NOTABLE CHILDREN’S BOOKS CRITERIA

Notable is defined as: Worthy of note or notice, important, distinguished, outstanding. As applied to children’s books, the term “notable” includes books for all age levels (through age 14) of especially commendable quality, books that exhibit venturesome creativity, and books of fiction, information, poetry, folklore, and picture books that reflect and encourage children’s interest in exemplary ways.

The evaluation criteria to be used are:

1. Literary quality
2. Originality of text and illustration
3. Clarity and style of language
4. Excellence of Illustration
5. Excellence of design and format
6. Clarity of organization and accuracy of Information
7. Subject matter of interest and value to Children
8. The likelihood of acceptance by children (Board Action, June 1977)
Picture Books

- **Be Kind** by Pat Zietlow Miller. Illustrated by Jen Hill. Roaring Brook Press

- **Bird Builds a Nest: A First Science Storybook** by Martin Jenkins. Illustrated by Richard Jones. Candlewick Press

- **Down By the River: A Family Fly Fishing Story** by Andrew Weiner. Illustrated by April Chu. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers

- **Grace for Gus** by Harry Bliss. Illustrated by the author. HarperCollins/Katherine Tegen Books

- **Hello Hello** by Brendan Wenzel. Illustrated by the author. Chronicle Books

- **Hello Lighthouse** by Sophie Blackall. Illustrated by the author. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

- **Islandborn** by Junot Díaz. Illustrated by Leo Espinosa. Dial Books

- **Julián is a Mermaid** by Jessica Love. Illustrated by the author. Candlewick

- **Kate, Who Tamed the Wind** by Liz Garton Scanlon. Illustrated by Lee White. Penguin Random House/Schwartz & Wade

- **Let the Children March** by Monica Clark-Robinson. Illustrated by Frank Morrison. HMH Books for Young Readers

- **Little Mouse’s Big Breakfast** by Christine Pym. Illustrated by the author. Candlewick Press/Nosy Crow

- **The Little Red Fort** by Brenda Maier. Illustrated by Sonia Sanchez. Scholastic

- **Llamaphones** by Janik Coat. Illustrated by the author. Abrams/Abrams Appleseed

- **Mabel and Sam at Home** by Linda Urban. Illustrated by Hadley Hooper. Chronicle Books

- **Mommy’s Khimar** by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow. Illustrated by Ebony Glenn. Simon & Schuster/Salaam Reads

- **Ocean Meets Sky** by Terry Fan and Eric Fan. Illustrated by the authors. Simon & Schuster/Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

- **The Party and Other Stories** by Sergio Ruzzier. Illustrated by the author. Chronicle Books

- **The Rabbit Listened** by Cori Doerrfeld. Illustrated by the author. Dial Books

- **Rabbit Moon** by Jean Kim. Illustrated by the author. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine Books

- **Saffron Ice Cream** by Rashin Kheiriyeh. Illustrated by the author. Scholastic
• **They Say Blue** by Jillian Tamaki. Illustrated by the author. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers

• **Welcome to Country: A Traditional Aboriginal Ceremony** by Aunty Joy Murphy. Illustrated by Lisa Kennedy. Candlewick Press

• **While You Are Sleeping** by Mariana Ruiz Johnson. Illustrated by the author. Chronicle Books

• **Yellow Kayak** by Nina Laden. Illustrated by Melissa Castrillon. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

**Fiction**

• **Baby Monkey Private Eye** by Brian Selznick and David Serlin. Illustrated by Brian Selznick. Scholastic Press

• **Betty Before X** by Ilyasah Shabazz and Renée Watson. Macmillan/Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers

• **The Book of Boy** by Catherine Gilbert Murdock. HarperCollins/Greenwillow Books

• **Ending: The Last** by Katherine Applegate. HarperCollins/Harper

• **Escape From Aleppo** by N. H. Senzai. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

• **Ghost Boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

• **Hurricane Child** by Kheryn Callender. Scholastic

• **Ivy Aberdeen’s Letter to the World** by Ashley Herring Blake. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

• **The Journey of Little Charlie** by Christopher Paul Curtis. Scholastic

• **Just Like Jackie** by Lindsey Stoddard. HarperCollins/Harper

• **The Mad Wolf’s Daughter** by Diane Magras. Kathy Dawson Books


• **The Parker Inheritance** by Varian Johnson. Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine Books

• **The Prince and the Dressmaker** by Jen Wang. Roaring Brook Press/First Second

• **A Sky Full of Stars** by Linda Williams Jackson. HMH Books for Young Readers

• **Snow Lane** by Josie Angelini. Macmillan/Feiwel and Friends

• **Stella Diaz Has Something to Say** by Angela Dominguez. Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck
• **Sunny** by Jason Reynolds. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

• **The Truth as Told By Mason Buttle** by Leslie Connor. HarperCollins/Katherine Tegen Books

• **You Go First** by Erin Entrada Kelly. HarperCollins/Greenwillow Books

**Nonfiction**

• **All That Trash: The Story of the 1987 Garbage Barge and Our Problem with Stuff** by Meghan McCarthy. Illustrated by the author. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

• **Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery** by Sandra Neil Wallace. Illustrated by Bryan Collier. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

• **Boots on the Ground: America’s War in Vietnam** by Elizabeth Partridge. Viking Books for Young Readers


• **Champion: The Comeback Tale of the American Chestnut Tree** by Sally M. Walker. Henry Holt and Co.

• **Chasing King’s Killer: The Hunt for Martin Luther King Jr.’s Assassin** by James L. Swanson. Scholastic

• **Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass, a Monumental American Man** by Tonya Bolden. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers

• **Girl Running: Bobbi Gibb and the Boston Marathon** by Annette Bay Pimentel. Illustrated by Micha Archer. Nancy Paulsen Books

• **The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian’s Art Changed Science** by Joyce Sidman. HMH Books for Young Readers

• **Libba: The Magnificent Musical Life of Elizabeth Cotten** by Laura Veirs. Illustrated by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh. Chronicle Books

• **Library on Wheels: Mary Lemist Titcomb and America’s First Bookmobile** by Sharlee Glenn. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers

• **Rosa’s Animals: The Story of Rosa Bonheur and Her Painting Menagerie** by Maryann Macdonald. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers

• **The Secret Kingdom: Nek Chand, a Changing India, and a Hidden World of Art** by Barb Rosenstock. Illustrated by Claire A. Nivola. Candlewick Press


**Poetry**

• **Can I Touch Your Hair? Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship** by Irene Latham and Charles Waters. Illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko. Lerner/Carrollrhoda Books

• **The Field** by Baptiste Paul. Illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara. NorthSouth Books

• **For Every One** by Jason Reynolds. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

• **Martin Rising: Requiem for a King** by Andrea Davis Pinkney. Illustrated by Brian Pinkney. Scholastic

• **Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World** by Susan Hood. Illustrated by Sophie Blackall, Emily Winfield Martin and others. HarperCollins/Harper

• **Siege: How General Washington Kicked the British Out of Boston and Launched a Revolution** by Roxane Orgill. Candlewick Press

• **World Make Way: New Poems Inspired by Art from The Metropolitan Museum of Art.** Edited by Lee Bennett Hopkins. Abrams/Abrams Books for Young Readers