Belpre Medal and Honor Books
1996 to 2021

2021 winners

For Children's Narrative

Medal winner
Efrén Divided, by Ernesto Cisneros (Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers)

Honor Books for children's narration
The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez, by Adrianna Cuevas (Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Group)
Lupe Wong Won’t Dance, by Donna Barba Higuera (Levine Querido)

For Youth Illustrator

Medal winner
¡Vamos! Let’s Go Eat, by Raúl Gonzalez (Versify, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Honor Book for youth illustration
Sharuko: El Arqueólogo Peruano/Peruvian Archaeologist Julio C. Tello, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri, written by Monica Brown (Children’s Book Press, an imprint of Lee & Low Books Inc.)

For Young Adult Narrative

Medal winner
Furia, by Yamile Saied Méndez (Algonquin Young Readers, an imprint of Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill)

Honor Books for young adult narration
Never Look Back, by Lilliam Rivera (Bloomsbury YA)
We Are Not from Here, written by Jenny Torres Sanchez (Philomel Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House)

2020 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez (Disney-Hyperion/Disney Book Group)

Honor Books for narration
Lety Out Loud by Angela Cervantes (Scholastic Press/Scholastic Inc.)
The Other Half of Happy by Rebecca Balcárcel (Chronicle Books)
Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré, written by Anika Aldamuy Denise and illustrated by Paola Escobar (HarperCollins Children’s Books)
Soldier for Equality: José de la Luz Sáenz and the Great War, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers/ABRAMS)

For illustration

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**Medal winner**
Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Margarita Engle (Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster)

**Honor Books for illustration**
Across the Bay, illustrated and written by Carlos Aponte (Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House)
My Papi Has a Motorcycle, illustrated by Zeke Peña, written by Isabel Quintero (Kokila/Penguin Random House)
¡Vamos! Let’s Go to the Market, illustrated and written by Raúl Gonzalez (Versify/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Members of the 2020 Pura Belpré Award Selection Committee are: Chair Maria X. Peterson, Chicago Public Library; Linda Caycedo, Forest Hills, N.Y.; Alexandra Gomez, New York Public Library/BookOps, Long Island City, N.Y.; Guadalupe Leyva, Los Angeles Public Library; Pat Toney, Oakland (Calif.) Public Library; and Mercedes Zabawa, Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Public Library.

**2019 winners**

**For narrative**

**Medal winner**
The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo (HarperTeen/HarperCollins)

**Honor Book for narration**
They Call Me Güero: A Border Kid’s Poems by David Bowles (Cinco Puntos)

**For illustration**

**Medal winner**
Dreamers, illustrated by Yuyi Morales, written by Yuyi Morales (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House)

**Honor Books for illustration**
Islandborn, illustrated by Leo Espinosa, written by Junot Díaz (Dial/Penguin)
When Angels Sing: The Story of Rock Legend Carlos Santana, illustrated by Jose Ramirez, written by Michael Mahin (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster)

Members of the 2019 Pura Belpré Award Selection Committee are: Chair Dr. Ramona Caponegro, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Anna Maria Avalos, Los Angeles Public Library Central Library; René Bue, Hedberg Public Library, Janesville, Wis.; Josefa Bustos Pelayo, Jefferson Charter Academy, Hanford, Calif. and California State University, Fresno, Calif.; Evan Michael Bush, Athens-Clarke County Library, Athens, Ga.; Elizabeth Anne Negrete Gaylor, Ardmore (Okla.) Public Library; and Patricia Cortez Valdovinos, Los Angeles Public Library.

**2018 winners**

**For narrative**

**Medal winner**
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar (Nancy Paulsen/Penguin Random House)
Honor Books for narration
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya (Viking/Penguin Random House)
The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Pérez (Viking/Penguin Random House)

For illustration

Medal winner
La Princesa and the Pea, illustrated by Juana Martínez-Neal, written by Susan Middleton Elya (G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Random House)

Honor Books for illustration
All Around Us, illustrated by Adriana M. García, written by Xelena González (Cinco Puntos)
Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos, illustrated by John Parra, written by Monica Brown (NorthSouth Books/NordSüd Verlag)

Members of the 2018 Pura Belpré Award Selection Committee are: Chair Alicia K. Long, State College of Florida, Bradenton, Fla.; Emily Rose Aguiló-Pérez, The Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa.; Stefanie Isabel Bailey, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District; Amy C. Martin, Oakland (Calif.) Public Library; Susan H. Polos, Bedford Central School District, Mount Kisko, N.Y.; Patty Gonzales Ramirez, Dallas Public Library, White Rock Hills Branch Library; and Edwin Rodarte, Los Angeles Public Library.

2017 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Juana & Lucas, written and illustrated by Juana Medina (Candlewick)

Honor Book for narration
The Only Road by Alexandra Diaz (Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman)

For illustration

Medal winner
Lowriders to the Center of the Earth, illustrated by Raúl Gonzalez, written by Cathy Camper (Chronicle)

Honor Books for illustration
Esquivel!: Space-Age Sound Artist, illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh, written by Susan Wood (Charlesbridge)
The Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes, by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Members of the 2017 Pura Belpré Award Selection Committee: Chair Eva Mitnick, Los Angeles Public Library; Marissa Alcorta, Pima County Public Library, Tucson, Ariz.; Laura Duncan, Oxnard Public Library, Oxnard, Calif.; Cyndi Giorgis, University of Texas at El Paso; Linda M. Pavonetti, Oakland University, Rochester, Mich.; Lettycia Terrones, Los Angeles Public Library; and Junko Yokota, Center for Teaching through Children’s Books, Skokie, Ill.

2016 winners

For narrative
Medal winner
Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir, by Margarita Engle (Atheneum Books/Simon & Schuster)

Honor Books for narration
The Smoking Mirror, by David Bowles (IFWG Publishing)
Mango, Abuela, and Me, by Meg Medina, illustrated by Angela Dominguez Candlewick)

For illustration

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

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

Members of the 2016 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Ana-Elba Pavon, Oakland (Calif.) Public Library; Sylvia Cecilia Aguiñaga, San Jose (Calif.) State University; Pat Bashir, Nashville (Tenn.) Public Library; Maria F. Estrella, Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library; María C. Mena, Newport News (Va.) Public Library System; Teresa Mlawer, West Orange, N.J.; and Abigail Morales, San Diego (Calif.) County Library.

2015 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
I Lived on Butterfly Hill by Marjorie Agosín, illustrated by Lee White (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster)

Honor Book for narrative
Portraits of Hispanic American Heroes, by Juan Felipe Herrera, illustrated by Raúl Colón (Dial/Penguin)

For illustration

Medal winner
Viva Frida by Yuyi Morales (Roaring Brook/Neal Porter)

Honor Books for illustration
Little Roja Riding Hood illustrated by Susan Guevara, written by Susan Middleton Elya (G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin)
Green Is a Chile Pepper illustrated by John Parra, written by Roseanne Greenfield Thong (Chronicle)
Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family’s Fight for Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Members of the 2015 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Tim Wadham, Puyallup (WA) Public Library; Dr. Ramona Caponegro, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Ml.; Maria Cotto, Pawtucket (RI) Public
Library; Iris N. Ilagan, La Canada Flintridge (CA) Public Library; Louise Lareau, New York Public Library; Maria E. Rodriguez, Dallas (TX) Independent School District; and Victor Lynn Schill, Fairbanks Branch Library, Houston, TX.

2014 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass by Meg Medina (Candlewick)

Honor Books for narrative
The Lightning Dreamer: Cuba’s Greatest Abolitionist by Margarita Engle (Harcourt/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
The Living by Matt de la Peña (Delacorte/Penguin Random House)
Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant’s Tale by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

For illustration

Medal winner
Niño Wrestles the World by Yuyi Morales (Roaring Brook)

Honor Books for illustration
Maria Had a Little Llama / María Tenía una Llamita by Angela Dominguez (Holt)
Tito Puente: Mambo King / Rey del Mambo, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Monica Brown (Rayo/HarperCollins)
Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant’s Tale by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Members of the 2014 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair C. Ruth Tobar, Grand Rapids, MI; Mary Clark, Young Critics Club, Perrot Memorial Library, Old Greenwich, CN; Paula M. Gonzales, Harris County Public Library, Lone Star College-Cy Fair Branch, Cypress, TX; Alicia K. Long, State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, Bradenton, FL; Celia C. Pérez, Harold Washington College, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago, IL; Maria X. Peterson, Thomas Hughes Children’s Library, Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL; and Armando Ramírez, Redwood City (CA) Public Library.

2013 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz (Simon & Schuster)

Honor Book for narrative
The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano by Sonia Manzano (Scholastic)

For illustration

Medal winner
Martín de Porres: The Rose in the Desert illustrated by David Diaz, written by Gary D. Schmidt (Clarion/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
No honor books for illustration were given.

Members of the 2013 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair, Charmette Kuhn-Kendrick, South Columbus Public Library, Columbus, GA; Lucia Acosta Princeton Public Library, Princeton, NJ; Aryanze A. Crosby, DeKalb County Library, Chamblee, GA; Katherine Cunningham, Lexington Public Library, Lexington, KY; Robin F. Kurz, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA; Ruth Quiroa, National-Lewis University, Lisle, IL.

2012 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall (Lee and Low)

Honor Books for narrative
Hurricane Dancers: The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck by Margarita Engle (Holt)
Maximilian and the Mystery of the Guardian Angel: A Bilingual Lucha Libre Thriller by Xavier Garza (Cinco Puntos)

For illustration

Medal winner
Diego Rivera: His World and Ours, by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Honor Books for illustration
The Cazuela that the Farm Maiden Stirred, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Samantha R. Vamos (Charlesbridge)
Marisol McDonald Doesn’t Match /Marisol McDonald no combina, illustrated by Sara Palacios, written by Monica Brown (Children’s Book Press/Lee and Low)

Members of the 2012 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Jamie Naidoo, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL; Rebecca A. Alcalá, San Mateo County Library, East Palo Alto, CA; Carling Febry, Cooperative Children’s Book Center, Madison, WI; Luis F. Vargas, Yuma County Library District, San Luis, AZ; Daisy Gutierrez, Houston Public Library, Houston, TX; Amanda L. Sharpe, Harper Junior High School Library, Davis, CA; Henrietta M. Smith, University of South Florida, Delray Beach, FL.

2011 winners

For narrative

Medal winner
The Dreamer, written by Pam Muñoz Ryan, illustrated by Peter Sís (Scholastic)

Honor Books for narrative
¡Ole! Flamenco, written by George Ancona, illustrated by George Ancona (Lee and Low)
The Firefly Letters: A Suffragette’s Journey to Cuba, written by Margarita Engle (Holt)
90 Miles to Havana by Enrique Flores-Galbis (Roaring Brook)

For illustration
**Medal winner**
Grandma's Gift, illustrated and written by Eric Velasquez (Walker/Bloomsbury)

**Honor Books for illustration**
Fiesta Babies, illustrated Amy Cordova, written by Carmen Tafolla (Tricycle/Crown/Random House)
Me, Frida, illustrated by David Diaz, written by Amy Novesky (Abrams)
Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin, illustrated and written by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams)

Members of the 2011 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Martha M. Walke, Children’s Literature New England, South Strafford, VT; Aryanez Crosby, Dekalb County Public Library, Chamblee, GA; Tatiana De La Tierra, Inglewood Public Library, Long Beach, CA; Floyd Dickman, Ostrander, OH; Sally Miculek, Austin Public Library, Austin, TX; Alma Ramos-McDermott, Pollard Middle School, Needham, MA; Stan Steiner, Boise State University Albertsons Library, Boise, ID; and Ruth Tobar, Grand Rapids, MI.

**2010 Winners**

**For narrative**

**Medal winner**
Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez (Knopf)

**Honor Books for narrative**
Diego: Bigger Than Life, by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand, illustrated by David Diaz (Marshall Cavendish)
Federico García Lorca, by Georgina Lázaro; illustrated by Enrique S. Moreiro (Lectorum/Scholastic)

**For illustration**

**Medal winner**
Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children's Day/Book Day; Celebremos El día de los niños/El día de los libros. Illus. by Rafael López; written by Pat Mora (Rayo/HarperCollins)

**Honor Books for illustration**
Diego: Bigger Than Life. Illus. by David Diaz; written by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand (Marshall Cavendish)
My Abuelita. Illus. by Yuyi Morales; written by Tony Johnston (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
Gracias. Thanks. Illus. by John Parra; written by Pat Mora (Lee & Low)

Members of the 2010 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Lucia González, Broward County Library, North Miami Beach, FL; Rebecca Hickman, Alvin Sherman Library-Nova Southeastern University, Boca Raton, FL; Judi Moreillon, Emily Gray Junior High-Tanque Verde High School, Tucson, AZ; Freda Mosquera, Broward County Library, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Patricia Montiel Overall, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ; Maggie Sepulveda, Houston Public Library, Pearland, TX; Roberto Zapata, San Antonio Public Library, San Antonio, TX.

**2009 Winners**

**For narrative**

**Medal winner**
The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom by Margarita Engle. (Henry Holt)
Honor Books for narrative
Just In Case by Yuyi Morales (Roaring Brook/Neal Porter)
Reaching Out by Francisco Jiménez (Houghton Mifflin Company)
The Storyteller’s Candle / La velita de los cuentos, by Lucía González illustrated by Lulu Delacre (Children’s Book Press)

For illustration

Medal winner
Just In Case by Yuyi Morales (Roaring Brook Press/Neal Porter)

Honor Books for illustration
Papá and Me, by Rudy Gutierrez, written by Arthur Dorros (Rayo, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers)
The Storyteller’s Candle / La velita de los cuentos, by Lulu Delacre, written by Lucía González (Children’s Book Press)
What Can You Do With a Rebozo? by, Amy Córdova, Written by Carmen Tafolla (Tricycle Press, an imprint of Ten Speed Press)

Members of the 2009 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Claudette McLinn, Los Angeles Unified School District; Loretta Dowell, San Francisco Public Library; Elva Garza, Austin (Texas) Public Library; Oralia Garza de Cortes, Latino Children’s Literature Consultant, Pasadena, CA; Debra Gold, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma Heights, OH; Charmette Kuhn-Kendrick, Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System, Columbus, GA; and Yolanda Valentin, Birmingham (AL) Public Library.

2008 Winners

For narrative

Medal winner

Honor Books for narrative
Los Gatos Black on Halloween, By Marisa Montes. Illustrated by Yuyi Morales. (Holt, 2006)

For illustration

Medal winner
Los Gatos Black on Halloween. By Yuyi Morales. Written by Marisa Montes. (Holt, 2006)

Honor Books for illustration
My Name is Gabito: The Life of Gabriel García Márquez/Me llamo Gabito: la vida de Gabriel García Márquez. By Raúl Colón. Written by Monica Brown. (Luna Rising, 2007)
My Colors, My World/Mis colores, mi mundo. By, Maya Christina Gonzalez. (Children’s Book Press, 2007)
Members of the 2008 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair, Jean Hatfield, Alford Regional Branch, Wichita Public Library, KS; Adrián Barrientos, San José Public Library Biblioteca Latinoamericana Branch, San José, CA; Hope Crandall, Washington Elementary School, Woodburn School District, Woodburn, OR; Judith V. Lechner, Auburn University, AL; Lisa Lintner-Sizemore, Louisville Free Public Library, Louisville, KY. And Jamie Campbell Naidoo, Ph.D, University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, Columbia, SC.

