

Volunteer State Book Award



Sponsored by

Tennessee Library Association

and

Tennessee Association of School Librarians

History of the Volunteer State Book Award

The Tennessee Library Association, in cooperation with the Tennessee Association of School Librarians, sponsors the Volunteer State Book Award (VSBA) annually. Each year, children read books from a list of nominated titles. In the spring, students vote for their favorite. These votes are tabulated and sent to the state organization. The book with the most votes statewide wins the award. The author of the book receives a plaque and is invited to Tennessee to receive the award.

From 1978-1988, this award was named the Tennessee Children's Choice Book Award and was made available only to students in 4th, 5th and 6th grades. The first winner was Thomas Rockwell's **How to Eat Fried Worms**. In 1988, the award was expanded to include all grade levels and four awards were announced: for grades K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Beginning in 1992, three awards were announced: one for primary grades, one for intermediate grades, and one for young adult (YA) readers. Finally, in 2012, the structure was modified to reflect what it is today, four divisions: one for primary grades, one for intermediate grades, one for Middle School, and one for High School.

Purpose of the Award

Volunteer State Book Award



Guidelines for the Volunteer State Book Award

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The purpose of the Volunteer State Book Award is to promote awareness, interest, and enjoyment of recently published children's and young adult literature of high quality to the children and teens of Tennessee. The award also hopes to promote literacy and life-long reading habits by encouraging students to read award-worthy contemporary literature which broadens understanding of the human experience and provides accurate, factual information. This award will honor outstanding books chosen annually by Tennessee students.

ITS UNIQUE FEATURE

The Volunteer State Book Award differs from awards such as the Newbery and Caldecott Medals in that students choose the book which receives the award each year. Tennessee students from Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade read or have read to them at least three of the twenty titles on the annual master list. They then vote for their favorite book.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

Any public or private school or public library in Tennessee is eligible to participate. It is not required that the entire school be involved. Each participating school or library system must have a minimum of twelve of the twenty titles per division available.

HOW BOOKS ARE CHOSEN

Twenty books that appeal to students in each grade category are selected by professional librarians and educators who work continuously with students in grades K-12. Four separate lists are compiled each year.

- Books may be fiction or nonfiction.
- Only one title of any one author will be included on that year's list.
- Only titles published in the three years prior to the year of voting will be eligible.
- Only books by authors residing in the United States are eligible. Authors who reside part-time in the US are also eligible to receive the award.
- Textbooks, anthologies, translations, and books from foreign publishers are not eligible. Titles from vanity publishers or that have been self-published are not eligible. Titles that are available only in digital format are likewise not eligible.

- All books on the final list will have been read by a minimum of five members of the committee.

HOW TO VOTE

- Students who have read or had read to them a minimum of three of the twenty books will be allowed to vote.
- The library media specialist or public librarian will conduct the voting.
- Digital ballots will be posted on the TASL web site during March. There will be no paper ballots.
- Votes are cast in the spring of each school year, usually in early May.

For More Information
<http://www.tasltn.org/vsba>

CHILDREN'S CHOICE BOOK AWARD 1978-1988

(Intermediate Level Only)

