

Best New Children's Books of 2023

2023 CPLS Biennial Conference



October 19, 2023

presented by Sally Snyder
Nebraska Library Commission



Picture Books

Barnett, Mac ***TWENTY QUESTIONS***

Illus. By Christian Robinson unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1513-7

Bontigao, Lynnor ***SARI-SARI SUMMERS***

Unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2614-0

Calvert, Howard ***THE FASTEST TORTOISE IN TOWN***

Illus. by Karen Obuhanych unp. Candlewick Press \$18.88 ISBN 978-1-5362-2835-9

Capalia, Faith ***MELVINA WHITMOORE (More or Less a Horror Story)***

Unp. HarperCollins 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-324782-6

Capucilli, Alyssa Satin ***LIBRARY FISH LEARNS TO READ***

Illus. by Gladys Jose unp. Simon & Schuster 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-5344-7707-0

Ferry, Beth ***THE UMBRELLA***

Illus. by Tom Lichtenheld unp. Clarion Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-35-844772-6

Fleming, Meg ***I LIVE IN A TREE TRUNK***

Illus. by Brandon James Scott unp. HarperCollins 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-320521-5

Henkes, Kevin ***THE WORLD AND EVERYTHING IN IT***

Unp. Greenwillow (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-324564-8

June, Jason ***NEVER FORGET ELEANOR***

Illus. by Loren Long unp. HarperCollins 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-303962-9

Kerbel, Deborah ***NEXT DOOR***

Illus. by Isaac Liang unp. Kids Can Press 2023 \$21.99 ISBN 978-1-5253-0658-7

Kuefler, Joseph ***THE DIGGER AND THE BUTTERFLY***

Unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-323794-0

Lee, Chiquita Mullins & Carmella Van Vleet ***YOU GOTTA MEET MR. PIERCE***

Illus. by Jennifer Mack-Watkins unp. Kokila (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-593-40650-2

Pierczynski, Heather S. ***A CREATURE WAS STIRRING***

Illus. by Skylar Hogan unp. Katherine Tegen Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-323074-3

Raczka, Bob ***YOU ARE A STORY***

Illus. by Kristen & Kevin Howdeshell unp. Neal Porter Books (Holiday House) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-8234-4914-9

Raúl the Third ***¡VAMOS! LET'S GO READ***

Colors by Elaine Bay unp. Versify (HarperCollins) 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-35-853936-0

Rex, Adam ***OH NO, THE AUNTS ARE HERE***

Illus. by Lian Cho unp. Chronicle Books 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-7972-0794-0

Rivera, Lid'ya C. ***I ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY LOVE MY SPOTS***

Illus. by Niña Mata unp. HarperCollins 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-311997-0

Saltzberg, Barney ***A DELICIOUS STORY***

Unp. Hippo Park (Asta Books) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-6626-4016-2

Tabor, Corey R. ***SIMON AND THE BETTER BONE***

Unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-327555-3

Takeuchi, Chihiro ***WHOSE DINOSAUR BONES ARE THOSE?***
Unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-3069-7

Winters, Kari-Lynn ***WHAT IF I'M NOT A CAT?***
Illus. by Kelly Collier unp. Kids Can Press 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-1-5253-0553-5

Yeh, Kat ***JUST ONE LITTLE LIGHT***
Illus. by Isabelle Arsenault unp. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-309496-3

Yolen, Jane ***THE HORSEBACK LIBRARIANS***
Illus. by Alexandra Badiu unp. Albert Whitman & Co. 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-8075-6291-8

Beginning Readers

Cooper, Jay ***STYX AND SCONES IN THE STICKY WAND***
Unp. Simon Spotlight (Simon & Schuster) \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-6659-3537-1; \$6.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-6659-3536-4

Dean, Kimberly & James ***PETE THE KITTY'S OUTDOOR ART PROJECT***
32p. HarperCollins 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-297432-7; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-297431-0

Derting, Kimberly & Shelli R. Johannes ***VIVI LOVES SCIENCE: WIND AND WATER***
Illus. by Joelle Murray 40p. HarperCollins 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-311660-3; \$4.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-311659-7

Dubois, Liz Goulet ***I LIKE THIS COLOR***
33p. Sourcebooks 2023 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-7282-7198-9

Iwai, Melissa ***GIGI AND OJJI: What's in a Name?***
32p. HarperCollins 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-320809-4; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-320808-7

Iwai, Melissa ***GIGI AND OJJI: Food for Thought***
32p. HarperCollins 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-320812-4; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-320811-7

LaRochelle, David ***SEE THE GHOST: Three Stories About Things You Cannot See***
Illus. by Mike Wohnoutka unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1982-1

Medina, Juana **ELENA RIDES**

Unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$9.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1635-6

Otheguy, Emma **REINA RAMOS MEETS A BIG PUPPY**

Illus. by Andrés Landazábal 32p. HarperCollins 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-322315-8; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-322313-4

Raúl the Third **TACOS TODAY**

Unp. Versify (HarperCollins) 2023 \$12.99 ISBN 978-0-35-853937-7

Ruzzier, Sergio **FISH AND WORM**

48p. HarperCollins 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-329035-8

Nonfiction Picture Books

Alexander, Kwame & Deanna Nikaido **HOW TO WRITE A POEM**

Illus. by Melissa Sweet unp. Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-06-306090-6

Buckley, Patricia Morris **THE FIRST WOMAN CHEROKEE CHIEF: Wilma Pearl Mankiller**

Illus. by Aphelandra 48p. Random House (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$14.99 (PLB) ISBN 978-0-593-56851-4; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-593-56850-7

Janeczko, Paul B. **WHERE I LIVE: Poems About My Home, My Street, and my Town**

Illus. by Hyewon Yum 41p. Candlewick Press 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-0094-2

Jenkins, Steve & Robin Page **THE BIRD BOOK**

41p. Clarion Books (HarperCollins) 2022 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-35-832569-7

Ketner, Carla **TED KOOSER: More Than a Local Wonder**

Illus. by Paula Wallace unp. U. of Ne Press 2023 \$17.95 ISBN 978-1-4962-3677-7

Lindstrom, Carole **MY POWERFUL HAIR**

Illus. by Steph Littlebird unp. Abrams 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-4197-5943-7

Magoon, Kekla **KETANJI: Justice Jackson's Journey to the U.S. Supreme Court**

Illis. By Laura Freeman unp. Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-329616-9

Teckentrup, Britta ***BIRDS EVERYWHERE***

Unp. Big Picture Press 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2973-8

Thundercloud, Ria ***FINDING MY DANCE***

Illus. by Kalila J. Fuller unp. Penguin Workshop (Penguin Random House) 2022 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-593-09389-4

Early Chapter Books

Atinuke ***ANNA HIBISCUS***

Illus. by Lauren Tobia 105p. Candlewick Press 2022 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2519-8; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5362-2523-5

Atinuke ***HOORAY FOR ANNA HIBISCUS***

Illus. by Lauren Tobia 105p. Candlewick Press 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2520-4; \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5362-2525-9

Ferry, Beth ***CRAB & SNAIL: The Evil Eel***

Illus. by Jared Chapman 62p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-0-06-296219-5; \$8.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-296220-1

Lord, Cynthia ***DAZZLE MAKES A WISH***

Illus. by Stephanie Graegin 66p. Candlewick Press 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1356-0, \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5362-3241-7

Maddox, Jake ***SURFING SHAKE-UP***

Illus. by Katie Wood 65p. Stone Arch Books (Capstone)2023 \$25.99 ISBN 978-1669007111; \$6.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-66900-707-4

McDonald, Megan ***IZZY AZUMI, F.D.O. (FUTURE DOG OWNER)***

Illus. by Erwin Madrid 60p. Candlewick Press 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2472-6; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-5362-2473-3

Soundar, Chitra ***A SLIVER OF MOON AND A SHARD OF TRUTH***

Illus. by Uma Krishnaswamy 97p. Candlewick Press \$15.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2515-0

Spires, Ashley ***BURT THE BEETLE LIVES HERE!***

63p. Kids Can Press 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5253-1011-9

Spooks, Avery **FREDDIE MCFRIGHT'S CHILLING NIGHT**

Illus. by Mariano Epelbaum 72p. Jolly Fish Press (North Star Editions) \$7.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1631637490

Stohler, Lauren **GNOME AND RAT**

65p. Alfred A. Knopf (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$10.99 ISBN 978-0-593-48782-2

Windness, Kaz **WORM AND CATERPILLAR ARE FRIENDS**

64p. Simon Spotlight (Simon & Schuster) 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-6659-2001-8

Fiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)

Anderson, John David **THE GREATEST KID IN THE WORLD**

358p. Walden Pond Press (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-298603-0

Coelho, Joseph **TEN WORD TINY TALES**

Illus. by 21 artists unp. Candlewick Press 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-3135-9

LaRonde, Sandra **SHE HOLDS UP THE STARS**

185p. Annick Press 2022 \$17.95 ISBN 978-1-77321-066-7; \$9.95 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-77321-065-0

Lloyd, Megan Wagner **SQUISHED**

Illus. by Michelle Mee Nutter 246p. Graphix (Scholastic) 2023 \$24.99 ISBN 978-1-338-56894-3; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-56893-6

Ogle, Rex **FOUR EYES**

Illus. by Dave Valeza 220p. Graphix (Scholastic) \$24.99 ISBN 978-1-338-57497-5; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-57496-8

O'Neill, K. **THE MOTH KEEPER**

257p. Random House Graphic 2023 \$13.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-593-18226-0

Pennypacker, Sara **LEEVA AT LAST**

Illus. by Matthew Cordell 305p. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-311442-5

Phạm, Tho & Sandra McTavish ***THE CRICKET WAR***
160p. Kids Can Press 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-1-5253-0655-6

Rex, Michael ***LOW POWER*** (Your Pal Fred, # 2)
267p. Viking (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-593-20635-5; \$13.99 (pbk) ISBN
978-0-593-20638-6

Saeed, Aisha, ed. ***GROUNDLED***
257p. Amulet Books (Abrams) 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-1-4197-6175-1

Shawl, Nisi ***SPECULATION***
232p. Tu Books (Lee & Low) 2023 \$19.95 ISBN 978-1-62014-959-1

Smith, Brian “Smitty” ***OFFICER CLAWSOME: Lobster Cop***
Illus. By Chris Giarrusso 236p. HarperAlley (HarperCollins) 2023 \$12.99 ISBN 978-0-06-313636-6

Standish, Ali ***THE IMPROBABLE TALES OF BASKERVILLE HALL***
310p. HarperCollins 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-327557-7

Stowell, Louie ***LOKI: A BAD GOD’S GUIDE TO TAKING THE BLAME***
270p. Walker Books (Candlewick Press) 2023 \$15.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-2630-0

Sumner, Jamie ***TIME TO ROLL***
197p. Atheneum (Simon & Schuster) 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-6659-1859-6

Tang, Betty C. ***PARACHUTE KIDS***
282p. Graphix (Scholastic) 2023 \$24.99 ISBN 978-1-338-83269-3; \$12.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-338-
83268-3

Van Eekhout, Greg ***THE GHOST JOB***
199p. HarperCollins 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-06-325333-9

Nonfiction for Grades 2-5 (or so)

Alexander, Kwame *AN AMERICAN STORY*

Illus. by Dare Coulter unp. Little, Brown & Co. 2023 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-316-47312-5

Forrester, Amy Seto *SEARCH FOR A GIANT SQUID* **Moved to SRP**

Illus. by Andy Chou Musser 93p. Chronicle Books 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-797213934

Montgomery, Sy *THE BOOK OF TURTLES*

Illus. by Matt Patterson unp. Clarion Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-35-845807-4

Pinkney, Jerry *JUST JERRY*

146p. Little, Brown & Co. 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-316-38385-1

Todd, Traci N. *HOLDING HER OWN: The Exceptional Life of Jackie Ormes*

Illus. by Shannon Wright unp. Orchard Books (Scholastic Inc.) 2023 \$21.99 ISBN 978-1-338-30590-6

New Titles in Popular Series

Beginning Readers

Kügler, Tina *SNAIL & WORM OF COURSE* (Book #4)

Unp. Clarion Books (HarperCollins) 2023 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-35-852120-4

Lyons, Kelly Starling *TY'S TRAVELS: Camp-Out*

Illus. by Nina Mata 32p. HarperCollins 2023 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-308366-0; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-308365-3

Early Chapter Books

Gutman, Dan *MISS BANKS PULLS LOTS OF PRANKS*

Illus. by Jim Paillot 103p. HarperCollins 2023 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-06-320692-2; \$5.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-06-320691-5

Early Nonfiction

Meltzer, Brad *I AM JOHN LEWIS* (Ordinary People Change the World)
Illus. by Christopher Eliopoulos unp. Rocky Pond Books (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$16.99
ISBN 978-0-593-40594-9

Meltzer, Brad *I AM TEMPLE GRANDIN* (Ordinary People Change the World)
Illus. by Christopher Eliopoulos unp. Rocky Pond Books (Penguin Random House) 2023 \$16.99
ISBN 978-0-593-40597-0

Fiction for Grades 2 – 5 or so:

McDonald, Megan *STINK: Superhero Superfan*
Illus. by Peter H. Reynolds 150p. Candlewick Press 2023 \$14.99 ISBN 978-1-5362-1507-6

NCompass Live session on New Children’s Books will be November 22, 2023 at 10 am CT

Abbreviations Note:

(pbk) – paperback edition
(PLB) – public library binding edition



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