

Jane Addams Children's Book Award

Annotated Winners and Honor Books 2004 - Present

2017 Winners and Honor Books

Steamboat School, written by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Ron Husband, and published by Disney-Jump at the Sun, an imprint of Disney Book Group, is the winner in the Books for Younger Children category. *Steamboat School* is a fictionalized account of Reverend John Meachum's resourceful circumvention of an 1847 Missouri statute that outlawed schooling for African Americans. This picture book sketches the evolution of Meachum's secret school from its location in a cellar, through its closure by police, to its reincarnation on a steamboat floating on the Mississippi River, well beyond the laws of any territory. It's also the transformative story of young James, one of the students, who realizes the importance of small acts of courage. Detailed pen and ink illustrations animate the story, accenting a world whose darkness is made lighter through education.

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story, written by Caren B. Stelson, and published by Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, is the winner in the Books for Older Children category. *Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story* traces the life of Sachiko Yasui, a six year old playing with friends a mere half mile from ground zero when the United States bombed Nagasaki. Some, including Sachiko's brothers, died within days of the blast, while others, including a younger sister and her father, slowly died from cancer. Drawing strength from her personal teachers of peace - her father, Helen Keller, Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr., the adult Sachiko finds the courage fifty years later to tell her own story and work publicly to change the world. Sachiko's dignified voice emerges with elegance and respect in this documentary based upon extensive interviews and extended with poignant and pointed historical photographs.

First Step: How One Girl Put Segregation on Trial, written by Susan E. Goodman, illustrated by E. B. Lewis, and published by Bloomsbury Children's Books, spotlights a decisive action in the long history of African American efforts to desegregate schools by law. Banned from a nearby school for white children only, young Sarah Roberts must travel from one side of Boston to the other to attend a school for black children. Her parents fight back against this injustice and bring a case against the city. While Sarah's case is unsuccessful, it is the first step on the road to the groundbreaking *Brown v. Board of Education* nearly 100 years later and to the systemic change underway today. Lewis' warm watercolor illustrations enliven the text and make *The First Step* accessible to young readers.

I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark, written by Debbie Levy, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley, and published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, celebrates Ruth Bader Ginsburg's lifelong refusal to accept the unacceptable. Inspired by her mother, Ginsburg's devotion to fighting for justice is signaled by the refrain "I dissent" that rings through both text and illustrations. Frequently humorous, this picture book biography notes Ginsburg's foibles, the support of her husband and family, and her struggles as a lawyer, professor and judge. With energy and charm, Levy and Baddeley represent Justice Ginsburg as a true hero who never hesitates to disagree with the status quo either in her personal life or on the bench of the U.S. Supreme Court.

We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler, written by Russell Freedman, and published by Clarion Books, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, charts the political evolution of a handful of university students, many former members of the Hitler Youth, as they witness Nazi persecution of German citizens. Freedman centers this sobering documentary on the short lives of White Rose founder Hans Scholl and his younger sister Sophie, siblings who wrote, printed, and distributed anti-Nazi leaflets, ultimately making them targets of the Gestapo. Black and white photographs show just how average these students were in many ways while the text highlights their extraordinary bravery. Although they were executed for their defiance, Hans' and Sophie's courage inspired others then, and inspires young people now, to speak out against injustice, discrimination, prejudice and state violence.

Wolf Hollow, written by Lauren Wolk, published by Dutton Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Random House, is a coming-of-age novel set in rural World War II Pennsylvania. Twelve-year-old Annabelle encounters incorrigible cruelty for the first time when a bully, Betty, singles her out. Betty's ceaseless campaign against Annabelle extends to Toby, a troubled homeless World War I veteran who roams the woods between Annabelle's home and school. As a false accusation takes hold of the town, Annabelle's awareness of the world's unfairness grows. Despite supportive parents and her own courageous actions, Annabelle cannot prevent a chain of tragic events; her dilemma challenges readers to think about how to live morally and ethically in a world marred by cruelty and war.

2016 Winners and Honor Books

New Shoes written by Susan Lynn Meyer, illustrated by Eric Velasquez and published by Holiday House, is the Winner in the Books for Younger Children category. *New Shoes* depicts Ella Mae, who after being dismayed and humiliated by a common shoe store practice of the 1950's that forced African Americans to trace their feet rather than try on shoes for size, hits upon an alternative that offers dignity and respect. She and her cousin, Charlotte, after collecting used shoes, polishing them, then scrubbing or replacing their laces, open a shoe store for the black community where finally everyone is allowed "to try on all the shoes they want."

Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March by Lynda Blackmon Lowery as told to Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley, illustrated by PJ Loughran, and published by Dial Books an imprint of Penguin Group LLC, is the Winner in the Books for Older Children category. *Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March* is the thrilling and moving account of Lynda Blackmon Lowery's experiences as the youngest member of the Selma to Montgomery March, one of the iconic moments of the Civil Rights Movement. Using many of Lowery's own words and written in an extremely accessible style, the narrative makes clear the courage it took to march repeatedly, especially given the lingering effects of violence protesters suffered. These narrative details underscore the triumph of the marchers and their mission.