1978-1979

Rockwell, Thomas. **How to Eat Fried Worms.**

1979-1980

Cleary, Beverly. **Ramona And Her Father.**

1980-1981

Hall, Lynn. **Shadows.**

1981-1982

Blume, Judy. **Superfudge.**

1982-1983

Byars, Betsy. **The Cybil War.**

1983-1984

Howe, James. **Howliday Inn.**

1984-1985

Carris, Joan. **When The Boys Ran The House.**

1985-1986

Park, Barbara. **Operation: Dump The Chump.**

1986-1987

Park, Barbara. **Skinnybones.**

1987-1988

Smith, Robert Kimmel. **The War With Grandpa.**

VOLUNTEER STATE BOOK AWARD

1988-1989

Grades K-3: Schwartz, Alvin. **In A Dark, Dark Room.**

Grades 4-6: Hahn, Mary Downing. **Wait Till Helen Comes, A Ghost Story.**

Grades 7-9: Paulsen, Gary. **Dogsong.**

Grades 10-12: Voigt, Cynthia. **Izzy, Willy-Nilly.**

1989-1990

Grades K-3: Seeger, Pete. **Abiyoyo.**

Grades 4-6: Wright, Betty Ren. **Christina's Ghost.**

Grades 7-9: Killien, Christi. **Putting On An Act.**

Grades 10-12: Duncan, Lois. **Locked In Time.**

1990-1991

Grades K-3: Cole, Joanna. **Magic Schoolbus At The Waterworks.**

Grades 4-6: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Beetles, Lightly Toasted.**

Grades 7-9: Shusterman, Neal. **The Shadow Club.**

Grades 10-12: Deaver, Julie. **Say Goodnight, Gracie.**

1991-1992

Grades K-3: Arnold, Tedd. **No Jumping On The Bed!**

Grades 4-6: Sachar, Louis. **There's A Boy In The Girls' Bathroom.**

Grades 7-9: Bunting, Eve. **A Sudden Silence.**

Grades 10-12: Duncan, Lois. **Don't Look Behind You.**

1992-1993

Grades K-3: Carle, Eric. **The Very Quiet Cricket.**

Grades 4-6: Sachar, Louis. **Wayside School Is Falling Down.** *Young*

Adult: Hall, Lynn. **The Killing Freeze.**

1993-1994

Grades K-3: Wahl, Jan. **Taily Po.**

Grades 4-6: Bunting, Eve. **Our Sixth Grade Sugar Babies.**

Young Adult: Duncan, Lois. **Don't Look Behind You.**

1994-1995

Grades K-3: Locker, Thomas. **Land Of Gray Wolf.**

Grades 4-6: Blume, Judy. **Fudge-A-Mania.**

Young Adult: Cooney, Caroline. **The Face on The Milk Carton.**

1995-1996

Grades K-3: Trivizas, Eugene. **The Three Little Wolves & the Big Bad Pig.**

Grades 4-6: Wright, Betty Ren. **The Ghosts Of Mercy Manor.**

Young Adult: Deuker, Carl. **Heart of a Champion.**

1996-1997

Grades K-3: Pilkey, Dav. **Dogzilla.**

Grades 4-6: Robinson, Barbara. **The Best/Worst School Year Ever.**

Young Adult: Haynes, Betsy. **Deadly Deception.**

1997-1998

Grades K-3: Pilkey, Dav. **Hallo-Wiener.**

Grades 4-6: Strasser, Todd. **Help! I'm Trapped In My Teacher's Body.**

Young Adult: Cooney, Caroline. **Driver's Ed.**

1998-1999

Grades K-3: Meddaugh, Susan. **Martha Calling.**

Grades 4-6: Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Shiloh Season.**

Young Adult: Draper, Sharon. **Tears of a Tiger.**

1999-2000

Grades K-3: Arnold, Tedd. **Parts.**

Grades 4-6: Gutman, Dan. **Million Dollar Shot.**

Young Adult: Paulsen, Gary. **Brian's Winter.**

2000-2001

Grades K-3: MacDonald, Margaret. **Pickin' Peas.** *Grades*

4-6: Sachar, Louis. **Holes.**

Young Adult: Duncan, Lois. **Gallow's Hill.**

2001-2002

Grades K-3: Lester, Helen. **Hooway for Wodney Wat.**

Grades 4-6: Curtis, Christopher Paul. **Bud, Not Buddy.**

Young Adult: Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Speak** and Vande Velde Vivian. **Smart Dog.**

2002-2003

Grades K-3: Howard, Arthur. **Cosmo Zooms.**

Grades 4-6: DiCamillo, Kate. **Because of Winn-Dixie.**

Young Adult: Cabot, Meg. **The Princess Diaries.**

2003-2004

Grades K-3: Massie, Diane. **Baby Bee Bee Bird.**

Grades 4-6: Creech, Sharon. **Love That Dog.**

Young Adult: Brashares, Ann. **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.**

