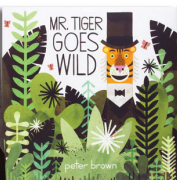


children's literature conference

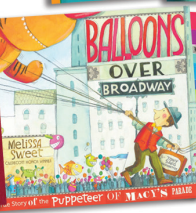
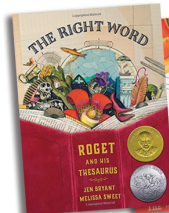
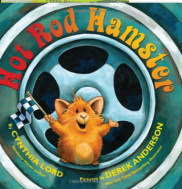
Western Washington University
Children's Literature Conference

Saturday, February 27, 2016
Performing Arts Center ~ Concert Hall



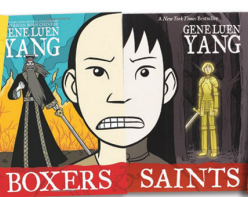
PETER
BROWN

CYNTHIA
LORD



MELISSA
SWEET

GENE
LUEN
YANG



Dear Conference Participant:

Today marks our 13th WWU Children's Literature Conference. Thirteen! What good luck that we're celebrating this special day with you.

While I don't remember the details of turning 13 (do you?), I do remember it was A. Big. Deal. It felt like I'd arrived. And boy, was I ready for the magic and wonder, the freedom and opportunity I felt certain becoming a teenager would bring. (Little did I know there would also be agony to accompany the ecstasy, and hormones and rebellion and breakups and confusion ...) But on that special day – birthday number 13 – there was celebration and eager anticipation of what was yet to come.

This Conference echoes what I felt on my 13th birthday (with just a few more guests at this party!). Our Planning Team is eager to celebrate the wonder and joy of literature written and illustrated for children and teens with you, anticipating that we'll discover new insight, new appreciation, and new treasures throughout the day. During the "childhood years" of our Conference we were inspired, awakened, and entertained by 45 speakers. We shared the allure of reading and writing with nearly 5,000 Conference attendees (some of you attending our party many, many times). It has been A. Big. Deal. And this year is no exception.

Turning 13 has become more than "just a phase we're going through." It's the continuation of good fortune and the bestowal of literary blessings as we welcome another talented quartet -- Peter Brown, Cynthia Lord, Melissa Sweet and Gene Luen Yang -- to our celebration.

So sit back, open your eyes and ears, your heads and hearts, and prepare for the triumph of turning 13 with us (with a surprise or two along the way).

Welcome to the 13th Western Washington University Children's Literature Conference.

We're eager to share this party with you!

Nancy J. Johnson

On behalf of the Conference Advisory Planning Team

WWU Children's Literature Conference
Saturday, February 27, 2016
Performing Arts Center ~ Concert Hall

8:00-8:55 a.m.Registration, coffee/breakfast breads
Book Sales & Autographing
PAC lobby areas

9:00 a.m.Welcome: Nancy J. Johnson
Concert Hall

9:10-10:10 a.m.Author Presentation
~ *Cynthia Lord*
Introduced by Kirby Larson

10:20-11:20 a.m.Author/Illustrator Presentation
~ *Peter Brown*
Introduced by Monica Hodges

11:20-12:55 p.m.Lunch (box lunches)
Viking Union, Multipurpose Room

11:55-12:55 p.m.Book Sales & Autographing
PAC lobby areas

1:00-2:00 p.m.Author Presentation
~ *Melissa Sweet*
Introduced by Carrie Gelson

2:10-3:10 p.m.Author/Illustrator Presentation
~ *Gene Luen Yang*
Introduced by Aubri Keleman

3:10-3:30 p.m.Panel of Speakers ~ Question/Answer

Closing Remarks ~ Announcement of 2017 speakers!

Lucky Draw for Complimentary 2017 Registration

Followed by book sales and autographing in PAC lobby areas until 4 p.m.

Cynthia Lord

A Snapshot of Her Life

“Sometimes it’s good to leave your life open to surprise. That sounds simple, but it takes quiet faith and courage to just be in the moment without expectation. That’s not simple at all.”

While the above quote was taken from Cynthia Lord’s online journal, and concerns a trip to Toys-R-Us to spend Christmas money with her son, the sentiment reaches beyond this event, reflecting an inner space that many of us strive to achieve.