Lillian's Right to Vote: A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Shane W. Evans, and published by Schwartz & Wade Books, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, is an Honor Book in the Books for Younger Children category. Elderly Lillian's walk up a hill to vote is reminiscent of her people's climb toward freedom and is marked by memories of them, from her enslaved great-grandparents to those who fought and died during the civil rights movement. When Lillian places her finger on the button at the polling station, we understand that the act of voting is sacred, honoring the sorrows, sacrifices, and triumphs of her people.

Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation written by Edwidge Danticat, illustrated by Leslie Staub, and published by Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Group LLC, is an Honor Book in the Books for Younger Children category. Saya is a young Haitian-American girl whose mother has been incarcerated as an illegal immigrant. Night after night, Saya listens longingly to recordings of her mother's songs and bedtime stories. As she and her father await a decision on her mother's immigration status, Saya finds a way to share her story in hopes of making the family whole again.

The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, and published by Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., is an Honor Book in the Books for Younger Children category. Fueled by determination and belief in the power of words to change lives, Louis Michaux opened the National Memorial African Bookstore in 1930's Harlem with a handful of books, a storefront, and little capital. Up to and throughout the Civil Rights era, that bookstore became a gathering place for black intellectuals and activists, including Malcolm X and Langston Hughes. This nonfiction picture book shares the courageous story of a bookstore and its founder as they empowered a community.

Full Cicada Moon by Marilyn Hilton published by Dial Books, an imprint of Penguin Group LLC, is an Honor Book in the Books for Older Children category. *Full Cicada Moon* tells in vivid free verse the story of twelve-year-old Mimi who dreams of being an astronaut. It is 1969, and Mimi's family has just moved from sunny California to frosty New England. Their new community doesn't know what to make of this family of mixed African-American and Japanese heritage. Mimi especially struggles with her feelings of alienation, but with the help of her parents, she learns how to stand strong in her sense of self and to bring about change in the community.

2015 Winners and Honor Books

Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and her family's fight for desegregation, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh, is published by Abrams Books for Young Readers. When Sylvia Mendez and her siblings enrolled in a new school system, they were told they must attend an inferior "school for Mexicans" because they were dirty, uneducated, and didn't speak English – despite that all of these things were demonstrably untrue. Sylvia's family worked tirelessly to unite the Latino community and bring an end to the segregation. *Separate is Never Equal* brings the story to life with illustrations done in a style meant to echo Mayan codex figures. Winner, Books for Younger Children, 2015.

The Girl from the Tar Paper School: Barbara Rose Johns and the advent of the Civil Rights Movement by Teri Kanefield, is published by Abrams Books for Young Readers. *The Girl from the Tar Paper School* tells the story of sixteen year old Barbara Rose Johns, a high school student who led a student walk out to protest racial inequality in the school system – the first public protest of its kind, and one of the cases that helped end segregation as part of *Brown vs. the Board of Education*. Winner, Books for Older Children, 2015.

Whispering Town written by Jennifer Elvgren and illustrated by Fabio Santomauro and published by Kar-Ben Publishing tells the story of a young child in a small town in Nazi-occupied Denmark that united to smuggle Jews out of the country. Perfectly balancing the dread of the situation with the heroism of the townspeople, this book is an excellent introduction to the subject matter for young children. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2015.

Shooting at the Stars: The Christmas Truce of 1914 by John Hendrix, published by Abrams Books for Young Readers tells the story of the Christmas Truce in the trenches of WWI. The powerful story conveys the futility of war and the powerlessness of individual soldiers who are nonetheless united in eking out a moment of shared humanity amid chaos. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2015.

Revolution by Deborah Wiles published by Scholastic Press uses a unique format that incorporates primary source documents and song lyrics from the 1960's with more conventional novel narration to tell the story of Freedom Summer through the eyes of young people whose worlds are turning upside down. Primarily told through the voice of Sunny, a young white girl, depth and perspective are added to the narrative through Raymond, a black boy, and a third-person narrator. Honor Book for Older Children, 2015.

Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal by Margarita Engle published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt is a complex book that uses free verse poetry to give a voice to the many lives touched by the creation of the Panama Canal including the workers from the Caribbean, indigenous people, employees from the U.S., and even the jungle itself, conveying a story of profound injustice and inequality – and a fight for basic human rights. Honor Book for Older Children, 2015.

2014 Winners and Honor Books

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909, written by Michelle Markel and illustrated by Melissa Sweet, published by Balzer & Bray, an imprint of HarperCollins. Clara Lemlich, the young woman profiled in *Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909* was barely in her twenties when she helped to lead the largest walkout of women workers in US history. A Jewish immigrant from Ukraine, Clara found work in the New York garment industry, only to discover that the working conditions were abysmal and unjust. When the mostly male union leaders urged caution, Clara stood up and demanded a general strike. Despite threats and brutal retaliation from those in power, Clara helped to create change. Winner, Books for Younger Children, 2014.

Sugar by Jewell Parker Rhodes, published by Little, Brown and Company. Sugar is the name of the book, the name of the crop that dominates plantation life, and the name of the spirited young girl who tells us her story. The Civil War is over, but little has changed in Sugar's life. Most of the former slaves have moved away, leaving only those too elderly to travel and orphaned Sugar. With no other children around, Sugar starts a forbidden friendship with the son of the plantation owner, but the relationship is complicated. When workers from China are hired to work in the sugar fields, tensions erupt among every layer of plantation society. Winner, Books for Older Children, 2014.

