



NCTE CHARLOTTE HUCK AWARD®

OUTSTANDING FICTION FOR CHILDREN

WINNER LIST

The award was established in 2014 to promote and recognize excellence in the writing of fiction for children that has the potential to transform their lives by inviting compassion, imagination, and wonder. The award commemorates the work of educator Charlotte Huck and her focus on the importance of bringing books and children together in significant ways.

2025 Winner: *The Last Stand* by Antwan Eady, illustrated by Jarrett & Jerome Pumphrey (Knopf Books for Young Readers)



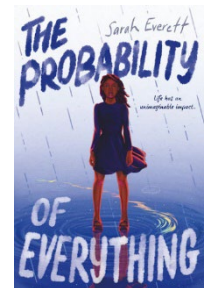
Honor Books:

- *And Then, Boom!* by Lisa Fipps (Nancy Paulsen Books)
- *Dad, I Miss You* by Nadia Sammutok, illustrated by Simji Park (Inhabit Media)
- *Popcorn* by Rob Harrell (Dial Books)
- *A Flicker of Hope: A Story of Migration* by Cynthia Harmony, illustrated by Devon Holzwarth (Viking Books for Young Readers)
- *Summer at Squee* by Andrea Wang (Kokila)

Recommended Books:

- *Isabel in Bloom* by Mae Respicio (Wendy Lamb Books)
- *Deer Run Home* by Ann Clare LeZotte (Scholastic Press)
- *When Isaac Hears the Rain* by Julie Thompson, illustrated by Leah Giles (WorthyKids)
- *Missing Momma* by Winsome Bingham, illustrated by Rahele Jomepour Bell (Harry N. Abrams)
- *Show Up and Vote* by Ani DiFranco, illustrated by Rachelle Baker (Rise x Penguin Workshop)
- *Duel* by Jessixa Bagley, illustrated by Aaron Bagley (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)
- *Mi Tierra* by Adria Quinones, illustrated by Mrinali Alvarez (Reycraft Books)
- *Abuela's Letter* by Debbie Zapata, illustrated by Alejandra Ruiz (Magination Press)

2024 Winner: *The Probability of Everything* by Sarah Everett (Clarion Books)



Honor Books:

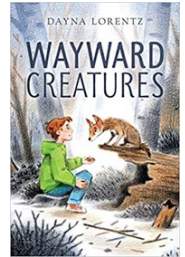
- *You Are Here* by Ellen Oh, editor (Allida)
- *Mascot* by Charles Waters and Traci Sorell (Charlesbridge)
- *My Powerful Hair* by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Steph Littlebird (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- *An Ofrenda for Perro* by Judith Valdés B., illustrated by Carlos Vélez Aguilera (little bee books)
- *That Flag* by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith (HarperCollins)

Recommended Books:

- *Hoops* by Matt Tavares, illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick)
- *Molly's Tuxedo* by Vicki Johnson, illustrated by Gillian Reid (little bee books)

- *Papá's Magical Water-Jug Clock* by Jesus Trejo, illustrated by Eliza Kinkz (Astra Publishing)
- *Platanos are Love* by Alyssa Reynoso-Morris, illustrated by Mariyah Rahman (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)
- *The Bright Side* by Chad Otis (Rocky Pond Books)
- *The Lost Year* by Katherine Marsh (Roaring Book Press)
- *This Book Is Banned* by Raj Haldar, illustrated by Julia Patton (Sourcebooks Explore)
- *ThunderBoom* by Jack Briglio, illustrated by Claudia Dávila (Kids Can Press)

2023 Winner: *Wayward Creatures* by Dayna Lorentz (Clarion Books)



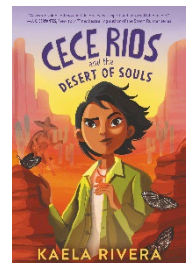
Honor Books:

- *Love, Violet* by Charlotte Sullivan Wild, illustrated by Charlene Chua (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
- *Zara's Rules for Record-Breaking Fun* by Hena Khan, illustrated by Wastana Haikal (Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)
- *My Brother Is Away* by Sara Greenwood, illustrated by Luisa Uribe (Random House Studio)
- *The Marvellers* by Dhonielle Clayton (Henry Holt and Company)
- *Forever Cousins* by Laurel Goodluck, illustrated by Jonathan Nelson (Charlesbridge)

Recommended Books:

- *The Patron Thief of Bread* by Lindsay Eager (Candlewick)
- *The Turtle of Michigan* by Naomi Shihab Nye (Greenwillow)
- *Growing Pangs* by Kathryn Ormsbee, illustrated by Molly Brooks (Random House Graphic)
- *My Hands Tell a Story* by Kelly Starling Lyons, illustrations by Tonya Engel (Reycraft Books)
- *The Notebook Keeper* by Stephen Briseño, illustrated by Magdalena Mora (Random House Studio)
- *Big Bear and Little Fish* by Sandra Nickel, illustrations by Il Sung Na (Carolrhoda Books)
- *Wildoak* by C.C. Harrington (Scholastic Press)
- *Gibberish* by Young Vo (Levine Querido)