Of her early years, Lord states, *“I was a daydreaming, shy child, and I will always be grateful for the time and room my parents gave me to be myself.”* After college, Lord married and became a teacher for children in first-grade, sixth-grade, and even to multiple grades in a one-room schoolhouse. During some of those years she also wrote curriculum for educational publishers. But once she started a family and had children of her own, she returned to the world of children’s literature. Lord reminisces that *“Some books we loved to the point of the pages falling out.”* It was during this time, as her children grew, that she rediscovered writing fiction.



Lord was pleasantly surprised when her book, ***Rules***, garnered numerous literary awards, including a Newbery Honor and a Schneider Family Book Award. This much attention for a first novel can be daunting, but Lord proved to be quite deserving of the recognition, continuing to garner acclaim for her novels ***Touch Blue***, ***Half A Chance***, and ***A Handful of Stars***. Her startling ability to capture the experiences of quirky, nerdy, funny, offbeat kids makes all of us feel a little bit more connected. Her picture book series, ***Hot Rod Hamster*** and her early reader series, ***Shelter Pet Squad*** reach readers with a fondness for animals and pets.

Of her writing life, Lord likes to get up very early in the morning, start the coffee, and sit down at her desk with her dog Milo on her lap. *“That’s my own time, the just-me time to open my heart and spill it across white pages.”* Living in Maine, in a house where she can smell the ocean, Cynthia Lord’s writing stretches out with surprise, quiet faith and courage -- good “rules” for all of us to embrace.

Visit Cynthia Lord’s Journal (<http://cynthialord.livejournal.com/>) to read her reflections on family, her backyard projects, and writing. But, most of all, read it to discover her mood...

Current Mood:  happy

A Selection of Cynthia Lord’s Work:

Because of the Rabbit, Scholastic Press, forthcoming 2017

A Handful Of Stars, Scholastic Press, 2015

Half A Chance, Scholastic Press, 2014

Touch Blue, Scholastic Press, 2012

Rules, Scholastic Press, 2006

Hot Rod Hamster Series (Illustrated by Derek Anderson), Scholastic Press

Shelter Pet Squad Series, Scholastic Press

Some Significant Awards and Honors:

2015 Junior Library Guild selection, 2015 Down East Magazine Best of Maine Kids’ Books -- *A Handful of Stars*

2014 Lupine Honor Award, Maine Library Association, 2014 ALA Notable Children’s Book, 2014 Junior Library Guild selection, 2014 Parents’ Choice Silver Medal -- *Half a Chance*

2011 Lupine Award, Maine Library Association, 2011 Best Children’s Books of the Year – Starred for outstanding merit (Bank Street College), Independent Booksellers Top Ten book on the Autumn 2010 Kids’ Indie Next List -- *Touch Blue*

2010 Parents’ Choice Recommended, Finalist for 2011 Children’s Choice Book Award (Grades K–2) -- *Hot Rod Hamster*

2007 Newbery Honor, 2007 Schneider Family Book Award, ALA Notable Children’s Book, NCTE Notable Book in the Language Arts -- *Rules*

Insights from Lord:

What book did you read at (or around) 13 years old that made you blush? OR Who was your favorite character or author when you were 13 years old?

I loved *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare. Nat was my first book crush!

Do you have a ritual when you complete a book? What is it?

My editor lives around the corner from me, so when I finish a draft, I walk it over to her house (and I bring a dog bone for her dog).

If you could meet your 13-year-old self, what advice would you give about becoming a writer/illustrator, or anything else?

Just because no one in your family has ever been an author, don't let that worry you. You can be the first.

If you were stranded on a desert island, which one of your characters (real or imagined) would you choose (or not choose) to be stranded with and why?

I'd pick Dog from *Hot Rod Hamster*, because he can build and fix anything!

For more information visit: <http://www.cynthialord.com/>

Peter Brown

A Snapshot of His Life

“My pictures don’t make sense without my words. And my words are useless without my pictures. This makes for an engaging reading experience.”

We agree! Peter Brown provides a most engaging reading experience. His whimsical illustrations, relatable story lines and genuine characters have created some of the most unique, hilarious and touching stories we all enjoy.

Originally Brown dreamed of working at Disney. During art school he worked in animation for a bit but felt stifled creatively. While studying illustration at Art Center College of Design, Brown’s love of both words and pictures led him to take several courses on children’s books, and before long, he knew he’d found his calling. *“I wanted to make the art I want to make, and tell the stories I want to tell, and I have kind of immature sense of humor and I’ve always been kind of a goofball, so I figured kids’ books were a good fit for me.”* He was working on animated TV shows when he signed a book deal to write and illustrate his first picture book, ***Flight of the Dodo***, which is a story that involves bird poop...in case you're into that kind of thing.



