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INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2020 CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS' BOOK AWARD WINNERS

Newark, Del. (October 15, 2020) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) today announced the winners of the ILA Children's and Young Adults' Book Awards. The 10 titles recognized represent a wide variety of genres and themes, including a biography for teens on the life and work of the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Now celebrating its 45th year, ILA's book awards program recognizes newly published authors who exhibit exceptional promise in the children's and young adult book fields. In its history, the awards have featured the early works of now prominent literary stars including Juana Martinez-Neal, Patricia Polacco and Lois Lowry.

"Now more than ever, we see our students turning to books for comfort," said Raven Cromwell, committee chair for the ILA Children's and Young Adults' Book Awards and assistant professor in the Department of Education at Marietta College in Ohio. "With this awards program, we not only honor rising stars in the literary field but also help point educators toward the best new titles—books trusted to hook their young readers, value their lives and identities and contribute to their understanding of the world around them."

Awards are presented for fiction and nonfiction in each of three categories: primary, intermediate and young adult. Note that there was no winner in the Intermediate Nonfiction category this year.

The 2020 award winners are:

Primary Fiction

Winner: *Bird Count*. Susan Edwards Richmond. Ill. Stephanie Fizer Coleman. Peachtree.

Honor: *Ella McKeen, Kickball Queen*. Beth Mills. Lerner Publishing Group.

Primary Nonfiction

Winner: *A Green Place to Be: The Creation of Central Park*. Ashley Benham Yazdani. Candlewick Press.

Honor: *Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom*. Teresa Robeson. Ill. Rebecca Huang. Sterling Children's Books.

Intermediate Fiction

Winner: *Caterpillar Summer*. Gillian McDunn. Bloomsbury Children's Books.

Honor: *Emmy in the Key of Code*. Aimee Lucido. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; *A Kind of Paradise*. Amy Rebecca Tan. HarperCollins.

Young Adult Fiction

Winner: *Every Stolen Breath*. Kimberly Gabriel. Blink.

Honor: *How to Make Friends With the Dark*. Kathleen Glasgow. Delacorte Press.

Young Adult Nonfiction

Winner: *Dissenter on the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Life & Work*. Victoria Ortiz. Clarion Books.

Additional information on the ILA Children's and Young Adults' Book Awards can be found [here](#).

About the International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers and experts across 128 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated. ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017 provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students and inform policymakers. ILA publishes *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy* and *Reading Research Quarterly*, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit literacyworldwide.org

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