo*, written by Dean Atta, illustrated by Anshika Khullar

Honors: *Pet*, written by Akwaeke Emezi; *Like a Love Story*, written by Abdi Nazemian; and *The Best at It*, written by Maulik Pancholy

The Sydney Taylor Book Award - Given annually to outstanding books for children and teens that authentically portray the Jewish experience.

Picture Book Winner: *The Book Rescuer: How a Mensch from Massachusetts Saved Yiddish Literature for Generations to Come*, written by Sue Macy, illustrated by Stacy Innerst

Picture Book Honors: *Gittel's Journey*, written by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Amy June Bates; and *The Key from Spain: Flory Jagoda and Her Music*, written by Debbie Levy, illustrated by Sonja Wimmer

Middle Grade Winner: *White Bird: A Wonder Story*, written and illustrated by R. J. Palacio

Middle Grade Honors: *Anya and the Dragon*, written by Sofiya Pasternack; and *Games of Deception: The True Story of the First U.S. Olympic Basketball Team at the 1936 Olympics in Hitler's Germany*, written by Andrew Maraniss

Young Adult Winner: *Someday We Will Fly*, written by Rachel DeWoskin

Young Adult Honors: *Dissenter on the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Life and Work*, written by Victoria Ortiz; and *Sick Kids in Love*, written by Hannah Moskowitz

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award – Honors the author of the most distinguished contribution to the body of American children's literature known as 'beginning reader books' published in the United States during the preceding year.

Winner: *Stop! Bot!*, written and illustrated by James Yang

Honors: *Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot!*, written and illustrated by Cece Bell; *Flubby Is Not a Good Pet!*, written and illustrated by J. E. Morris; and *The Book Hog*, written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli

William C. Morris Award – Honors a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens and celebrating impressive new voices in young adult literature.

The Field Guide to the North American Teenager, written by Ben Philippe

YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults – Honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults ages 12 -18.

Free Lunch, written by Rex Ogle

Finalists: *The Great Nijinsky: God of Dance*, written and illustrated by Lynn Curlee

A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, and the Holocaust, written by Albert Marrin

A Thousand Sisters: The Heroic Airwomen of the Soviet Union in World War II, written by Elizabeth Wein

Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of 'The Children's Ship', written by Deborah Heiligman