When Brown describes his process, *“I say as much as possible with my paintings, and whatever I can’t say with the art I say with words. My stories don’t have many words, but it takes me a long time to think up the words that I use. Every syllable matters.”* He is motivated by the idea that, *“One of my books could be part of a child’s journey to falling in love with reading.”*

Most recently Brown has written and illustrated his first middle grade novel, ***The Wild Robot***, due out in April 2016.

When Brown's not busy creating, you might find him watching soccer, satisfying his culinary curiosity with some room service and scoping out bear scat (don't ask!). Brown lives in Brooklyn, New York.

A Selection of Peter Brown's Work:

The Wild Robot, Hatchette Book Group, 2016

My Teacher is a Monster! (No, I Am Not.), Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2014

Mr. Tiger Goes Wild, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2013

Creepy Carrots! written by Aaron Reynolds, Simon and Schuster, 2012

You Will Be My Friend, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2011

Children Make Terrible Pets, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2010

The Curious Garden, Little, Brown Books for Little People, 2009

Chowder, Little, Brown Books for Little People, 2006

Some Significant Awards and Honors:

2014 Boston Globe Horn Book Award for Picture Books, Golden Kite Award for Picture Book Illustration, Bull-Bransom Award, Wanda Gag Read Aloud Honor, E.B. White Read Aloud Honor -- *Mr. Tiger Goes Wild*

2013 Caldecott Honor, ALA Notable Children's Book -- *Creepy Carrots!*

2012 Irma Simonton Black & James H. Black Award for Excellence in Children's Literature Honor -- *You Will Be My Friend!*

2011 New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book, E.B. White Read Aloud Picture Book Award, Irma Simonton Black & James H. Black Award for Excellence in Children's Literature Honor -- *Children Make Terrible Pets*

2010 New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book, E.B. White Read Aloud Picture Book Award, Children's Choice Illustrator of the Year Award -- *The Curious Garden*

Insights from Brown:

Who was your favorite character or author when you were 13 years old?

I was a pretty reluctant reader until my last few years in high school, but Tolkien was always a favorite. *The Hobbit* and the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy initially got me interested in reading for pleasure, and later, as I began to focus on writing and illustrating kids' books, I continued to look to books that stimulated my imagination.

Do you have a ritual when you complete a book? What is it?

Honestly, I have to keep up my momentum, so I'm usually researching, writing, or drawing something for my next project. I have a whole system for keeping notes and doodles, and there's always another idea on deck that I'm anxious to get started on.

If you could meet your 13-year-old self, what advice would you give about becoming a writer/illustrator, or anything else?

To make good books, you need to read good books, so listen to your mom and read more! Not that my 13-year-old self would listen. I was always more excited about creating, and I needed to warm up to books in my own time. My mom was a teacher, and she always encouraged my art and my writing. At the time, I didn't realize those interests would lead me back to reading, but when I fell in love with visual storytelling, books became a huge part of my learning process.

For more information visit: <http://www.peterbrownstudio.com/>

Melissa Sweet

A Snapshot of Her Life

“I think a lot about what materials will best convey the spirit of the book... Watercolor is where I began and, no matter what else I do in a book, watercolor is there.”

Many diverse materials and a whole lot of watercolors have been used in the nearly 100 books illustrated by Melissa Sweet, one of the most prolific and highly regarded author/illustrators working today. Her awards



and starred reviews recognize Sweet as an accomplished storyteller who thoroughly researches her subjects and finds inventive ways to use collage, paint, drawing, and writing to tap into a child's sense of wonder, play and imagination, and bring a subject to life.

Sweet always knew she would be an artist, and she remembers her third grade year as a time when she received much encouragement for her drawing talent. However, it was not until she revisited the *Little Bear* books illustrated by Maurice Sendak during her first year of art school, that she realized children's books might be a perfect format to express her talent.

When asked about conducting research, Sweet claims her research trips are a huge perk to the job, allowing her to travel around the world in pursuit of a better understanding of her subject matter. Memorable trips have included Egypt for *The 5,000 Year Old Puzzle* and the Louisiana bayou and New Orleans for *Chicken Joy on Red Bean Road*.

Although she loves to travel, Sweet says that she still can't wait to get to work every morning in the studio where she creates. Located only fifteen feet from her home, Sweet's studio is filled with light, paints, fabrics, and other inspiring materials. Above her drafting table is this quote from poet Mary Oliver: "To pay attention, this is our endless and proper work." Sweet's home, studio, and family, are all located in Rockport, Maine.

