PREVIOUS BOOK AWARD WINNERS

2015

Books for Younger Children

Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and her family’s fight for desegregation, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh and published by Abrams Books.

Books for Older Children

The Girl From the Tar Paper School: Barbara Rose Johns and the advent of the Civil Rights Movement by Teri Kanefield and published by Abrams Books for Young Readers.

Honors Books for Younger Children

Whispering Town written by Jennifer Elvgren and illustrated by Fabio Santomauro and published by Kar-Ben Publishing.


Honors Books for Older Children

Revolution by Deborah Wiles published by Scholastic Press.

Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal by Margarita Engle published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

2014

Books for Younger Children

Books for Older Children


Honors Books for Younger Children

We Shall Overcome: The Story of a Song written by Debbie Levy and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton and published by Jump at the Sun, an imprint of Disney-Hyperion.

Razia’s Ray of Hope: One Girl’s Dream of an Education written by Elizabeth Suneby and illustrated by Suana Verelst and published by Kids Can Press.

Honors Books for Older Children

Seeing Red by Kathryn Erskine and published by Scholastic Press.

Brotherhood by Anne Westrick and published by Viking.

2013

Books for Younger Children


Books for Older Children


Honors Books for Younger Children


We March written and illustrated by Shane W. Evans, and published by Roaring Brook Press, a Neal Porter imprint of Macmillan.

Honors Books for Older Children

Marching to the Mountaintop: How Poverty, Labor Fights and Civil Rights Set the Stage for Martin Luther King Jr’s Final Hours, written by Ann Bausum and published by National Geographic.

2012

Books for Younger Children

The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families written by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore, illustrated by Susan L. Roth, published by Lee & Low

Books for Older Children

Sylvia & Aki by Winifred Conkling, published by Tricycle Press, an imprint of Random House

Honors Books for Younger Children


Belle, the Last Mule at Gee’s Bend written by Calvin Alexander Ramsey and Bettye Stroud, illustrated by John Holyfield, and published by Candlewick Press.

Honors Books for Older Children


2011

Books for Younger Children


Books for Older Children

A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Sue Park, Clarion Books, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company
Honors Books for Younger Children


Ruth and the Green Book by Calvin Alexander Ramsey with Gwen Strauss and illustrated by Floyd Cooper, published by Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

Honors Books for Older Children


Birmingham Sunday by Larry Dane Brimner, Calkins Creek, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc.

2010

Books for Younger Children

Nasreen’s Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan, written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter, Beach Lane Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing

Books for Older Children


Honors Books for Younger Children

Sojourner Truth’s Step-Stomp Stride, by Andrea Davis Pinkney & Brian Pinkney, published by Disney-Jump at the Sun Books.

You and Me and Home Sweet Home by George Ella Lyon and Stephanie Anderson, a Richard Jackson Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing.

Honors Books for Older Children

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Tanya Lee Stone, is published by Candlewick Press.

2009

Books for Younger Children

Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai, written and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola, published by Frances Foster Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group

Books for Older Children

The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom, written by Margarita Engle, published by Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group

Honors Books for Younger Children

The Storyteller's Candle/La velita de los cuentos, Story by Cuento Lucía González, Illustrations/Illustraciones Lulu Delacre, published by Children's Book Press..

Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad written and illustrated by James Rumford, is a Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.

Honors Books for Older Children


Ain't Nothing But a Man: My Quest to Find the Real John Henry, published by National Geographe

2008

Books for Younger Children

The Escape of Oney Judge: Martha Washington’s Slave Finds Freedom, published by Calkins Creek, published by Farrar Strauss Giroux
Books for Older Children

We Are One: The Story of Bayard Rustin by Larry Dane Brimner, written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc.

Honors Books for Younger Children

One Thousand Tracings: Healing the Wounds of World War II written and illustrated by Lita Judge, published by Hyperion Books for Children.

Honors Books for Older Children

Rickshaw Girl by Mitali Perkins, illustrations by Jamie Hogan, published by Charlesbridge.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis, published by Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc.


2007

Books for Older Children


Books for Younger Children

A Place Where Sunflowers Grow, written by Amy Lee-Tai, illustrated by Felicia Hoshino and published by Children’s Book Press.

Honors Books for Older Children

Counting on Grace,  
by Elizabeth Winthrop,  
published by Wendy Lamb Books.

**Honors Books for Younger Children**

Night Boat to Freedom,  
written by Margot Theis Raven with pictures by E. B. Lewis,  
published by Melanie Kroupa Books

Crossing Bok Chitto:  
told in written form by nationally recognized Choctaw storyteller, Tim Tingle,  
illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridges, an award-winning artist,  
published by Cinco Puntos press.

**2006**

**Books for Older Children**

Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX, the Law that Changed the Future of Girls in America,  
by Karen Blumenthal  
published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster

**Books for Younger Children**

Delivering Justice: W. W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights,  
written by Jim Haskins illustrated by Benny Andrews,  
published by Candlewick Press

**Honors Books for Older Children**

The Crazy Man,  
by Pamela Porter,  
published by Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press

Sweetgrass Basket,  
by Marlene Carvell,  
published by Dutton Children’s Books a Division of Penguin Young Readers Group.

**Honors Books for Younger Children**

Poems to Dream Together=Poemas Para Soñar Juntos,  
written by Francisco X. Alarcón,  
illustrated by Paula Barragán,  
published by Lee and Low Books, Inc.
2005

**Books for Older Children**

*With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote,* by Ann Bausum, published by National Geographic Society.

**Honor Books for Older Children**

*The Heaven Shop,* by Deborah Ellis, published by Fitzhenry & Whiteside.

**Books for Younger Children**

*Sélavi, That is Life: A Haitian Story of Hope,* written and illustrated by Youme Landowne, from Cinco Puntos Press.

**Honors Books for Younger Children**

*Hot Day on Abbott Avenue*  
by Karen English, with collage art of Javaka Steptoe  
published by Clarion Books.

*Henry and the Kite Dragon,*  
by Bruce Edward Hall, with paintings of William Low  
published by Philomel Books/Penguin Young Readers Group.

*Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing,*  
by James Rumford (and translation into Cherokee by Anna Sixkiller Huckaby),  

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2004

**Picture Book Category:**


**Honor Books:**


**Book for Older Children:**

Out of Bounds: Seven Stories of Conflict and Hope, written by Beverley Naidoo and published by HarperCollins Children's Books.

**Honor Books:**


Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York 1880-1924 by Deborah Hopkinson and published by Orchard Books, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc.

**Special Commendation:**

This year a Special Commendation is being awarded to The Breadwinner Trilogy, three books by Deborah Ellis, published by Groundwood Books/Douglas & McIntyre. The Breadwinner, Parvana's Journey, and Mud City are connected realistic novels of children in contemporary Afghanistan, orphaned and displaced by war. As refugees in their own ravaged country, the courageous protagonist in each story displays her own special enterprise and perseverance.

2003

**Book for Older Children:**

Parvana's Journey

**Honor Books:**

The Same Stuff as Stars

When My Name Was Keoko

**Picture Book:**
Patrol: An American Soldier in Vietnam

Honor Books:

¡Si, Se Puede! Yes We Can! Janitor Strike In L.A.

The Village That Vanished

2002

Book for Older Children:

The Other Side of Truth

Honor Books:

A Group of One

True Believer

Picture Book:

Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Honor Book:

Amber Was Brave, Essie Was Smart

2001

Book for Older Children:

Esperanza Rising
written by Pam Muñoz Ryan. Scholastic Press, 2000

Honor Books:
The Color of My Words
written by Lynn Joseph.
A Joanna Cotler Book / HarperCollins, 2000

Darkness over Denmark: The Danish Resistance and the Rescue of the Jews

Walking to the Bus-Rider Blues
written by Harriette Gillem Robinet.

Picture Book:

The Composition

Honor Book:

The Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark

2000

Book for Older Children:

Through My Eyes

Honor Books:

The Birchbark House

Kids on Strike!

Picture Book:

Molly Bannaky

Honor Books:
A Band of Angels: A Story Inspired
written by the Jubilee Singers by Deborah Hopkinson.

When Sophie Gets Angry -- Really, Really Angry...

1999

Book for Older Children:

Bat 6

Honor Books:

The Heart of a Chief

No More Strangers Now

Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange

Picture Book:

Painted Words / Spoken Memories: Marianthe's Story

Honor Books:

Hey, Little Ant
written by Phillip and Hannah Hoose. Illustrated by Debbie Tilley. Tricycle Press, 1998

i see the rhythm

This Land Is Your Land

1998

Book for Older Children:
Habibi

**Honor Books:**

*The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child*

*Seedfolks*

**Picture Book:**

*Seven Brave Women*

**Honor Books:**

*Celebrating Families*

*Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story*

1997

**Book for Older Children:**

*Growing Up In Coal County*

**Honor Books:**

*Behind the Bedroom Wall*
written by Laura E. Williams. Milkweed, 1996.

*Second Daughter: The Story of a Slave Girl*
written by Mildred Pitts Walter. Scholastic, 1996.

**Picture Book:**

*Wilma Unlimited*

**Honor Book:**
The Day Gogo Went to Vote

1996

Book for Older Children:

The Well

Honor Books:

From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun


The Watsons Go to Birmingham -- 1963

Picture Book:

No award given.

Special Commendation:

The Middle Passage

1995

Book for Older Children:

Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor

Honor Books:

Cezanne Pinto

I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This

Picture Book:
Sitti's Secrets

**Honor Book:**

Bein’ with You This Way

1994

**Book for Older Children:**

Freedom's Children: Young Civil Rights Activists Tell Their Stories

**Honor Book:**

Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery

**Picture Book:**

This Land Is My Land

**Honor Book:**

Soul Looks Back in Wonder

1993

**Book for Older Children:**

A Taste of Salt: A Story of Modern Haiti

**Honor Book:**

Letters from a Slave Girl: The Story of Harriet Jacobs

**Picture Book:**

Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky
Honor Book:

*Mrs. Katz and Tush*

1992

*Journey of the Sparrows*
written by Fran Leeper Buss with the assistance of Daisy Cubias. Lodestar, 1991.

Honor Book:

*Now Is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom*

1991

*The Big Book for Peace*

Honor Books:

*The Journey: Japanese-Americans, Racism and Renewal*

*The Middle of Somewhere: A Story of South Africa*

1990

*A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter*

Honor Books:

*Number the Stars*

*Shades of Gray*

*The Wednesday Surprise*
1989 (Tie):

*Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave*

*Looking Out*

**Honor Books:**

*December Stillness*

*The Most Beautiful Place in the World*

*Rescue: The Story of How Gentiles Saved Jews in the Holocaust*

1988

*Waiting for the Rain: A Novel of South Africa*

**Honor Books:**

*Nicolas, Where Have You Been?*

*Trouble at the Mines*

1987

*Nobody Wants a Nuclear War*

**Honor Books:**

*All in a Day*

*Children of the Maya: A Guatemalan Indian Odyssey*
written by Brent Ashabranner. Photographs by Paul Conklin. Dodd, Mead, 1986
1986

*Ain’t Gonna Study War No More: The Story of America’s Peace Seekers*

**Honor Book:**

*Journey to the Soviet Union*

1985

*The Short Life of Sophie Scholl*

**Honor Books:**

*The Island on Bird Street*

*Music, Music for Everyone*

1984

*Rain of Fire*

1983

*Hiroshima No Pika*

**Honor Books:**

*The Bomb*

*If I Had a Paka: Poems in Eleven Languages*
West Coast Honor Book: People at the Edge of the World: The Ohlone of Central California

**Special Recognition:**

*All the Colors of the Race*

*Children as Teachers of Peace*

1982

*A Spirit to Ride the Whirlwind*

**Honor Books:**

*Let the Circle Be Unbroken*

*Lupita Mañana*

1981

*First Woman in Congress: Jeannette Rankin*

**Honor Books:**

*Chase Me, Catch Nobody!*

*Doing Time: A Look at Crime and Prisons*

*We Are Mesquakie, We Are One*

1980

*The Road from Home: The Story of an Armenian Girl*
**West Coast Honor Book:**

*Woman from Hiroshima*

**Special Recognition:**

*Natural History*

1979

*Many Smokes, Many Moons: A Chronology of American Indian History through Indian Art*

**Honor Books:**

*Escape to Freedom*

*The Great Gilly Hopkins*

1978

*Child of the Owl*

**Honor Books:**

*Alan and Naomi*

*Mischling, Second Degree*

**Special Recognition:**

*Amifika*

*The Wheel of King Asoka*
Never to Forget: The Jews of the Holocaust

**Honor Book:**

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

1976

*Paul Robeson*

**Honor Books:**

*Dragonwings*

*Song of the Trees*

*Z for Zachariah*

1975

*The Princess and the Admiral*

**Honor Books:**

*The Eye of Conscience*

*My Brother Sam Is Dead*

*Viva la Raza!*
written by Elizabeth Sutherland Martinez and Enriqueta Longeaux y Vasquez. Doubleday, 1974.

1974

*Nilda*
Honor Books:

* A Hero Ain't Nothin' but a Sandwich

* Men Against War

* A Pocket Full of Seeds

1973

* The Riddle of Racism

Honor Book:

* The Upstairs Room

1972

* The Tamarack Tree

1971

* Jane Addams: Pioneer of Social Justice

1970

* The Cay

1969

* The Endless Steppe: Growing Up in Siberia

1968

* The Little Fishes
1967

*Queenie Peavy*

1966

*Berries Goodman*

1965

*Meeting with a Stranger*

1964

*Profiles in Courage: Young Readers Memorial Edition*

1963

*The Monkey and the Wild, Wild Wind*

1962

*The Road to Agra*

1961

*What Then, Raman?*

1960

*Champions of Peace*
written by Edith Patterson Meyer. Little Brown, 1959.

1959

No Award Given

1958
The Perilous Road

1957

Blue Mystery

1956

Story of the Negro

1955

Rainbow Round the World

1954

Stick-in-the-Mud

1953

People Are Important