2022 Winner: *Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls* by Kaela Rivera (HarperCollins)



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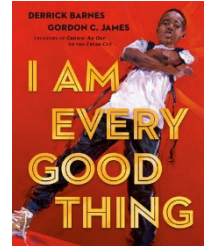
- *Amber and Clay* by Laura Amy, illustrated by Julia Iredale (Candlewick)
- *Starfish* by Lisa Fipps (Nancy Paulsen Books)
- *Laxmi's Mooch* by Shelly Anand, illustrated by Nabi H. Ali (Kokila)
- *J. D. and the Great Barber Battle* by J. Dillard, illustrated by Akeem S. Roberts (Kokila)
- *Jo Jo Makoons: The Used-to-Be-Best Friend* by Dawn Quigley, illustrated by Tara Audibert (Heartdrum)

Recommended Books:

- *A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicoll (Crown Books for Young Readers)
- *Pax, Journey Home* by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Jon Klassen (Balzer + Bray)

- *The Year I Flew Away* by Marie Arnold (Versify)
- *The Lost Language* by Claudia Mills (Margaret Ferguson Books)
- *Dumplings for Lili* by Melissa Iwai (Norton Young Readers)
- *A Sled for Gabo* by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Ana Ramírez González (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)
- *Borders* by Thomas King, illustrated by Natasha Donovan (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- *Someone Builds the Dream* by Lisa Wheeler, illustrated by Loren Long (Dial Books)

2021 Winner: *I Am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon C. James (Nancy Paulsen Books)



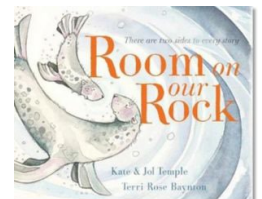
Honor Books:

- *When Stars Are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Michaela Goade (Roaring Brook Press)
- *Land of the Cranes* by Aida Salazar (Scholastic Press)
- *A High Five for Glenn Burke* by Phil Bildner (Farrar, Straus Giroux)
- *Quintessence* by Jess Redman (Farrar, Straus Giroux)

Recommended Books:

- *Hike* by Pete Oswald (Candlewick Press)
- *Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros (HarperCollins)
- *The Arabic Quilt: An Immigrant Story* by Aya Khalil, illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan (Tilbury House Publishers)
- *Braver: A Wombat's Tale* by Suzanne Selfors & Walker Ranson (Imprint)
- *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman (Viking)
- *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller (Random House Books for Young Readers)
- *Alice's Farm: A Rabbit's Tale* by Maryrose Wood (Feiwel and Friends)
- *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson (Bloomsbury Children's Books)

2020 Winner: *Room on Our Rock* by Kate & Jol Temple, Illustrated by Terri Rose Baynton (Kane Miller)



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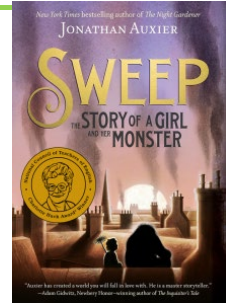
- *When Aidan Became a Brother* by Kyle Lukoff, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita (Lee & Low Books)
- *Between Us and Abuela: A Family Story from the Border* by Mitali Perkins, illustrated by Sara Palacios (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft (HarperCollins)
- *I Can Make This Promise* by Christine Day (HarperCollins)
- *Other Words for Home* by Jazmine Warga (Balzer & Bray)

Recommended Books:

- *For Black Girls Like Me* by Mariama J. Lockington (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
- *The Moon Within* by Aida Salazar (Arthur A. Levine Books)
- *Planet Earth Is Blue* by Nicole Panteleakos (Wendy Lamb Books)

- *The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family* by Ibtihaj Muhammad, illustrated by Hatem Aly, with S. K. Ali (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- *Roll With It* by Jamie Sumner (Atheneum)
- *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal (Roaring Book Press)
- *Lubna and Pebble* by Wendy Meddour, illustrated by Daniel Egnéus (Dial Books)
- *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia (Rick Riordan Presents/Disney-Hyperion)

2019 Sweep: *The Story of a Girl and her Monster* by Jonathan Auxier (Amulet)



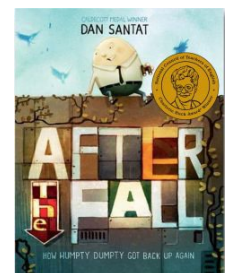
Honor Books:

- *Can I Touch Your Hair?: Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship* by Irene Latham, Charles Waters, Sean Qualls, Selina Alko (Carolrhoda Books)
- *Everything Else in the Universe* by Tracy Holczer (G.P. Putnam)
- *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Little, Brown and Company)
- *Merci Suárez Changes Gear* by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press)
- *The Day War Came* by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Rebecca Cobb (Candlewick Press)

Recommended Books:

