

(Robert F.) Sibert Medal and Honor Books, 2001-present

The most distinguished informational book published in the United States

2021

Medal Winner

Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera, written by Candace Fleming, illustrated by Eric Rohmann (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House)

Honor Books

How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure, written and illustrated by John Rocco (Crown Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a Division of Penguin Random House)

Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks, written by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera (Abrams Books for Young Readers, an imprint of ABRAMS)

All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team, written by Christina Soontornvat (Candlewick Press)

2020

Medal Winner

Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story, written by Kevin Noble Maillard and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal (Roaring Brook/Holtzbrinck)

Honor Books

All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World, written by Lori Alexander and illustrated by Vivien Mildenerger (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality, written by Jo Ann Allen Boyce and Debbie Levy (Bloomsbury)

Ordinary Hazards: A Memoir, written by Nikki Grimes (WordSong/Highlights)

Hey, Water! written and illustrated by Antoinette Portis (Neal Porter/Holiday)

2019

Medal winner

The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science, written by Joyce Sidman (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Honor books

Camp Panda: Helping Cubs Return to the Wild, written by Catherine Thimmesh (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America, written by Gail Jarrow (Calkins Creek/Highlights)

The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees, written and illustrated by Don Brown (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga, written by Traci Sorell and illustrated by Frané Lessac (Charlesbridge)

When Angels Sing: The Story of Rock Legend Carlos Santana, written by Michael Mahin and illustrated by Jose Ramirez (Atheneum/Simon & Schuster)

2018

Medal winner

Twelve Days in May: Freedom Ride 1961, written by Larry Dane Brimner (Calkins Creek/Highlights)

Honor books

Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix, written by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee, illustrated by Man One (Readers to Eaters)

Grand Canyon, written and illustrated by Jason Chin (Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck)

Not So Different: What You Really Want to Ask about Having a Disability, written by Shane Burcaw and illustrated by Matt Carr (Roaring Brook Press/Holtzbrinck)

Sea Otter Heroes: The Predators That Saved an Ecosystem, written by Patricia Newman (Millbrook/Lerner)

2017

Medal winner

March: Book Three, written by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, and illustrated by Nate Powell (Top Shelf Productions)

Honor books

Giant Squid, written by Candace Fleming and illustrated by Eric Rohmann (Roaring Book Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishing Holdings Limited Partnership)

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story, written by Caren Stelson (Carolrhoda Books, a division of Lerner Publishing group, Inc.)

Uprooted: The Japanese American Experience During World War II, written by Albert Marrin (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House LLC)

We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler, written by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company)

2016

Medal winner

Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers/ABRAMS)

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, written by Phillip Hoose (Farrar Straus Giroux)

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 and illustrated by PJ Loughran (Dial Books/Penguin Group (USA))

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

2015

Medal winner

The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus, written by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing)

Honor books

Brown Girl Dreaming, written by Jacqueline Woodson (Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin Group)

The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, & the Fall of Imperial Russia, by Candace Fleming (Schwartz & Wade Books, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House LLC, a Penguin Random House Company)

Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker, written by Patricia Hruby Powell, illustrated by Christian Robinson (Chronicle Books)

Neighborhood Sharks: Hunting with the Great Whites of California's Farallon Islands by Katherine Roy (David Macaulay Studio, an imprint of Roaring Brook Press)

Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation, by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams Books for Young Readers, an imprint of ABRAMS Publishing)

2014

Medal winner

Parrots over Puerto Rico, written by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore, illustrated by Susan L. Roth, (Lee & Low Books, Inc.)

Honor books

A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin, written by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House, Inc.)

Look Up! Bird-Watching in Your Own Backyard by Annette LeBlanc Cate (Candlewick Press)

Locomotive by Brian Floca (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing)

The Mad Potter: George E. Ohr, Eccentric Genius by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan (Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck)

2013

Medal winner

Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin (Flash Point, an imprint of Roaring Brook Press)

Honor books

Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin by Robert Byrd (Dial Books for Young Readers, a division of Penguin Young Readers Group)

Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95 by Phillip M. Hoose (Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers)

Titanic: Voices from the Disaster by Deborah Hopkinson (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc.)

2012

Medal winner

Balloons over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy’s Parade by Melissa Sweet (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Honor books

Black & White: The Confrontation between Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth and Eugene ‘Bull’ Connor by Larry Dane Brimner (Calkins Creek, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, Inc.)

