



2023 STAR OF THE NORTH NOMINEES

About the Star of the North Award

The Star of the North Picture Book Award was established in 2013 under the auspices of the Minnesota Youth Reading Awards. The purpose of the award is to promote quality, engaging picture books and reading for pleasure among school-aged children. The final list of ten nominees is selected by the Star of the North Selection Committee.

Throughout the year, teachers, media specialists, and public librarians are encouraged to present the nominees in appealing and meaningful ways, to read the books aloud, and to develop activities that will connect the literature to the curriculum. In March, students across the state vote on which books they think should win for the individual categories. The book receiving the most votes from children in grades K-2 is the winner.

How the award works

Each year, ten picture book nominees will be announced. Students or library participants who read or have read to them at least eight of the ten nominees will be eligible to vote. Votes will be collected from MYRA members from February 25 through March 31. The award winner will be announced each year in April. New nominees will be announced at the same time.

This award is focused on picture books intended for a kindergarten through 2nd grade audience. However, pre-k and older children are also welcome to participate. Questions about the Star of the North Award can be directed to our SOTN Award Chair at sotn@myrahome.org.

2023 SOTN Nominees

Begin with a Bee by Liza Ketchum, Jacqueline Briggs Martin & Phyllis Root;
Illustrated by Claudia McGehee

The Box Turtle written and illustrated by Vanessa Roeder

The Electric Slide and Kai by Kelly J. Baptist; illustrated by Darnell Johnson

Federico and the Wolf by Rebecca J. Gomez; illustrated by Elisa Chavarri

Jayden's Impossible Garden by Méлина Mangal; illustrated by Ken Daley

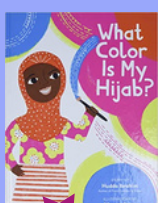
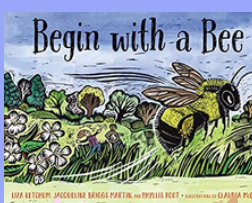
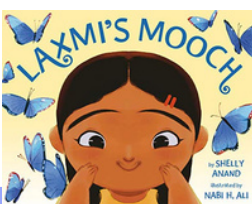
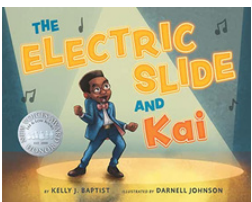
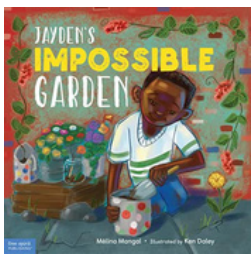
Josie Dances by Denise Lajimodiere; illustrated by Angela Erdrich

Laxmi's Mooch by Shelly Anand; illustrated by Nabi H. Ali

Old Truck by Jarrett Pumphrey; illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey

The Paper Kingdom by Helena Ku Rhee; illustrated by Pascal Champion

What Color is My Hijab? by Hudda Ibrahim; illustrated by Meenal Patel



2023 NOMINEES

MAUDE HART LOVELACE



The Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award is a children's read and vote book award. Its purpose is to encourage recreational reading among school age children. Nominated titles are works of fiction of recognized quality selected by independent regional reading groups.

Students in grades 3-5 who have read or listened to at least three titles from the Division I nominee list and students in grades 6-8 who have read or listened to at least three titles from the Division II nominee list are eligible to vote for the Maud Hart Lovelace Award.

The current year's winners and next year's nominees are announced by the MYRA executive board in April. The winning authors are then invited to attend an award presentations in the fall, location and date to be announced by the MYRA executive board.

The books on the nominee lists are selected by the Maud Hart Lovelace Selection Committee. Criteria for selection include:

- books must be available in paperback as of January 1st of the selection year
- author must live in North America
- original copyright must be within three years of the selection year
- must be work of fiction and not classified as a picture book

Division I (3-5)

- The Best of Iggy by Annie Barrows
- Coop Knows the Scoop by Taryn Souders
- Measuring Up by Lily Lamotte; illustrated Ann Xu
- Ways to Make Sunshine by Renée Watson
- Brave Like That by Lindsey Stoddard
- City Spies by James Ponti
- Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly
- The Littlest Voyageur by Margi Preus; illustrated by Cheryl



Division II (6-8)

- 96 Miles by J.L. Esplin,
- All the Impossible Things by Lindsay Lackey
- The Missing Piece of Charlie O'Reilly by Rebecca K.S. Ansari
- White Bird: a Wonder Story by R.J. Palacio
- Becoming Muhammad Ali by James Patterson & Kwame Alexander