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. "When...people sing out, they can change the world." Widely known as a Civil Rights anthem, the song has a long history that started well before that period, and continues to inspire around the world today. With lively illustrations and moving prose, the book explores the power of community through the story of one song. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2014.

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. Razia's village in Afghanistan is building a school for girls,

and Razia is determined to attend, despite initial reluctance from her elder brother. Through her own advocacy and spirit, her dream for an education is realized. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2014.

Seeing Red by Kathryn Erskine and published by Scholastic Press. In the early 1970's, twelve year old Red struggles with the damage his actions have caused to his friendship with an older African American boy, while at the same time trying to right a centuries-old racial injustice connected to his beloved family. Realistically complicated characters and situations breathe life into this story of a young man creating change in both his community and himself. Honor Book for Older Children, 2014.

Brotherhood by Anne Westrick and published by Viking. Uneasy in Reconstruction-era Virginia, Shad feels torn between conflicting loyalties when teachers at a controversial school for freed slaves, including an African American girl his own age, are able to help with his dyslexia at the same time that he is reveling in the sense of community and comradeship he feels with his recent induction into the newly formed Ku Klux Klan. Choosing between his new understanding of the African American community and his family and community results in hard choices and no easy answers in this look at a complex period of our history. Honor Book for Older Children, 2014.

2013 Winners and Honor Books

Each Kindness, written by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E.B. Lewis and published by Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin. Small actions, or the lack of them, can be haunting as is the case for Maya and for Chloe in their rural elementary school. This open-ended, profound tale created in free verse and sober watercolors glimpses interactions between Chloe and Maya, the new girl arriving midyear in broken sandals, before the teacher invites students to ponder their kindnesses. Winner, Books for Younger Children, 2013.

We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March, written by Cynthia Levinson and published by Peachtree Publishers. In 1963, four thousand young African American students, from elementary through high school, voluntarily went to jail in one of the most racially violent cities in America. Focusing on four of these students, this photo essay recounts the riveting events throughout the Children's March. Winner, Books for Older Children, 2013.

Dolores Huerta: A Hero to Migrant Workers, written by Sarah Warren and illustrated by Robert Casilla, published by Marshall Cavendish Children. In California in the 1950s, teacher Dolores Huerta was concerned for her students. Learning the conditions of the migrant families, Dolores became a determined activist who fought for labor rights through her words and actions. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2013.

We March, written and illustrated by Shane W. Evans, and published by Roaring Brook Press, a Neal Porter imprint of Macmillan. Simple and powerful illustrations capture the excitement and hope for even the youngest reader of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The colorful crowd of 250,000 demonstrates their strength and unity in marching to Martin Luther King's historical speech for racial equality. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2013.

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. A long sanitation worker strike began in 1968 following the deaths of two sanitation workers on the job sanitation

workers in Tennessee. The strike became part of the larger civil rights movement and brought Martin Luther King, Jr. to Nashville to support the workers in their fight for integration, safety, better pay and union protection. Honor Book for Older Children, 2013.

Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World by Sy Montgomery, published by Houghton Mifflin Books for Children. This biography with much first person input from Ms. Grandin herself explains how her autistic mind works, how her peers and family perceive her, and her relentless efforts as an activist. Honor Book for Older Children, 2013.

2012 Winners and Honor Books

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. The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families is ecological innovation at its best, all spearheaded by Dr. Gordon Sato, a survivor of the Japanese internment camp Manzanar and now a biologist committed to ending hunger throughout the world. In the village of Hargigo in Eritria, local women provide the labor to plant mangrove trees which supplies them with much needed income. The trees turn carbon dioxide to oxygen, attract fish, feed goats and sheep, and therefore children, all made visible in Roth's brilliant multimedia collage renderings. Winner, Books for Younger Children 2012.

Sylvia & Aki by Winifred Conkling, published by Tricycle Press, an imprint of Random House. True friends to this day, Sylvia & Aki never imagined the course of events that brought them together in their childhood. Ms. Conkling's narration introduces us to young Sylvia Mendez moving into Aki Munemitsu's home when Aki's family is relocated to a Japanese internment camp. Sylvia and her siblings are not allowed to register at the same school Aki attended, but are sent to a "Mexican" school. Thus the stage is set for Sylvia's father to challenge the separation of races in California's schools by filing the suit that ultimately led to the desegregation of California schools and helped to build the case that would end school segregation nationally. Winner, Books for Older Children 2012.

Peaceful Pieces: Poems and Quilts about Peace, written and illustrated by Anna Grossnickle Hines, published by Macmillan, an imprint of Henry Holt. In her collection of poems illustrated with her handmade quilts, Anna Grossnickle Hines explores peace in familiar and unfamiliar forms, leading young readers to find their own way to peace, and then act upon it. Honor Book for Younger Children 2012.

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. Waiting for his mother in Gee's Bend, young Alex spots a mule running loose and eating crops from someone's garden. When he asks about the mule Alex learns the history lesson of a lifetime about the famous Belle and her connection to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Honor Book for Younger Children 2012.

Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans, written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson and published by Baltzer & Bray, an imprint of HarperCollins. This epic quest displays American history in all its glory and injustice from Colonial days to the day the aging African American narrator casts her vote for the first African American president. Nelson's fierce prose full of color oil paintings gives grandeur to this intimate telling. Honor Book for Older Children 2012.

Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai, published by Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins. As the Vietnamese war reaches ten year-old Ha's family in Saigon, she and her mother and brothers flee for

America. Told as a series of free verse poems, Ha's journey is eloquent, heartbreaking and humorous as she finds her footing through her first year as a refugee. Honor Book for Older Children 2012.

2011 Winners and Honor Books

Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty, written by Linda Glaser with paintings by Claire A. Nivola, Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Emma Lazarus wrote a sonnet in 1883 that became one of our nation's most familiar sonnets and one that accompanied the Statue of Liberty as well. Emma also helped to shape the heart of the nation in her urgent message to declare the statue as a welcome to all immigrants. Winner, Books for Younger Children 2011.

A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Sue Park, Clarion Books,

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. This dual narrative features young Nya and young Salva in Sudan. Nya walks eight hours every day so her family has water. Salva is in school when shots are fired and he flees into the woods to begin his every day walking. How does their future impact the future of war-torn Sudan? Winner, Books for Older Children 2011.

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. In the 1950s, young Ruth travels south with her family in their new automobile when she discovers her African American family is not always welcome along the way. An Esso attendant shows the family to safety in the Jim Crow era, enabling Ruth to relish the kindness of strangers. Honor Book for Younger Children 2011.

Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney and published by Little, Brown and Company, Hachette Book Group. Four young black men stood up for civil rights in 1960 by sitting down at a Woolworth lunch counter with the sign WHITES ONLY and came up with the perfect recipe for a peaceful protest. Honor Book for Younger Children 2011.

The Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes, published by Little, Brown and Company, Hachette Book Group. Twelve-year-old Lanesha has only Mama Ya-Ya, and that's just fine by her. Mama Ya-Ya's visions of the arrival of hurricane Katrina busies the two in preparation, but Lanesha can't imagine what she's being prepared for. Honor Book for Older Children 2011.

Birmingham Sunday by Larry Dane Brimner, Calkins Creek, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc. In Alabama in the 1960s frequent racial bombings had been terrifying but not yet deadly before September 15, 1963, when six children lost their lives in the attack. Larry Dane Brimner highlights FBI files, police records, and multiple additional primary sources to tell the story of the church bombing on Birmingham Sunday, placing it in the historical context of the Civil Rights movement. Honor Book for Older Children 2011.

2010 Winners and Honor Books

Nasreen's Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan is written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter, Beach Lane Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing. Nasreen's parents are gone, her father taken one night by soldiers, her mother lost on her search to find him. Now living with only her grandmother, Nasreen stays silent with trauma. Whispers about a forbidden school reach her grandmother who, with stealth, bravery and hope, brings Nasreen to the secret school hidden in the home of an equally-brave woman, a teacher of girls. Framed stylized paintings in hues that symbolically

reflect the path of Nasreen's healing extend the story told in the plain, heartfelt voice of her grandmother. The power of education and resistance stand out in this all-too-true contemporary tale of the human toll exacted by war and the oppression of women. Winner, Books for Younger Children 2010.

Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary by Elizabeth Partridge, Viking Children's Books, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, is a breathtaking tribute to the courageous, passionate African-American children who demanded voting rights through nonviolent action in the historic 1963 March from Selma to Montgomery. Riveting chronology, stunning photographs, and telling details from oral history interviews recreate the children's anger, terror, solidarity and purpose moment-by-moment. This palpable sense of immediacy crystallizes the commitment of young people who acted on behalf of human rights when they were most frightened and 'the end' was unclear and out of sight. Vital and forceful, this testament to the power of youth and collective nonviolent action inspires activism by delving deeply into the heart of a pivotal moment in the history of youth and civil rights in the United States. Winner, Books for Older Children 2010.

Sojourner Truth's Step-Stomp Stride, by Andrea Davis Pinkney & Brian Pinkney, published by Disney-Jump at the Sun Books, has been named an Honor Book for Younger Children. Born a slave in upstate New York, Sojourner Truth, an iconic figure in the abolitionist and woman's suffrage movements, was 'Meant for speaking. Meant for preaching. Meant for teaching about freedom.' Told with punch and vigor, this energetic picture book biography marches along with Truth as she frees herself from bondage and ultimately delivers her legendary women's rights speech to a church filled with white men in 1851. Short storyteller style sentences punctuated with exclamation points and meaningful capitalizations evoke Truth's spirit and force. Illustrations in a palette of yellows alive with whirling lines keep the sorrow, seriousness and fervor of Truth's unwavering quest for social justice front and center in an original rendering of this remarkable woman's life. Honor Book for Younger Children 2010.

You and Me and Home Sweet Home by George Ella Lyon and Stephanie Anderson, an Honor Book for Younger Children, is a Richard Jackson Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing. Sharonda and her mother have been living in the back room of Aunt Janey's apartment for more than a year now. When the pair's church family declare that they are going to build them a house of their own, Sharonda responds: 'Right . . . Like I'm going to tap dance on the moon.' Nurtured by Diane, the wise head of house construction, Sharonda benefits from shared work and a sense of community. Poetic text written in Sharonda's voice captures the girl's shifting emotions during the house-building process. Illustrations from many perspectives reinforce Sharonda's growth in a blend of soft, primary and secondary colors held together by the brown tones depicting the African-American protagonist, her mother, the church family and the larger community. Honor Book for Younger Children 2010.

