

Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

CATEGORY: Author/Illustrator Award

AWARD NAME: *Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement*

AWARD DEFINITION: The Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement will be presented in even years (i.e. 2010, 2012, 2014...), to an African American author, illustrator, or author/illustrator for a body of his or her published books for children and/or young adults who has made a significant and lasting literary contribution.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR AUTHOR AND/OR ILLUSTRATOR RECIPIENTS:

1. Must be an African American author or illustrator.
2. May be joint authors, joint illustrators, or joint author/illustrators.
3. Must be living by deadline of nomination date.
4. Authors or illustrators must have residence in the United States.
5. Body of work selected must represent distinguished writing and/or illustrations by and about the African American experience for children and/or young adults.
6. Body of work selected has made a substantial contribution to children's and/or young adult literature about the African American experience over a period of years.
7. Body of work must meet established standards of high quality writing and/or illustration for youth.
8. Committee members may also pay particular attention to bodies of work:
 - a. Whose interpretation consistently motivates youth readers to stretch their imagination and thinking.
 - b. Which denote exceptional examples of specific types of literature.
 - c. That represents trend-setters, innovations, or fresh explorations of themes or topics or perspectives in African American literature for children and/or young adult.
9. Body of work must include at least one CSK Award winner (Author, Illustrator, New Talent winner, or Honor Book for either category).
10. The majority of the books in the body of work must be available in the United States at the time of the nomination deadline.

DEFINITIONS:

Author & Illustrator Recipient

1. **Body of work** - Pre-K through Grade 12.
2. **Excellent/distinguished writing or illustrations** - Outstanding, distinct, of exceptional quality, first rate, eminent, and or notable.

- 3. Significant and lasting contribution** - Published works of the selected author or illustrator commands an influential place in literature by and about African Americans.
- 4. Over a period of years** - Published works have existed for a minimum of ten years. Recipient's body of work must contain a minimum of 7 books for children and/or young adults.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES:

- 1. Who is eligible to nominate authors and/or illustrators for the Coretta Scott King Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement?** The Coretta Scott King Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award Committee members nominate authors and illustrators. (Recommendations are welcome)
- 2. Who may be nominated?**
Any African American author or illustrator, or African American co-authors or illustrators who meet the criteria may be nominated.
- 3. Deadline date for nomination of candidates**
Candidate nominations must be submitted by July 1 prior to the ALA Midwinter Announcement of the Award recipient. Nomination forms will include statement of outstanding contributions, documentation of accomplishments, previous recognitions, etc. and will be accessible on the ALA website at www.ala.org/csk and through the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD WINNER:

The winner will be announced during the ALA Midwinter Press Conference at which the annual CSK Award winners are announced.

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD:

A plaque and \$1500 cash award will be presented on even years (i.e. 2010, 2012, 2014...) to an African American author or illustrator. The presentation will be part of the Coretta Scott King Awards Breakfast during the American Library Association Annual Conference.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION:

The Award recipients will be selected by a five member award jury of the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Awards Committee of the **E**thnic and **M**ulticultural **I**nformation **E**xchange **R**ound **T**able (**EMIERT**).

The Award will be administered by the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee of EMIERT, with support of the American Library Association staff liaison, Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS).