



2027 RHODE ISLAND
CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD
NOMINEES Grades 3-5



olis.ri.gov/RICBA

Awesome Earth: Concrete Poems Celebrate Caves, Canyons, and Other Fascinating Landforms by Joan Bransfield Graham, Tania García (illustrator)

The Earth's crust shakes, water swells, lava flows, and glaciers advance. In this ingenious picture book, the landforms created by Earth's powerful forces are examined through compelling concrete poetry.

Poetry

The Black Mambas: The World's First All-Woman Anti-Poaching Unit by Kelly Crull

Go on patrol with the Black Mambas, South Africa's first women-led anti-poaching unit. Meet the rangers and discover all they do to protect wildlife at the Balule Nature Reserve. *Non-fiction*

Club Microbe by Elise Gravel

It's a germ's world. We're just living in it! Elise Gravel introduces us to the heroes and villains of the microscopic world, stopping to marvel at their unique names and wondrous shapes.

Non-fiction

Creaky Acres: A Graphic Novel

by Calista Brill, Nilah Magruder (Illustrator)

Nora is a prize-winning horseback rider in a suburban area, with a tight-knit circle of best friends. But when her mom gets a prestigious new job in a poor, rural area, she must adjust to a lot of change: to being the only Black kid in a new class and to a new barn called Creaky Acres.

Graphic Novel

Dragonborn by Struan Murray Recommended Grade 4+

After 12-year-old Alex Evans awakens with a fiery roar, she's sent to Skralla, one of the last surviving dragon havens, where she trains alongside other young, wild and untamed dragons, and must unlock her dormant power as dark factions rise. *Fantasy*

Gabby Torres Gets a Billion Followers by Angela Dominguez

Gabby Torres is nine years old and ready to conquer the world. She's already joined the Sea Musketeers, the environmental protection club, and plans to be their best (and youngest) member ever. Gabby's latest and greatest idea: start a social media page for her club.

Realistic Fiction

Gifts from the Garbage Truck: A True Story About the Things We (Don't) Throw Away by Andrew Larsen, Oriol Vidal (illustrator)

What if everywhere you looked, you saw something to create? This is how Nelson Molina sees the world, and he invites others to view it that way too!

Biography

Hurricane by Jason Chin

It's a beautiful day on Hatteras Island, North Carolina. But while all seems calm now, a hurricane is barreling across the Atlantic, and everyone is wondering when it will hit the U.S. coast. And where.

Realistic Fiction Chapter Book

Jasper Rabbit's Creepy Tales!: Troubling Tonsils!

by Aaron Reynolds, Peter Brown (Illustrator)

Jasper Rabbit tells the eerie tale of Charlie Marmot, whose decision to keep his tonsils after surgery leads to creepy, mysterious events.

Mystery

Millie of the Manor by Karina Evans and Andrea Bell

Amy has always loved a good mystery. So, when her classmate Reagan invites her to a murder-mystery-themed birthday party, she should be ecstatic. But...she's not. Instead, she's worried that her social anxiety will mess everything up. *Realistic Fiction*

On Guard! by Cassidy Wasserman

Grace is trying to find her footing at school...but between a mean girl ex-bff and her parents' divorce, things are pretty rocky. Is the fencing club the answer to finding her people...and maybe even herself?

Realistic Fiction

Pocket Bear by Katherine Applegate, Charles Santoso (Illustrator)

Born during WWI, Pocket Bear was designed to fit into the pocket of a soldier's jacket. Now, over a century later, Pocket serves as unofficial mayor of Second Chances Home for the Tossed and Treasured, where stuffed toy animals are refurbished and given a fresh opportunity to be loved.

Fantasy

Popcorn by Rob Harrell

Recommended Grade 4+

Andrew's just trying to make it through Picture Day, which is easier said than done when it seems like the whole world is out to get him. But as Andrew goes through the school day, and as one thing after another goes wrong, that little kernel of worry in his stomach gets hotter and hotter, until it threatens to pop and turn into a public panic attack, his worst fear.

Realistic Fiction

Return to Sender by Vera Brosgol

Ten-year-old Oliver discovers that the wish-granting mailbox in his new apartment may make his dreams come true, but they come with a cost.

Fantasy

Rewriting the Rules: How Dr. Kathleen Friel Created New Possibilities for Brain Research and Disability by Danna Zeiger

When Kathleen Friel was young, she was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, and a doctor told her parents all the things she'd never be able to do. As Kathleen grew up, she found her own methods to tackle tricky tasks and make her way through the world. She went on to earn a PhD, investigating how injured brains can build new connections.

Biography

Safe Harbor by Padma Venkatraman

Moving from India to the US is difficult for Geetha, but things start to get better when she and a new friend help rescue a stranded seal.

Realistic Fiction

School Dance by Sarah Sax

Milo wants to get excited for the school dance, but he can't--because he's cursed. His best friends, Al and Viv, are determined to help Milo break the curse and find the confidence to enjoy the dance. And they're not alone, because Milo's abuela, a legendary dancer, is moving in.

Graphic Novel

The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest by Aubrey Hartman

An undead fox serving as the usher of souls has his life upended when a mysterious badger soul appears.

Fantasy

Wat Takes His Shot: The Life & Legacy of Basketball Hero

Wataru Misaka by Cheryl Kim, Nat Iwata (Illustrator)

As a kid, Wataru Misaka channeled his endless energy into playing sports. Every Sunday, he raced to the park where his Japanese American community came together to play basketball. Wat wasn't the tallest on the team, but he was fast and loved the game! Encouraged by his father to always do his best, Wat applied this mentality to every aspect and challenge in his life. *Biography*

Will's Race for Home by Jewell Parker Rhodes

It's 1889, barely twenty-five years after the Emancipation Proclamation, and a young Black family is tired of working on land they don't get to own. So, when Will and his father hear about an upcoming land rush, they set out on a journey from Texas to Oklahoma, racing thousands of others to the place where land is free—if they can get to it fast enough. *Historical Fiction*