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Tanya Lee Stone, is published by Candlewick Press. Fifty years ago, in the midst of the race into space, thirteen women pilots performed consistently better than men on the battery of psychological and physical tests required to become astronauts and did not become astronauts. The spirit, resilience and determination of this group of women, now called the Mercury 13, infuse this gripping, well researched chronicle of overt and institutionalized sexism. Framed by the launch of the space shuttle Columbia in 1999, the first space shuttle commanded by a woman, this heartbreaking story of untapped talent and lost dreams emphasizes that no effort on

behalf of human rights is lost; indeed, each movement toward equality helps the next one along. Honor Book for Older Children 2010.

Claudette Colvin, by Phillip Hoose, published by Melanie Kroupa Books/Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group is a biography of Claudette Colvin, a teen-ager whose energy, drive, intelligence and thirst for justice pushed her to put herself on the line not once, but twice, in the battle for African-American civil rights. On her own, Colvin challenged Montgomery, Alabama, bus segregation laws through civil disobedience months prior to the challenge that tripped the massive 1955 boycott. And, with characteristic determination, she challenged them again through the courts as a plaintiff in the Federal class action suit that ruled bus segregation laws unconstitutional. Intricate history of the period based in impeccable research blends smoothly with Colvin's own words and adult reflections on her life and actions. This substantive photobiography explores both the effects of Colvin's activism on civil rights and the effects of the civil rights movement on her life. Honor Book for Older Children 2010.

2009 Winners and Honor Books

Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai, written and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola, Frances Foster Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, profiles the first woman from Africa to win the Nobel Peace Prize (2004). Environmentalist and activist Wangari Maathai founded Kenya's Green Belt Movement (1977) in direct response to the devastated natural resources and poverty caused by the deforestation of her homeland for commercial purposes. In a picture book that glows with orange and green landscapes dotted with bright blue, red, purple and yellow details, Nivola presents Maathai as a steady leader who saw community building as a way to resolve problems. She drew first on her own courage, then on the courage of many women, to sow seeds, nurture seedlings and plant trees. Together, they built a movement that continues to inspire people to take charge of their lives, their land and their future. Winner for Younger Children, 2009.

The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom by Margarita Engle, published by published by Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, poignantly explores resistance to slavery and occupation in Cuba in the late 1800's. Allied with the rebels fighting for independence, Rosa, born a slave and a healer, responds to bloodshed by healing compatriots and enemies alike. Moving from cave to cave in the mountains, Rosa, her husband Jose and Silvia, a child they heal and nurture, commit to peace with each herb they gather, each wound they dress, each spirit they soothe. Free verse poems in four distinct voices intertwine Cuban history, Engle's own family story and historical fiction to create a searing, evocative portrait of healers who worked for peace so young people could ' . . . have their chance/to dream/of new ways/to feel free . . .' Winner for Older Children, 2009.

The Storyteller's Candle/La velita de los cuentos, Story/Cuento Luc'a Gonz'lez, Illustrations/Illustraciones Lulu Delacre, is published by Children's Book Press. One of many immigrant children in New York City in the 1930's, spirited Hildamar lives with her family in close-knit community as they face weather, language, food and customs so unlike those of their beloved Puerto Rico. Their community widens and deepens when Hildamar and her cousin meet Pura Belpre, the librarian at the local public library who not only speaks Spanish but invites families to the library to celebrate Three King's Day! With text in Spanish and English and sepia-toned illustrations with qualities of folk art, this picture book pays tribute to Pura Belpre, the first Puerto Rican librarian for New York Public Library, 'a woman who instinctively

understood the importance of culture and language in building community, acted upon those instincts and brought countless children into the circle of light and literacy shed by her storyteller's candle. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2009.

Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad, a Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. Ali, a boy living in Baghdad today, loves soccer, parent-rattling music, dancing, and, most of all, calligraphy. His lively life, extended family and thoughtful nature flow from pages that weave calligraphy, intricate patterns and backdrops of golden brown into their design. Drawing strength from explicit visual and textual references to Iraq's long history of literacy, the story of Ali's passionate practice of calligraphy, first, highlights the power of literacy as a creative force in the midst of war, then, as a metaphor, invites reflection on the difficulty of practicing peace. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2009.

The Shepherd's Granddaughter by Anne Laurel Carter, published by Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press is a realistic novel set in contemporary Palestine. Firmly grounded in the values and love of her extended family, Amani rejoices when her grandfather wisely grants her wish to become the first female shepherd in a line of shepherds reaching back thousands of years. But, when the family pastureland is usurped by an Israeli settlement, Amani faces challenges different from any shepherd who has gone before her. With immediacy and emotion, Carter's novel purposefully centers on Amani's family, its traditions and love of the land to give texture and meaning to an array of individual responses to violence and oppression. Amani's struggle to come to grips with a world she cannot understand or accept creates a framework for addressing questions about peace, war and injustice that are of utmost importance in the world today. Honor Book for Older Children, 2009.