A Selection of Melissa Sweet's Work:

Some Writer! Houghton Mifflin, forthcoming 2016

Listen to Our World, written by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson, Simon and Schuster, 2016

You Nest Here with Me, written by Jane Yolen and Heidi Stemple, Boyds Mills Press, 2015

The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus, written by Jen Bryant, Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2014

Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems, written by Paul B. Janeczko, Candlewick Press, 2014

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909, written by Michelle Markel, Balzer and Bray, 2013

A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin, written by Jen Bryant, Knopf, 2013

Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade, Houghton Mifflin, 2011

Carmine: A Little More Red, Houghton Mifflin, 2005

Some Significant Awards and Honors:

2015 Robert F. Sibert Medal, 2015 Caldecott Honor -- *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus*

2014 Schneider Family Book Award, 2014 Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children, 2014 Sibert Honor – *A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin*

2012 Robert F. Sibert Medal, 2012 Orbis Pictus Award, 2012 Flora Stieglitz Straus Award for Younger Readers, 2012 Bank Street College of Education Cook Prize -- *Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade*

Insights from Sweet:

What book did you read at (or around) 13 years old that made you blush? OR Who was your favorite character or author when you were 13 years old?

I was not an avid reader, but just after my thirteenth birthday *Love Story* came out. I recall loving the type on the book jacket. Later that year, the movie came out and I swooned over Ryan O'Neal.

Do you have a ritual when you complete a book? What is it?

- clean studio.
- catch up on emails, buy books for next project.
- go out for dinner.

To some, the number 13 is good luck, to others it's bad luck. What's your best luck (or worst luck) as a writer or illustrator?

I feel lucky all the time to have my editor, Ann Rider. She is always available, always in good humor, and gives me thoughtful responses to my work. I've grown as a writer and artist with her. The projects she agrees to challenge me artistically (and otherwise) in every way.

If you could meet your 13-year-old self, what advice would you give about becoming a writer/illustrator, or anything else?

At thirteen, I knew I wanted to be an artist, but I had no idea I'd be making children's books. I would urge myself to take risks and make any kind of art that thrilled me, and not worry about making a living.

If you were stranded on a desert island, which one of your characters (real or imagined) would you choose (or not choose) to be stranded with and why?

Tony Sarg (the engineer and puppeteer from *Balloons Over Broadway*) would be a good choice. He'd rig up some cool device to launch off the island.

If someone wrote your biography, what would it be titled?

I'd call it *Simple Revolution: A Life of Art, Bicycles and Dogs*.

For more information visit: <http://melissasweet.net/>

Gene Luen Yang

A Snapshot of His Life

“I am a nerd. I like the things that nerds typically like, things like computers and superhero comics. But today, I’m not just a nerd, I’m also an ambassador.”

Gene Luen Yang has recently been recognized with one of America’s highest honors for creators of children’s literature: National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature.

Yang’s beginnings were humble. He even named his self-publishing company *Humble Comics*. The son of Chinese immigrants, Yang was one of the few Asian students at his elementary school where his passion for comics blossomed. After graduating from college with a degree in engineering (and a minor in creative writing), Yang became a high school teacher of science and director of technology. Now he works full time as a writer and graphic artist.



“He has a sense of command as a storyteller. His artwork has an iconic quality, very clean and crisp. There’s also a humor and humanity to it. It should speak to people well outside of the comics world. There are human things, big things, issues of race, being true to yourself, the masks we put on. . . . He’s going to knock a few socks off in his next couple of projects.” (Mark Siegel, editor)

Yang has knocked more than a few socks off. ***American Born Chinese*** was the first graphic novel nominated for a National Book Award and the first graphic novel to win the Michael L. Printz Award. It explores issues of cultural identity and faith in a complex three-tale mix. More recently, ***Boxers & Saints*** also garnered a National Book Award nomination.

Yang completes his National Ambassador Inauguration speech saying, “Let me . . . encourage you to **read without walls**. Find a book with someone on the cover who doesn’t look like you or live like you. Find a book about a topic that

you don't know much about. Find a book that's in a format you've never tried before: a graphic novel, a words-only novel, or a novel in verse. Read without walls and see what happens. I bet it'll be something amazing."

Yang lives in California with his family.