2006 Winners

For narrative

Medal winner

Honor Books for narrative
Becoming Naomi León. By Pam Muñoz Ryan. (Scholastic Press, 2004)

For illustration

Medal winner:

Honor Books for illustration
My Name Is Celia/ Me Llamo Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/ La Vida de Celia Cruz. Rafael López, Illustrator. Written by Monica Brown. (Luna Rising, a bilingual imprint of Rising Moon, 2004)

Members of the 2006 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair, Barbara Scotto, Michael Driscoll School, Brookline, MA; Mariá E. Gentle, Arlington County Public Library, Arlington, VA; Lucía M. González, Broward County Library, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Leslie Hauschildt, Jefferson County Public Library, Evergreen, CO; Armando Ramírez, San Mateo County Library, San Mateo, CA; Tim Wadham, Maricopa County Library District, Phoenix, AZ; and Martha M. Walke, Children’s Literature New England, Inc., South Strafford, VT.

2004 Winners

For narrative

Medal winner
Honor Books for narrative
My Diary from Here to There/Mi Diario de Aquí Hasta Allá. Amada Irma Pérez. (Children's Book Press)

For Illustration
Medal winner

Honor Books for illustration

Members of the 2004 Pura Belpre Award Committee: Chair Chair: Rose Violet Treviño, Houston Public Library; Ilene Abramson, Los Angeles Public Library; Salvador Avila, Las Vegas - Clark County (NV) Library District; Roslyn Beitler, Barrett Elementary School, Arlington, VA; Linda Caycedo, The New York Public Library; Ana-Elba Pavon, San Francisco Public Library; and Tammy Pineda, Hennepin County Library, Minnetonka, MN.

2002 Winners

For Narrative
Medal winner
Esperanza Rising By Pam Munoz Ryan. (Scholastic Press, 2000)

Honor Books for narrative
Iguanas in the Snow. By Francisco X. Alarcón. Illustrated by Maya Christina Gonzalez. (Children's Book Press)

For Illustration
Medal winner

Honor Book for illustration

Members of the 2002 Pura Belpre Award Committee: Eliza T. Dresang, Florida State University, Tallahassee; Miguel Garcia Colón, Chicago Public Library; Jean Hatfield, Johnson County Library, Shawnee Mission (Kan.); Bethe Marie Lehman, L.O. Donald Elementary School, Dallas; Maria C. Mena, Leon County Public Library System, Tallahassee (Fla.); Meb Norton, Metairie Park Country Day School, New Orleans; Nissa Montoya-Perez, East Los Angeles Library.

2000 Winners
For narrative

Medal winner

Honor Books for narrative

For Illustration

Medal winner

Honor Books for illustration

Members of the 2000 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Yolanda Bonitch, Mollie B. Bynum, Maria A. Champlin, Miguel A. Garcia-Colon, Ginny Moore Kruse, Priscilla E. Leni, Maureen White.

1998 Winners

For narrative

Medal winner

Honor Books for narrative
Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems / Jitomates Risueños y otros poemas de primavera By Francisco Alarcón. Illustrated by Maya Christina Gonzalez (Children's Book Press, 1997).

For illustration

Medal Winner

Honor Books for illustration
In My Family / En mi familia by Carmen Lomas Garza (Children's Book Press, 1996).
Gathering the Sun: an Alphabet in Spanish and English By Simón Silva, text by Alma Flor Ada; English translation by Rosa Zubizarreta (Lothrop, 1997).

Members of the 1998 Pura Belpré Award Committee: Chair Melinda Dale Greenblatt, Oralia Garza Cortez, Lauren L. Mayer, Elissa R. Miller, Judith Rodriguez, Patricia M. Wong, Judy E. Zuckerman.
1996 Winners

For narrative

Medal winner

Honor Books for narrative
The Bossy Gallito / El Gallo de Bodas: A Traditional Cuban Folktale, written by Lucía González, illustrated by Lulu Delacre (Scholastic, 1994).
Baseball in April, and Other Stories by Gary Soto (Harcourt, 1994).

For illustration

Medal winner

Honor Books for illustration
The Bossy Gallito / El Gallo de BODas: A Traditional Cuban Folktale, illustrated by Lulu Delacre, retold by Lucía González (Scholastic, 1994).