Ain't Nothing But a Man: My Quest to Find the Real John Henry, by Scott Reynolds Nelson with Marc Aronson, published by National Geographic, tracks the real man behind the larger-than-life hero of folk song fame by following clues in the song, allusions in reference works, and discrepancies in historical records. Powerful photographs, cropped and enlarged throughout, and a text that embodies the excitement of its writers raise profound questions about the life of John Henry and the 40,000 African-American men who laid tracks for the railroad in the United States in the 1800's. This chronicle's meticulous documentation bolstered by deeply-felt compassion underscore the importance of listening to the voices of those who have been unjustly silenced. Honor Book for Older Children, 2009.

2008 Winners and Honor Books

The Escape of Oney Judge: Martha Washington's Slave Finds Freedom is written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully and published by Farrar Straus & Giroux. Mrs. Washington declares that young Oney is just like one of the Washington's own children, but Oney is not fooled. On the night Mrs. Washington tells Oney she will not grant her freedom upon her death, Oney thinks quickly, acts courageously and flees. Expressive watercolors within this well researched biography portray the bravery of Onah Maria Judge, an African American woman who claimed, and fought for, the right to have 'no mistress but herself.' Winner for Younger Children, 2008.

We Are One: The Story of Bayard Rustin by Larry Dane Brimner is published by Calkins Creek, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc. Working behind the scenes because of his sexual orientation and unpopular political stands, African-American pacifist and civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, a trusted adviser to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., organized the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Succinct

prose, powerful quotations and fresh historical photographs place the story of Rustin's life alongside the story of the March, revealing the breadth and depth of Rustin's decades of commitment to confronting racism and promoting peace in this country and the world. Winner for Older Children, 2008.

One Thousand Tracings: Healing the Wounds of World War II, written and illustrated by Lita Judge is published by Hyperion Books for Children. After discovering one thousand yellowed foot tracings in her grandmother's attic, Lita Judge wrote this tribute to her grandmother who had matched these tracings with shoes to send to German families. A combination of paintings, collages of original photographs and reproductions of foot tracings enrich the message of compassion at the heart of this family story. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2008.

Rickshaw Girl by Mitali Perkins, with illustrations by Jamie Hogan and published by Charlesbridge, is a contemporary novel set in Bangladesh. In clear prose and detailed black and white drawings, ten-year-old Naimi excels at painting alpanas, traditional designs created by Bangladeshi women and girls. Her talent, though valued by her family, cannot buy rice or pay back the loan on her father's rickshaw as a son's contribution would do. Determined to help financially, Naimi disguises herself as a boy and sparks surprising events that reveal an expanding world for herself and women in her community. Honor Book for Older Children, 2008.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis, published by Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc., is a sensitively-written historical novel infused with the spirit of youth. Eleven year old Elijah bursts with pride at being the first child born free in Buxton, a settlement of runaway slaves in Canada just across the border from Detroit. When a scoundrel steals money saved to buy an enslaved family's freedom, Elijah impulsively pursues the thief into Michigan. The journey brings him face-to-face with the terrors of slavery, pushing him to act courageously and compassionately in the name of freedom. Honor Book for Older Children, 2008.

Birmingham, 1963 by Carole Boston Weatherford is published by Wordsong, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc. Deftly-written free verse and expertly-chosen archival photographs lay open the horror of the 1963 Birmingham church bombing by telling the story in the voice of an imagined girl in the 'year I turned ten.' Four memorial poems, each a tribute to one of the four girls murdered in the bombing, conclude this slim, powerful volume and carry its emphatic message: No More Birmingham! Honor Book for Older Children, 2008.

2007 Winners and Honor Books

A Place Where Sunflowers Grow written by Amy-Lee Tai, illustrated by Felicia Hoshino and published by Children's Book Press, centers on a Japanese-American preschooler's quiet confusion in the disorienting surroundings of a desert internment camp. This bilingual story told in Japanese and English emphasizes the arts, family and friendship as sources of strength in the face of injustice. Mixed-media illustrations rendered in the browns, yellows, and golds of both sunflowers and the desert bolster the story's overriding message: Not easily, but with time, patience and care, hope can be fostered in even the harshest circumstances. Winner for Younger Children, 2007.

Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata and published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, begins in December 1941. From the moment twelve-year-old Sumiko is turned away from a classmate's birthday party because she is Japanese-American throughout her family's subsequent internment, she responds to the injustices with disbelief, ambivalence, energy

and hope. At Poston, an internment camp on the Mohave Indian reservation, her passion for growing flowers sustains her and a surprising friendship with a Mohave boy pushes her to face her own uncertain future with confidence. Winner for Older Children, 2007.

Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship & Freedom, is written by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridges and published by Cinco Puntos Press. The Choctaw people live on one side of the River Bok Chitto; plantation owners and African American slaves live on the other. A secret friendship between a Choctaw girl and an African-American boy is the first link in a chain of humanity that spirits the boy's family across the river to freedom. The folk tale is a tribute to the Choctaws and Indians of every nation who aided African Americans running from slavery. Earth-tone paintings and striking use of white express the story's blend of reality and magic perfectly. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2007.