A Selection of Gene Luen Yang's Work:

- Secret Coders*, illustrated by Mike Holmes, First Second Books, 2015
The Shadow Hero, illustrated by Sonny Liew, First Second Books, 2014
Boxers & Saints, First Second Books, 2013
Avatar—The Last Airbender (series), Dark Horse Books/Comics, 2012-2015
Level Up, illustrated by Thien Pham, First Second Books, 2011
Superman #41—present, DC Comics, 2011—current
The Eternal Smile, illustrated by Derek Kirk Kim, First Second Books, 2009
American Born Chinese, First Second Books, 2006
The Rosary Comic Book, Pauline Books and Media, 2003

Some Significant Awards and Honors:

- 2016 Appointed National Ambassador for Young People's Literature
2013 National Book Award Finalist, 2013 LA Times Book Prize Winner --
Boxers & Saints
2011 Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association YA Literature Honor Book, 2011 Eisner Award Nominee -- *Level Up*
2010 Eisner Award Winner Best Short Story -- *The Eternal Smile*
2007 Michael L. Printz Award Winner, 2007 Eisner Award Winner Best Graphic Novel -- New, 2006 National Book Award Nominee --
American Born Chinese

Insights from Yang:

What book did you read at (or around) 13 years old that made you blush? OR Who was your favorite character or author when you were 13 years old?

Our junior high librarian book-talked *Fevre Dream* by George R. R. Martin. I decided to give it a try. I usually don't have the stomach to enjoy vampire stories, but I loved that book. Parts of it definitely made me blush.

To some, the number 13 is good luck, to others it's bad luck. What's your best luck (or worst luck) as a writer or illustrator?

When I was first starting off, I met a group of cartoonists at a local comic

book convention. We were all in our twenties and we all lived in the Bay Area. We started hanging out once a week. We'd critique each other's stuff and trade advice. Meeting them was my best luck as a cartoonist.

If you could meet your 13-year-old self, what advice would you give about becoming a writer/illustrator, or anything else?

In 7th grade, a friend of mine told me that if I kept reading comic books I would never get a girlfriend. I believed him, so I stopped. If I could meet my 13-year-old self, I'd tell him that comic books and girlfriends are not mutually exclusive. In fact, plenty of girlfriends love comic books.

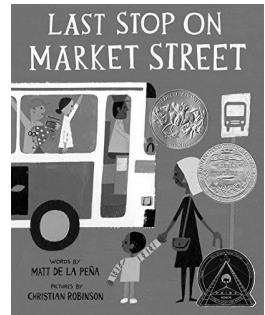
For more information visit: <http://geneyang.com/>

2016 Children's and Young Adult Literature Award Winners

*denotes past, present, and future WWUCLC presenters

Newbery Medal

Last Stop on Market Street written by *Matt de la Peña, illustrated by *Christian Robinson (G. P. Putnam's Sons)

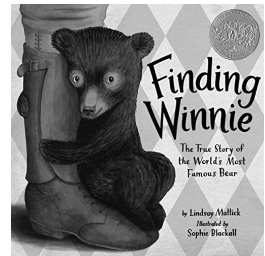


Honor Books:

- *The War that Saved My Life* written by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- *Roller Girl* written and illustrated by Victoria Jamieson (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- *Echo* written by *Pam Muñoz Ryan (Scholastic Press)

Caldecott Medal

Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear illustrated by Sophie Blackall, written by Lindsay Mattick (Little, Brown and Company)



Honor Books:

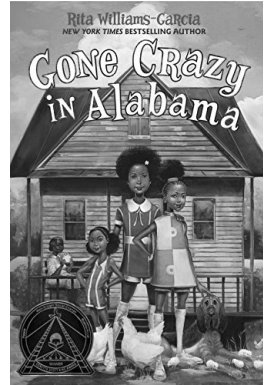
- *Trombone Shorty* illustrated by Bryan Collier, written by Troy Andrews (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- *Waiting* illustrated and written by Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow Books)
- *Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement* illustrated by Ekuia Holmes, written by Carole Boston Weatherford (Candlewick Press)
- *Last Stop on Market Street* illustrated by *Christian Robinson, written by *Matt de la Peña (G. P. Putnam's Sons)

Coretta Scott King Author Award

Gone Crazy in Alabama by *Rita Williams-Garcia
(Amistad)

Author Honor Books:

- *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)
- *The Boy in the Black Suit* by Jason Reynolds (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)
- *X: A Novel* by Ilyasah Shabazz with Kekla Magoon (Candlewick Press)

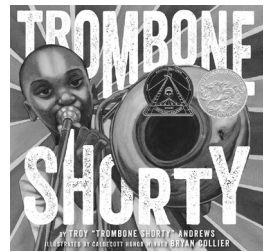


Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award

Trombone Shorty illustrated by Bryan Collier,
written by Troy Andrews (Abrams Books for
Young Readers)

Illustrator Honor Books:

- *The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore* illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, written by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson (Carolrhoda Books)
- *Last Stop on Market Street* illustrated by *Christian Robinson, written by *Matt de la Peña (G. P. Putnam's Sons)



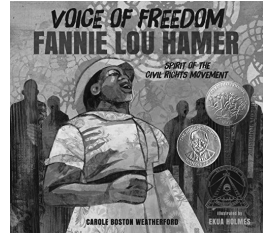
Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award

Hoodoo by Ronald L. Smith (Clarion Books)



Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award

Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement illustrated by Ekua Holmes, written by Carole Boston Weatherford (Candlewick Press)



Coretta Scott King – Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

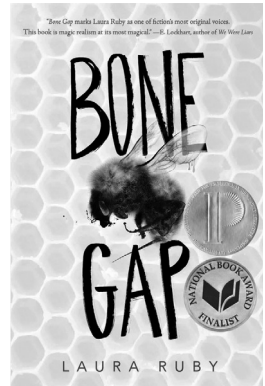
This honor is given to an author or illustrator who has made a significant and lasting literary contribution. The 2016 recipient is **Jerry Pinkney**.

Michael L. Printz Award

Bone Gap by Laura Ruby (Balzer + Bray)

Honor Books:

- *Out of Darkness* by Ashley Hope Pérez (Carolrhoda)
- *The Ghosts of Heaven* by Marcus Sedgwick (Roaring Brook Press)

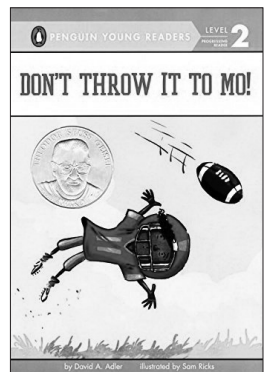


Schneider Family Book Awards

- **Children's:** *Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah* written by Laurie Ann Thompson, illustrated by Sean Qualls (Schwartz & Wade Books)
- **Middle Grade:** *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Nancy Paulsen Books)
- **Middle Grade:** *The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- **Teen:** *The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B* by Teresa Toten (Delacorte Press)

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

Don't Throw It to Me! written by David A. Adler, illustrated by Sam Ricks (Penguin Young Readers)



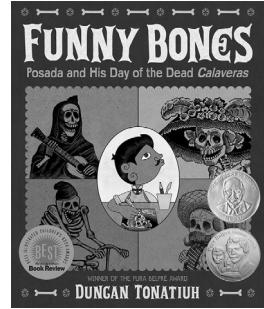
Honor Books:

- ***A Pig, a Fox, and a Box*** written and illustrated by Jonathan Fenske (Penguin Young Readers)
- ***Supertruck*** written and illustrated by Stephen Savage (A Neal Porter Book)
- ***Waiting*** written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow Books)

Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award

Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead

Calaveras written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers)



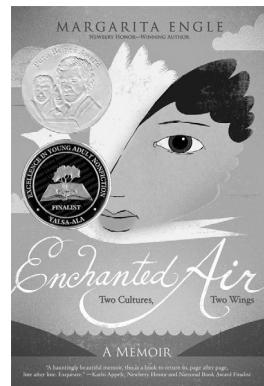
Honor Books:

- ***Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans*** written and illustrated by Don Brown (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
- ***The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club*** by Phillip Hoose (Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers)
- ***Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March*** written by Lynda Blackmon Lowery as told to Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley, illustrated by PJ Loughran (Dial Books)
- ***Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement*** written by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Ekua Holmes (Candlewick Press)

Pura Belpré Author Medal

Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A

Memoir by Margarita Engle (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

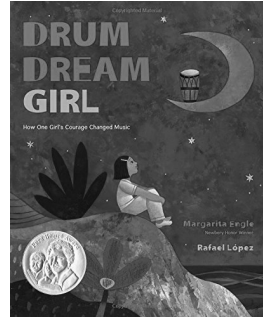


Honor Books:

- ***The Smoking Mirror*** by David Bowles (IFWG Publishing, Inc)
- ***Mango, Abuela, and Me*** written by Meg Medina, illustrated by Angela Dominguez (Candlewick Press)

Pura Belpré Illustrator Medal

Drum Dream Girl illustrated by Rafael López,
written by Margarita Engle (Houghton Mifflin
Harcourt)

