RHODE ISLAND CHILDREN’S BOOK AWARD

The Rhode Island Children’s Book Award encourages children to read. This award is co-sponsored by the Rhode Island Educational Media Association, the Rhode Island Library Association and the Rhode Island State Council of the International Reading Association. The Book Award Committee, representing the three organizations, compiled the list of 2010-2011 books from nominated titles submitted by librarians, teachers, children and others. We present this list to you now, so that you can recommend these books for summer reading and plan for read-alouds in the fall. Students can begin to obtain these books from their schools and public libraries, and teachers can begin to share them with their classes.

We ask that students read and/or listen to at least three (3) books from the attached annotated list and then vote for their favorite! Those children who will be in grades 3-6 during February 2011 are eligible to vote. Voting will take place at participating schools and libraries by mid-February 2011, and the winning author will be invited to receive the award in the fall of 2011.

Books were selected according to the following criteria:

1. Titles nominated should be appropriate for grades 3-6
2. Fiction and nonfiction titles published during 2008 and 2009 were eligible.
3. Nominated titles must be currently in print.
4. A title listed once may not be nominated again.
5. Only one title per author may be nominated each year.
6. Authors must be currently living in the United States at the time of the nomination.
7. The winning author will be excluded from nomination the following year.
8. All nominated books should have literary value.
9. Editors of collected works by others authors will not be considered.
Rhode Island Children’s Book Award Nomination Booklist: 2011


Subjects: Census, History, 1790, Humor, Vermont, Schemes

Subjects: People with Disabilities, Math Anxiety, School, African Americans, Friendship, Paraplegics, Heritage

Subjects: Dragons, Knights/Knighthood, Farm Life, Theater, Rabbits, Family, Friendship, Loyalty, Fairy Tales

Subjects: Norse Mythology, Vikings, Giants, Fantasy, Folklore, Coming of Age, Adventure

Subjects: Horses, Immigration, English Language Learners, Brazilians, New York, Father-Daughter Relationships, Brothers, Family Dynamics, Coming of Age

Subjects: Death, Friendship, Grief, Siblings, Worry, Safety

Subjects: Poetry, Acrostic Poems, Animals, Africa


Subjects: Authors, Letters, Haunted Mansions, Ghosts, Humor, Friendships, Writer’s Block

Subjects: Fairy Tales, Dragons, Moon, Family, Adventure, Magic

Subjects: Birthdays, Time, Friendship, Interpersonal Relationships, Family Feuds, Fantasy

Subjects: Charles Darwin, Biography, Natural History, Evolution, Voyages, Career Choice, HMS Beagle


Subjects: Civil War, Brothers, Humor, Friendships, Tricksters, Evil Stepfathers, Adventure, Underground Railroad, Medicine Shows

Subjects: Magic, Wizards, Apprentices, Fantasy, Mystery, Thievery, Runes, Danger

Subjects: China 1960’s, Family Life, Growing Up, Novels in Verse, Determination, Memoirs, Poetry

Subjects: Cartoons and Comics, Comic Books, Strips, etc.-Technique, Drawing-Technique, Graphic Novels, Princeses, Elves, Knights, Dragons, Fairy Tales, Adventure, Humor

Subjects: Imagination, Wishes, Dogs, Friendship, Divorce, Moving, Bullies, Sisters

Subjects: Emigration and Immigration, Fathers and Sons, Chinese Americans, Stuttering, China 1912-1928, Angel Island, San Francisco, California 1850-1950
health. Their teeth, claws, spines and venom can be deadly. They protect themselves in surprising ways that can be unexpectedly hazardous to your health. Their teeth, claws, spines and venom can be deadly.

**Things to Remember**


Discover how dangerous unusual animals can be. They protect themselves in surprising ways that can be unexpectedly hazardous to your health. Their teeth, claws, spines and venom can be deadly.

10. Klise, Kate. *Dying to Meet You* Grades 3-6

A writer moves into an old mansion expecting to find some peace and quiet to break his writer’s block. Instead, he finds that he is sharing living quarters with an 11-year old boy and a ghost. The ghost does not plan to share anything with the writer, especially her home. The story is told through newspaper accounts and letters.

11. Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* Grades 4-6

With the help of a magical goldfish and a flightless dragon, Minli embarks on an adventure to find the Old Man of the Moon who she hopes will help to change her family’s fortune.


Amanda's eleventh birthday should have been a happy occasion but this year everything goes wrong. She can’t wait for the day to be over. But on the next day Amanda wakes up to find it’s STILL her 11th birthday!

13. McGinty, Alice B. *Darwin* Grades 3-6

What do you do when you’ve flunked out of school? Go to medical school of course! And then head off on the adventure of a lifetime. Follow Charles Darwin from unsuccessful student to fame after his around the world trip on the HMS Beagle.

14. Mills, Claudia. *How Oliver Olson Changed the World* Grades 3-4

What if your parents did your homework for you? Sound fantastic? Meet Oliver Olson, a boy who doesn't think it's so great, in this very funny story. With inspiration from the Planet Pluto, a classmate named Crystal, and his own creativity, Oliver finally finds some of the independence he so desperately wants.


What is a boy to do when his guardian illegally sells his only brother to the Union Army? The only thing a courageous boy can do is to use all his wits and his ability to tell tall tales to find his brother. In a madcap adventure of a lifetime, Homer meets many rascals and guardian angels along his journey. During his ordeal, he finds what friendship and family really means.


A young thief is drawn into the life of danger and adventure after picking the pocket of a very powerful wizard. Evil is afoot in the city of Wellmet, an evil that is not human. Will the thief who becomes the wizard’s apprentice be able to save the city?

17. Russell, Ching Yeung. *Tofu Quilt* Grades 4-6

Written in free verse poems, this tender tale tells of a young girl growing up in 1960’s China. Yeung Yung overcomes the limits placed on her by society and family when she is granted the opportunity to go to school and become a writer.

18. Sturm, James. *Adventures in Cartooning: How to Turn Your Doodles into Comics* Grades 3-6

An impatiant knight, a cowardly horse, and a magical elf set off to rescue a princess and slay a dragon - and along the way learn to make comics - in this rip-roaring adventure.


When Max gets the opportunity to see his wish for a pet realized, the scrappy mutt he's saddled with isn't quite the dog he envisioned. Be careful what you wish for!


In 1922, 10-year-old Gim Lew reluctantly leaves his village in China to go with his father to America, but before they leave he must prepare for a grueling test that he must pass, without stuttering, at California's Angel Island.
Please Register by June 1, 2010

Schools and libraries must register each year even if they have participated previously in order to keep our contact information current

Please email your registration information to:  
RICBA9@yahoo.com

Please include:  
Name of school  
Name of school District  
School address  
Contact person and school principal

Any school faculty member may coordinate this program. One or all eligible classes in a building may participate. Public libraries are also invited to participate.

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Rhode Island Children’s Book Award Committee

RIEMA          RILA          RISC/IRA
Jane Austin    Judanne Hamidzada Sandra Dadona  
Meagan Lenihan Edna Hutchins    Jessica Kenney   
Eileen Rocchio Babs Wells       Judith Maxham

Special Permanent Advisor – Cheryl Space, Library Program Specialist  
Office of Library and Information Services  
Rhode Island Department of Administration

Rhode Island Children’s Book Award Time Line

Nominations list published       March 2010
Schools return participation slips June 2010
Ballot distribution to schools    January 2011
Voting                           February 2011
Announcement of award            March 2011
Award ceremony                   Fall 2011