Night Boat to Freedom, is written by Margot Theis Raven, pictures by E. B. Lewis and published by Melanie Kroupa Books, an imprint of Farrar, Straus and Giroux. In danger and darkness, an enslaved African-American boy repeatedly risks his life to row others across the river to Ohio and freedom. Expressive watercolors use blues, grays and patches of red to convey the emotional landscape of this story etched from the oral histories of former slaves. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2007.

Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, by Russell Freedman and published by Holiday House. With inspiring quotes, compelling photos and telling details, Freedman's well-documented account of the 1955-56 Montgomery (AL) bus boycott brings the grass-roots, nonviolent nature of this movement to the fore. This story of ordinary African American citizens who "rose up in protest and united to demand their rights by walking peacefully" demonstrates the power of passive resistance and collective action in challenging racism and injustice that shape daily life. Honor Book for Older Children, 2007.

Counting on Grace, by Elizabeth Winthrop, is published by Wendy Lamb Books, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House, Inc. Forced to leave school, a French-Canadian girl joins her family working in the mills of Vermont in the early 1900's. With the support of a local teacher and incognito child-labor activist and photographer Lewis Hine, she sees the world beyond the boundaries of the mill and realizes the power of literacy to effect change. Honor Book for Older Children, 2007.

[2006 Winners and Honor Books](#)

Delivering Justice: W. W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights is written by Jim Haskins and illustrated by Benny Andrews, and published by Candlewick Press. Mr. Law, a mail carrier by trade and a courageous activist by conviction, catalyzed and led his community in the peaceful integration of all public facilities in Savannah, Georgia in the 1940s and well beyond. Haskins traces Law's impressive progress in succinct chapters, each accompanied by expressive oil- and-collage illustrations by Andrews. Winner for Younger Children, 2006.

Let Me Play: The Story of Title IX, the Law that Changed the Future of Girls in America, by Karen Blumenthal is published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster. Replete with photos, comic strips, and progress 'score cards,' the book provides exciting moment-by-moment political coverage of the 1971 bill that ensures equal education for girls. The book is splendidly executed in design and documentation. Winner for Older Children 2006.

Poems to Dream Together=Poemas Para So'ar Juntos is written by Francisco X. Alarcón, illustrated by Paula Barragán and published by Lee and Low Books, Inc. In nineteen short and heartfelt poems in Spanish and English, Alarcón encourages and inspires us to dream alone and to work and dream together, as families and communities, in order to make our hopes for a better world come true. The stylized paintings of Paula Barragán colorfully extend and interpret the theme. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2006.

The Crazy Man by Pamela Porter, published by Greenwood Books/House of Anansi Press, intertwines the emotional lives of an injured girl, a dazed mother, a runaway father, and a mental patient. Spare free-verse narration of twelve-year-old Emaline tells a story in which everyone is challenged to change in this 1960's Saskatchewan community. Porter touchingly captures both the wide, lonely prairies and the closed minds central to the tension in this book. Honor Book for Older Children, 2006.

Sweetgrass Basket by Marlene Carvell, published by Dutton Children's Books/a Division of Penguin Young Readers Group is told in the alternating voices of two young Mohawk sisters. Each describes leaving her beloved home to be schooled in the notorious Carlisle Indian Industrial School, founded in 1879. Devoted to each other and their father, but opposite in personality and outlook, the sisters experience their virtual imprisonment differently: Mattie, rashly defiant, and Sarah, fearfully obedient until it's too late to act. Honor Book for Older Children, 2006.

2005 Winners and Honor Books

Sélavi, That is Life: A Haitian Story of Hope is written and illustrated by Youme Landowne, from Cinco Puntos Press. In this arresting story based on real children, a homeless, nameless boy finds companions in the street who together build a community of survival and a radio station that speaks courage to struggling youth. Illustrations, skilled in their directness and power, striking photographs, and an afterword by Edwidge Dandicat complete this view of contemporary Haitian life. Winner for Younger Children, 2005

With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote, by Ann Bausum, published by National Geographic Society. Attractively designed, With Courage and Cloth focuses especially on the period of the woman suffrage movement from 1913 to 1920, when the vote was finally won by determined suffragists. Bausum frankly addresses, in text and graphic archival photographs, the controversies, the failures and the triumphs that prove that it was, indeed, a fight. Impeccable documentation completes the book. Winner for Older Children, 2005.

Hot Day on Abbott Avenue. A rhythmic, poetic text by Karen English moves the story from a 'best-friend-breakup day' to a 'forgetting-what-you-were-mad-about day' with sensitivity, humor, and a sense of community, reflected brilliantly in the collage art of Javaka Steptoe. Clarion Books published this testimonial to the soothing influence of Double Dutch and blue icepops. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2005

Henry and the Kite Dragon, by Bruce Edward Hall, is set in the Chinatown of New York in the 1920s when kites and homing pigeons were roof-top hobbies that, in this tale based on true events, set Chinese children and Italian children on a collision course. With the help of Grandfather Chin, the flying of both kites and pigeons happily resumes and is stunningly depicted in the paintings of William Low in this book published by Philomel Books/Penguin Young Readers Group. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2005.

Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing. With spare text and appealing illustrations by James Rumford (and translation into Cherokee by Anna Sixkiller Huckaby), this tall, lean volume echoes the wishes of Sequoyah who wanted his people 'to stand as tall as any people on earth' and helped them do so by resolutely creating a syllabary with which their language could be recorded. The syllabary and a chronology of Sequoyah are included in this outstanding biography published by Houghton Mifflin Books for Children. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2005.