Drawing from Memory by Allen Say (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc.)

The Elephant Scientist, written by Caitlin O’Connell and Donna M. Jackson, photographs by Caitlin O’Connell and Timothy Rodwelland (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Witches!: The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem by Rosalyn Schanzer (National Geographic Society)

2011

Medal winner

Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World’s Strangest Parrot, written by Sy Montgomery, photographs by Nic Bishop (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Honor books

Ballet for Martha: Making Appalachian Spring, written by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan, illustrated by Brian Floca (A Neal Porter Book, published by Flash Point, an imprint of Roaring Brook Press, a division of Holtzbrinck Publishing)

Lafayette and the American Revolution by Russell Freedman (Holiday House)

2010

Medal winner

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Tanya Lee Stone (Candlewick Press)

Honor books

The Day-Glo Brothers: The True Story of Bob and Joe Switzer's Bright Ideas and Brand-New Colors, written by Chris Barton, illustrated by Tony Persiani (Charlesbridge)

Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11 by Brian Floca (Richard Jackson/Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose (Melanie Kroupa Books/Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group)

2009

Medal winner

We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson (Disney-Jump at the Sun, an imprint of Disney Book Group)

Honor books

Bodies from the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past by James M. Deem (Houghton Mifflin Company)

What to Do About Alice?: How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy!, written by Barbara Kerley and illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham (Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc.)

2008

Medal winner

The Wall: Growing Up behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sís (Farrar/Frances Foster)

Honor books

Lightship by Brian Floca (Simon & Schuster/Richard Jackson)

Nic Bishop Spiders by Nic Bishop (Scholastic Nonfiction, an imprint of Scholastic)

2007

Medal winner

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Thimmesh (Houghton)

Honor books

Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement by Ann Bausum (National Geographic)

Quest for the Tree Kangaroo: An Expedition to the Cloud Forest of New Guinea, written by Sy Montgomery, photographs by Nic Bishop (Houghton)

To Dance: A Ballerina's Graphic Novel, written by Siena Cherson Siegel, artwork by Mark Siegel (Simon & Schuster/Richard Jackson and Simon & Schuster/Aladdin)

2006

Medal winner

Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley by Sally M. Walker (Carolrhoda Books, Inc., a division of Lerner Publishing Group)

Honor book

Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Scholastic Nonfiction, an imprint of Scholastic)

2005

Medal winner

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Company)

Honor books

Walt Whitman: Words for America, written by Barbara Kerley, illustrated by Brian Selznick (Scholastic Press/Scholastic Inc.)

The Tarantula Scientist, written by Sy Montgomery, photographs by Nic Bishop (Houghton Mifflin Company)

Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing by James Rumford, translated into Cherokee by Anna Sixkiller Huckaby (Houghton Mifflin Company)

2004

Medal winner

An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 by Jim Murphy (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Company)

Honor book

I Face the Wind, written by Vicki Cobb, illustrated by Julia Gorton (HarperCollins)

2003

Medal winner

The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler by James Cross Giblin (Clarion)

Honor books

Six Days in October: The Stock Market Crash of 1929 by Karen Blumenthal (Atheneum)

Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos (Farrar, Strauss & Giroux)

Action Jackson, written by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan, illustrated by Robert Andrew Parker (Roaring Brook Press/The Millbrook Press)

When Marian Sang, written by Pam Munoz Ryan, illustrated by Brian Selznick (Scholastic)

2002

Medal winner

Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine, 1845-1850 by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Houghton Mifflin Company)

Honor books

Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps by Andrea Warren (HarperCollins)

Vincent van Gogh by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan (Delacorte Press)

Brooklyn Bridge by Lynn Curlee (Simon & Schuster/Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

2001

Medal winner

Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado by Marc Aronson (Clarion Books)

Honor books

The Longitude Prize, written by Joan Dash, illustrated by Dusan Petricic (Frances Foster Books/ Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Blizzard! The Storm That Changed America by Jim Murphy. (Scholastic Press, a division of Scholastic Inc.)

My Season with Penguins: An Antarctic Journal by Sophie Webb. (Houghton Mifflin Company)

Pedro and Me: Friendship, Loss, and What I Learned by Judd Winick (Henry Holt and Company, LLC)