American Library Association announces 2018 youth media award winners

DENVER—The American Library Association (ALA) today announced the top books, video and audio books for children and young adults—including the Caldecott, Coretta Scott King, Newbery and Printz awards—at its Midwinter Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

A list of all the 2018 award winners follows:


**Randolph Caldecott Medal** for the most distinguished American picture book for children:

“Wolf in the Snow,” illustrated and written by Matthew Cordell is the 2018 Caldecott Medal winner. The book was published by Feiwel and Friends, an Imprint of Macmillan.
Four Caldecott Honor Books also were named: “Big Cat, little cat,” illustrated and written by Elisha Cooper and published by Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishing Holdings Limited Partnership; “Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut,” illustrated by Gordon C. James, written by Derrick Barnes, and published by Bolden, an Agate Imprint, a Denene Millner Book; “A Different Pond,” illustrated by Thi Bui, written by Bao Phi and published by Capstone Young Readers, a Capstone imprint and “Grand Canyon,” illustrated and written by Jason Chin, a Neal Porter Book, published by Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishing Holdings Limited Partnership.

**Coretta Scott King Book Awards** recognizing African American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults:

“Piecing Me Together,” written by Renée Watson, is the King Author Award winner. The book is published by Bloomsbury Children’s Books.


“Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets,” illustrated by Ekua Holmes, is the King Illustrator Award winner. The book is written by Kwame Alexander with Chris Colderly and Marjory Wentworth and published by Candlewick Press.

Two King Illustrator Honor Books also were named: “Crown: An Ode to a Fresh Cut,” illustrated by Gordon C. James, written by Derrick Barnes and published by Bolden, an Agate Imprint, a Denene Millner Book and “Before She Was Harriet: The Story of Harriet Tubman,” illustrated by James E. Ransome, written by Lesa Cline-Ransome and published by Holiday House.

**Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award** to affirm new talent:


“Mama Africa! How Miriam Makeba Spread Hope with Her Song,” illustrated by Charly Palmer, is the Steptoe Illustrator Award winner. The book is written by Kathryn Erskine and published by Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Group, LLC.

**Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement:**

Eloise Greenfield is the winner of the Coretta Scott King–Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement. The award pays tribute to the quality and magnitude of beloved children’s author Virginia Hamilton.

Eloise Greenfield was born in Parmele, North Carolina, and currently resides in Washington, D.C. Early in life, she discovered a love of reading and writing and realized there were few books that showed the fullness of African American life. She published her first book in 1972 and went on to write and publish more than 40 books. From “Honey, I Love” to “The Great Migration,” this multiple award-winning author has captivated audiences through the years.
**Michael L. Printz Award** for excellence in literature written for young adults:

“We Are Okay,” written by Nina LaCour, is the 2018 Printz Award winner. The book is published by Dutton Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers.


**Schneider Family Book Award** for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience:

“Silent Days, Silent Dreams,” written and illustrated by Allen Say and published by Arthur A. Levine Books, an Imprint of Scholastic Inc., wins the award for young children (ages 0 to 8).


**Alex Awards** for the 10 best adult books that appeal to teen audiences:


**Laura Ingalls Wilder 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.

The 2018 winner is Jacqueline Woodson, whose award-winning works include “Brown Girl Dreaming,” “After Tupac & D Foster,” “Locomotion” and “Show Way.”

**Margaret A. Edwards Award** for lifetime achievement in writing for young adults:

The 2018 winner is Angela Johnson. Her books include “Heaven,” “Looking for Red,” “The First Part Last” and “Sweet, Hereafter,” all published by Simon & Schuster Books for
2019 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Award recognizing an author, critic, librarian, historian or teacher of children's literature, who then presents a lecture at a winning host site.

Debbie Reese will deliver the 2019 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. Dr. Reese is a longtime advocate for Native representation and is a former teacher and university professor. She earned her PhD in Education from the University of Illinois, where she also helped establish the Native American House and American Indian Studies program. Dr. Reese also holds an M.Ed degree in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University. She is tribally enrolled at Nambe Owingeh Pueblo in New Mexico.

Mildred L. Batchelder Award for an outstanding children’s book originally published in a language other than English in a country other than the United States, and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States:

“The Murderer’s Ape” is the 2018 Batchelder Award winner. Originally published in Sweden as “Mördarens Apa,” the book was written and illustrated by Jakob Wegelius, translated from Swedish by Peter Graves and published by Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, a division of Penguin Random House LLC.

Three Batchelder Honor Books also were named: “Malala: Activist for Girls’ Education,” published by Charlesbridge Publishing, written by Raphaële Frier, illustrated by Aurélia Fronty and translated from French by Julie Cormier; “When a Wolf is Hungry,” published by Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, written by Christine Naumann-Villemin, illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo and translated from French by Eerdmans Books for Young Readers and “You Can’t Be Too Careful!,” published by Elsewhere Editions, written and illustrated by Roger Mello, and translated from Portuguese by Daniel Hahn.

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

“The Hate U Give,” produced by HarperAudio, is the 2018 Odyssey Award winner. The book is written by Angie Thomas and narrated by Bahni Turpin.

Five Odyssey Honor Audiobooks also were named:


Pura Belpré Awards honoring Latino writers and illustrators whose children’s books best portray, affirm and celebrate the Latino cultural experience:
“La Princesa and the Pea,” illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal, is the Belpre Illustrator Award winner. The book was written by Susan Middleton Elya and published by G. P. Putnam’s Sons, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC.

Two Belpre Illustrator Honor Books also were named:
“All Around Us,” illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia, written by Xelena González and published by Cinco Puntos Press and “Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos,” illustrated by John Parra, written by Monica Brown and published by NorthSouth Books, Inc., an imprint of NordSüd Verlag AG.

“Lucky Broken Girl,” written by Ruth Behar, is the Pura Belpre Author Award winner. The book is published by Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC.

Two Belpre Author Honor Books also were named: “The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora,” written by Pablo Cartaya and published by Viking, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC and “The First Rule of Punk,” written by Celia C. Pérez and published by Viking, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC.

Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award for most distinguished informational book for children:
“Twelve Days in May: Freedom Ride 1961,” written by Larry Dane Brimner, is the Sibert Award winner. The book is published by Calkins Creek, an imprint of Highlights.

Four Sibert Honor Books also were named:

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:
“Little & Lion,” written by Brandy Colbert and published by Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group Inc. and “The 57 Bus,” written by Dashka Slater and published by Farrar Straus Giroux for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Group, LLC are the 2018 recipients of the Stonewall Book Awards–Mike Morgan & Larry Romans Children’s & Young Adult Literature Award.

Two Stonewall Honor Books were also named:

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award for the most distinguished book for beginning readers is

Five Geisel Honor Books also were named: “I See a Cat,” written and illustrated by Paul Meisel and published by Holiday House; “King & Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog

**William C. Morris Award** for a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens:


**YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults**:


Recognized worldwide for the high quality they represent, ALA awards guide parents, educators, librarians and others in selecting the best materials for youth. Selected by judging committees of librarians and other children’s experts, the awards encourage original and creative work. For more information on the ALA youth media awards and notables, please visit [www.ala.org/yma](http://www.ala.org/yma).