2004-2005

Grades K-3: Salley, Colleen. **Epossumondas.**

Grades 4-6: Creech, Sharon. **Ruby Holler.**

Young Adult: Farmer, Nancy. **The House of the Scorpion.**

2005-2006

Grades K-3: Palatini, Margie. **Bad Boys.**

Grades 4-6: DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tale of Despereaux.**

Young Adult: Paolini, Christopher. **Eragon.**

2006-2007

Grades K-3: Flowers, Pam. **Big-Enough Anna.**

Grades 4-6: Hahn, Mary Downing. **The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story.**

Young Adult: Sones, Sonya. **One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies.**

2007-2008

Grades K-3: Bruel, Nick. **Bad Kitty.**

Grades 4-6: Kehret, Peg. **The Ghost's Grave.** *Young*

Adult: Meyer, Stephenie. **Twilight.**

2008-2009

Grades K-3: Beaumont, Karen. **I Ain't Gonna Paint No More.**

Grades 4-6: Martin, Ann M. **A Dog's Life: Autobiography of a Stray.**

Young Adult: Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief.**

2009-2010

Grades K-3: Himmelman, John. **Chickens to the Rescue.**

Grades 4-6: Mull, Brandon. **Fablehaven.**

Young Adult: Pfeffer, Susan Beth. **Life as We Knew It.**

2010-2011

Grades K-3: Jackson, Emma. **A Home for Dixie.**

Grades 4-6: Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Found. (The Missing, Book 1)**

Young Adult: Collins, Suzanne. **The Hunger Games.**

2011-2012

Grades K-3: Buckley, Carol. **Tarra and Bella : The Elephant and Dog Who Became Best Friends.**

Grades 4-6: Mass, Wendy. **11 Birthdays.**

Young Adult: Dashner, James. **The Maze Runner.**

2012-2013

Primary Division: Lawson, Kirby and Mary Nethery. **Nubs : The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle.**

Intermediate Division: Draper, Sharon. **Out of My Mind.**

Middle School Division: Riordan, Rick. **The Lost Hero.**

High School Division: Condie, Ally. **Matched.**

2013-2014

Primary Division: Chabon, Michael. **Astonishing Secret of Awesome Man.**

Intermediate Division: Weeks, Sarah. **Pie.**

Middle School Division: Sepetys, Ruta. **Between Shades of Gray.**

High School Division: Roth, Veronica. **Divergent.**

2014-2015

Primary Division: Reynolds, Peter. **Creepy Carrots!**

Intermediate Division: Palacio, R.J. **Wonder.**

Middle School Division: Cass, Kiera. **The Selection.**

High School Division: Cass, Kiera. **The Selection.**

2015-2016

Primary Division: Daywalt, Drew. **The Day The Crayons Quit.**

Intermediate Division: Grabenstein, Chris. **Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library.**

Middle School Division: Gratz, Alan. **Prisoner B-3017.**

High School Division: Yancey, Rick. **The 5th Wave.**

2016-2017

Primary Division: Novak, B.J. **The Book with No Pictures.**

Intermediate Division: Barnett, Mac. **The Terrible Two.**

Middle School Division: Telgemeier, Raina. **Sisters.**

High School Division: Lockhart, E. **We Were Liars.**

2017-2018

Primary Division: Ferry, Beth. **Stick and Stone.**

Intermediate Division: Beatty, Robert. **Serafina and the Black Cloak.**

Middle School Division: Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **The War that Saved My Life.**

High School Division: Aveyard, Victoria. **The Red Queen.**

2018-2019

Primary Division: Bell, Cece. **I Yam a Donkey.**

Intermediate Division: Telgemeier, Raina. **Ghosts.**

Middle School Division: Shusterman, Neal. **Scythe.**

High School Division: Shusterman, Neal. **Scythe.**