- *Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal (Candlewick Press)
- *Drawn Together* by Minh Lê, illustrated by Dan Santat (Disney-Hyperion)
- *Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World* by Ashley Herring Blake (Little, Brown and Company)
- *I Walk with Vanessa: A Story About a Simple Act of Kindness* by Kerascoët (Schwartz & Wade Books)
- *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood (Simon & Schuster)
- *The Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell (Alfred A. Knopf)
- *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López (Nancy Paulsen Books)
- *The Rabbit Listened* by Cori Doerrfeld (Dial Books)

2018 Winner: *After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again* by Dan Santat (Roaring Brook Press)



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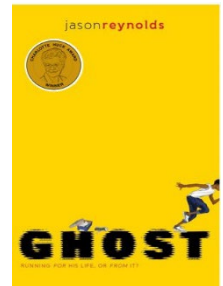
- *Forever or a Long Long Time* by Caela Carter (HarperCollins Children's Books)
- *Little Fox in the Forest* by Stephanie Graegin (Schwartz & Wade Books)
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz (Scholastic Press)
- *The End of the Wild* by Nicole Lea Helget (Little, Brown and Company)
- *The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet* by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin (Scholastic Press)

Recommended Books:

- *All's Faire in Middle School* by Victoria Jamieson (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan (Salaam Reads/Simon & Schuster)
- *Big Cat, Little Cat* by Elisha Cooper (Roaring Brook Press)
- *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* by Derrick D Barnes, illus by Gordon C. James (Agate Bolden Publishing)
- *Saving Marty* by Paul Griffin (Dial Books for Young Readers)

- *Shelter* by Celine Clair, illustrated by Quin Leng (Kids Can Press)
- *Stef Soto, The Taco Queen* by Jennifer Torres (Little Brown and Company)
- *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Charles Santoso (Feiwel & Friends)

2017 Winner: *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)



Honor Books:

- *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill (Algonquin Young Readers)
- *Ms. Bixby's Last Day* by John David Anderson (Walden Pond Press)
- *The Night Gardener* by Eric and Terry Fan (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)
- *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- *Worm Loves Worm* by J.J. Austrian, Illustrated by Mike Curato (Baltzer & Bray)

Recommended Books:

- *A Bandit's Tale: The Muddled Misadventures of a Pickpocket* by Deborah Hopkinson (Knopf Books for Young Readers)
- *Hoot and Peep* by Lita Judge (Dial Books)
- *Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog* by Adam Gidwitz, illustrated by Hatem Aly (Dutton Books for Young Readers)
- *Luis Paints the World* by Terry Farish, Illustrated by Oliver Dominguez (Carolrhoda Books)
- *One Half from the East* by Nadia Hashimi (Harper Collins)
- *The Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes* by Duncan Tonatiuh (Harry N. Abrams)
- *The Seventh Wish* by Kate Messner (Bloomsbury)
- *Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk (Dutton Books for Young Readers)

2016 Winner: *Stella by Starlight* by Sharon M. Draper (Atheneum Books for Young Readers)



Honor Books:

- *Little Tree* by Loren Long (Philomel Books)
- *New Shoes* by Susan Lynn Meyer, illustrated by Eric Velasquez (Holiday House)
- *Paper Things* by Jennifer Richard Jacobson (Candlewick)
- *Strictly No Elephants* by Lisa Mantchev, illustrated by Taeun Yoo (Simon & Schuster)
- *Tiger Boy* by Mitali Perkins, illustrated by Jamie Hogan (Charlesbridge)

Recommended Books:

- *Circus Mirandus* by Cassie Beasley (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- *Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate (Feiwel & Friends)

- *Francine Poulet Meets the Ghost Raccoon: Tales from Deckawoo Drive, Volume Two* by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Chris Van Dusen (Candlewick)
- *George* by Alex Gino (Scholastic Press)
- *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson (G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers)
- *Little Elliot, Big Family* by Mike Curato (Henry Holt and Company)
- *Sidewalk Flowers* by JonArno Lawson, illustrated by Sydney Smith (Groundwood Books)
- *Two White Rabbits* by Jairo Buitrago, illustrated by Rafael Yockteng, translated by Elisa Amado (Groundwood Books)

2015 Winner: *Rain Reign* by Ann M. Martin (Feiwel and Friends)



Honor Books:

- *Absolutely Almost* by Lisa Graff (Philomel)
- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell (Harry N. Abrams)
- *The Farmer and the Clown* by Marla Frazee (Beach Lane)
- *Revolution* by Deborah Wiles (Scholastic)

Recommended Books:

- *A Snicker of Magic* by Natalie Lloyd (Scholastic)
- *Draw* by Raul Colon (Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books)
- *The Madman of Piney Woods* by Christopher Paul Curtis (Scholastic)
- *The Meaning of Maggie* by Megan Jean Sovern (Chronicle Books)
- *The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires (Kids Can Press)
- *Otis and the Scarecrow* by Loren Long (Penguin Group)
- *The Secret Hum of a Daisy* by Tracy Holczer (Putnam)
- *The Turtle of Oman* by Naomi Shihab Nye (Greenwillow Books)



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