The Heaven Shop is by Canadian author Deborah Ellis, published by Fitzhenry & Whiteside. Set in contemporary Malawi, the story personalizes the devastation of the HIV/AIDS pandemic through the experiences of one child, Binti, a 13-year-old girl with ambition and talent. After the death of their parents, Binti and her two siblings are seized and separated, to be used as servants by relatives. With the help of their impoverished and indomitable grandmother, the children are reunited, older and wiser about the effects of this murderous disease. Honor Book for Older Children, 2005.

2004 Winners and Honor Books

Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez is written by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Yuyi Morales, and published by Harcourt Children's Books. Through engaging narrative and culturally-expressive paintings, Chavez's life is traced from his comfortable Arizona farm childhood through drought, loss, and backbreaking field labor to his adult leadership in organizing migrant workers. The hardships of a grape boycott and a 340-mile protest march led by Chavez result in the 1965 contract for farm workers, the first in the nation. Winner for Younger Children, 2004.

Out of Bounds: Seven Stories of Conflict and Hope by Beverley Naidoo, is published by Harper/Collins Children's Books. South African apartheid and its aftermath are experienced and challenged, decade by decade, by young, courageous protagonists whose portrayals cross races, classes, and genders. These incisive stories were written by once-exiled South African Beverley Naidoo. Winner for Older Children, 2004.

Girl Wonder: A Baseball Story in Nine Innings by Deborah Hopkinson, pictures by Terry Widener, is published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, An Anne Schwartz Book. This picture book biography with upbeat words and brightly bold illustrations was inspired by the accomplishments of Alta Weiss, a girl with an 'arm,' who at 17 in early 20th century Ohio, pitched her way onto an all-male baseball team ' and won. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2004.

Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen by Michelle R. McCann with oil paintings by Ann Marshall is published by Tricycle Press. Set within a German concentration camp, this picture book tells the true story of a heroic woman who secretly saves the lives of 54 orphaned and imprisoned children. It movingly recounts the horrific story of danger, suffering, and courage as told to Marshall by Luba Trzyszynska-Frederick. Honor Book for Younger Children, 2004.

Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case by Chris Crowe, published by Phyllis Fogelman Books/Penguin Books for Young Readers. Crowe uses telling photographs and meticulously-researched text to rehearse the grisly and shameful 1955 lynching of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old African-American boy from Chicago. Till was murdered during a summer visit to Money, Mississippi; his killers were acquitted in this almost-forgotten episode of U.S. history. Honor Book for Older Children, 2004.

Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York 1880-1924 by Deborah Hopkinson. Published by Orchard Books, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc. Carefully-selected archival photos and thorough scholarship are important elements in this historical documentary. It depicts the lives of five people who immigrated as children around 1900, following them from their early tenement lives in New York City to their eventual hard-won status as naturalized United States citizens. Honor Book for Older Children, 2004.

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 orphaned and displaced by war in contemporary Afghanistan. As refugees in their own ravaged country, the courageous protagonist in each story displays her own special enterprise and perseverance. Special Commendation, Books for Older Children, 2004.

- Annotations written by Donna Barkman for 2004, 2005 and 2006 Award Winners and Honor Books.
- Annotations for 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 Winners and Honor Books written by Susan C. Griffith. (April 2010).
- Annotations for 2011 through present Winners and Honor Books compiled by Michelle Belmont. (May 2012).

What is the Jane Addams Children's Book Award?

The Jane Addams Children's Book Award is an annual award that honors children's books of literary and artistic merit that invite children to think deeply about peace, social justice, world community and gender and racial equality. The Jane Addams Peace Association has presented the Jane Addams Children's Book Award since 1953. The association is the educational arm of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, founded on April 28th in 1915 with Addams as its first president. More information about the Addams Award can be found at janeaddamspeace.org.

Guidelines for the Jane Addams Children's Book Award

1. Books considered for the Awards should invite answers to one or more of the following questions:
 - a. How can people peaceably settle disputes but with a special emphasis on diverse makeup and outlook?
 - b. How can we begin to think more creatively and humanely about injustice and conflict, past or present, real or fictionalized?
 - c. How can young people participate in creative solutions to the problems of war, social injustice, racism, sexism, homophobia, ageism, and the concerns of the physically challenged?
 - d. How can people of all races, cultures, nations and economic systems live peacefully together?
 - e. Does the book promote an understanding of the role of women in society, gender roles, the need to overcome gender stereotypes, e.g. role models of both genders?
2. Book themes may include:
 - a. Solving problems courageously and non-violently

- b. Overcoming prejudice
 - c. Breaking cycles of fear
 - d. Approaching life with self-confidence and strength
 - e. Understanding human needs with compassion
 - f. Broadening outlook to appreciate a variety of cultures
 - g. Accepting responsibility for the future of all peoples.
3. Books eligible for this award may be fiction, poetry or nonfiction.
 4. Books eligible for this award may be fiction, poetry or nonfiction.
 5. Entries should be suitable for ages two through twelve.
 6. Entries may be books of any length.
 7. Entries should be well-written and well-illustrated (however, illustrations are not required).