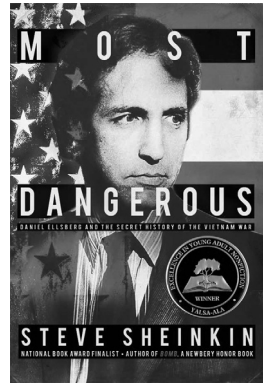


Honor Books:

- *My Tata's Remedies = Los remedios de mi tata* illustrated by Antonio Castro L., written by Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford (Cinco Puntos Press)
- *Mango, Abuela, and Me* illustrated by Angela Dominguez, written by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press)
- *Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras* by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers)

YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War written by *Steve Sheinkin (Roaring Brook Press)

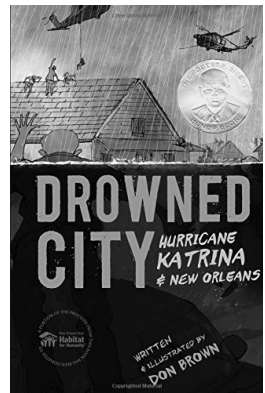


Other Finalists:

- *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir* by Margarita Engle (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)
- *First Flight Around the World: The Adventures of the American Fliers Who Won the Race* by Tim Grove (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad* by M.T. Anderson (Candlewick Press)
- *This Strange Wilderness: The Life and Art of John James Audubon* by Nancy Plain (University of Nebraska Press)

Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans by Don Brown (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers)



Honor Books:

- ***Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras*** by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- ***Growing Up Pedro*** by Matt Tavares (Candlewick Press)
- ***Mesmerized: How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery that Baffled All of France*** written by Mara Rockliff, illustrated by Iacopo Bruno (Candlewick Press)
- ***Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova*** written by Laurel Snyder, illustrated by Julie Morstad (Chronicle Books)
- ***Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America*** by *Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award

Honors an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children. The 2016 recipient is **Jerry Pinkney**.

May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Award

Given to an author, critic, librarian, historian or teacher of children's literature. **Jacqueline Woodson** will deliver the 2017 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture.

Mildred L. Batchelder Award

The Wonderful Fluffy Little Squishy by Beatrice Alemagna, translated by Claudia Zoe Bedrick (Enchanted Lion Books)



Honor Books:

- ***Adam and Thomas*** written by Aharon Appelfeld, illustrated by Philippe Dumas, translated by Jeffrey M. Green (Seven Stories Press)
- ***Grandma Lives in a Perfume Village*** written by Fang Suzhen, illustrated by Sonja Danowski, translated by Huang Xiumin (NorthSouth Books)
- ***Written and Drawn by Henrietta*** written, illustrated and translated by Liniers (TOON Books)

Odyssey Award (Audio)

The War that Saved My Life, produced by Listening Library, written by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley and narrated by Jayne Entwistle

Honor Recording:

Echo, produced by Scholastic Audio, written by *Pam Muñoz Ryan and narrated by Mark Bramhall, David de Vries, MacLeod Andrews and Rebecca Soler

Andrew Carnegie Medal (Video)

Weston Woods Studios, Inc., producer of *That is NOT a Good Idea*

William C. Morris Award

Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli (Balzer + Bray)

Other Finalists:

- *Because You'll Never Meet Me* by Leah Thomas (Bloomsbury Children's Books)
- *Conviction* by Kelly Loy Gilbert (Hyperion)
- *The Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly* by Stephanie Oakes (Dial Books)
- *The Weight of Feathers* by Anna-Marie McLemore (Thomas Dunne Books)

Stonewall Book Awards

Children's: *George* by Alex Gino (Scholastic Press)

Young Adult: *The Porcupine of Truth* by Bill Konigsberg (Arthur A. Levine Books)

Honor Books:

- *Wonders of the Invisible World* by Christopher Barzak (Alfred A. Knopf)
- *Sex is a Funny Word: A Book about Bodies, Feelings, and YOU* written by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth, illustrated by Fiona Smyth (Seven Stories Press)

Our Previous Speakers

WWU Children's Literature Conference over the years . . .

2004

Keith Baker
Pam Muñoz Ryan
Suzanne Fisher Staples

2005

Avi
Nina Laden
Katherine Paterson
Janet Wong

2006

Jon Agee
Laurie Halse Anderson
Emily Arnold McCully
Deborah Wiles

2007

Candace Fleming
Lois Lowry
Pat Mora
David Wiesner

2008

Chris Crutcher
Christopher Paul Curtis
John Rocco
Eric Rohmann

2009

Joan Bauer
Kadir Nelson
Sara Pennypacker
Brian Selznick

2010

Marla Frazee
John Green
Allyn Johnston
Gerald McDermott
Linda Sue Park

2011

Kirby Larson
Chris Raschka

2012

Patrick Carman
Laura McGee Kvasnosky
Gary D. Schmidt

2013

Katherine Applegate
Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Michael Grant
Brian Pinkney

2014

Nic Bishop
Jennifer Holm
Steve Sheinkin
Laura Vaccaro Seeger

2015

Matt de la Peña
Kate DiCamillo
Yuyi Morales
Joyce Sidman

A Note of Thanks

It's certainly not luck that made this year's conference happen. It took months, days, and hours of dedicated work and commitment by more folks than are listed on this page. Their talent, and unflagging enthusiasm deserve a standing ovation. In addition, gratitude extends to our team of 100 student volunteers from Western Washington University and Whatcom Community College, and to our co-sponsors: WWU's English Department, College of Humanities & Social Sciences, Woodring College of Education, Provost's Office, Western Libraries, Conference Services, and the PAC facilities team.

Michele Anderson
Tracey Bertels
Kathryn Boyd
Gretchen Coulter
Carrie Gelson
Mataio & Jessica Gillis @ Ciao
Thyme
Marlene Harlan
Cory Herman
Courtney Hiatt
Monica Hodges
Bethany Hoglund

Juliet Holznecht
Sarah Hutton and her team @
Village Books
Elsbeth Jensen
Aubri Keleman
Kirby Larson
Connie Mallison
Robert Mittendorf
Alesha Perrin
Claire Phelan
Tom Ross
Keith Turley

Children's Literature Conference Advisory Team:

Kristin Cleary
Theresa Hadley
Nancy Johnson
Adam Shaffer
Sher Smith Ross
Sylvia Tag

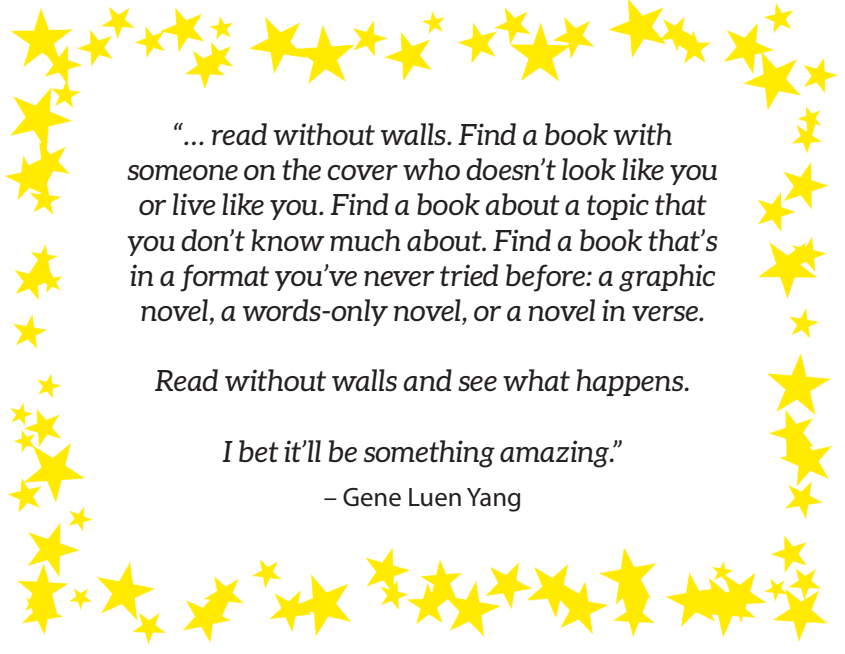
Evaluation

In about a week you'll receive an online survey requesting your feedback about our conference. We know it takes time to respond to a survey, but we also know the value of your specific comments, suggestions, and insight. Thank you in advance for making time to respond.



PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE
2017 WWU CHILDREN'S LITERATURE CONFERENCE!

Scheduled for February 25, 2017
www.wwuclc.com

A decorative border of yellow stars of various sizes surrounding the central text.

"... read without walls. Find a book with someone on the cover who doesn't look like you or live like you. Find a book about a topic that you don't know much about. Find a book that's in a format you've never tried before: a graphic novel, a words-only novel, or a novel in verse.

Read without walls and see what happens.

I bet it'll be something amazing."

– Gene Luen Yang