



2021 RHODE ISLAND CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD NOMINATIONS

Awesome Dog 5000 by Justin Dean Grades 3+
When video game fanatic Marty, ten, arrives in a new town, his worst fear is being labeled a "dork" until the robotic dog he's found catches the attention of a mad scientist. Fiction.

Because of the Rabbit by Cynthia Lord Grades 3+
On the last night of summer, Emma and her father rescue a small rabbit stuck in a fence. The next day Emma starts fifth grade after years of being home schooled, excited and apprehensive about making new friends, she is paired with Jack, a hyperactive boy, who does not seem to fit in with anyone. Emma must decide what's important; friendship or popularity. Realistic Fiction.

The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf Grades 4+
Told with humor and heart, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, offers a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense. Realistic Fiction.

A Drop of Hope by Keith Calabrese Grades 4+
Times are tough in the small town of Cliffs Donnelly, Ohio. Especially for some of the kids at Rod Serling Middle School. But then an old dry well suddenly begins to grant wishes, or so it seems. Fantasy.

Dear Justice League by Michael Northrop Grades 3+
The greatest heroes in the DC Comics universe, the Justice League, answer mail from their biggest fans: kids! Graphic Novel.

Gross As A Snot Otter: Discovering the World's Most Disgusting Animals by Jess Keating Grades 3+
A book about the top seventeen grossest animals on earth. Nonfiction.

Inkling by Kenneth Oppel Grades 4+
When an inkblot who can write, listen, learn, and draw, jumps out of Mr. Rylance's sketchbook, Ethan believes he may be the answer to their family's problems and names him Inkling. Fantasy.

Just Like Rube Goldberg: The Incredible True Story of the Man Behind the Machines by Sarah Aronson Grades 3+
A biographical picture book that describes how Rube Goldberg followed his dreams to become an award-winning cartoonist, inventor, and even an adjective in the dictionary. Biography.

Max and the Midnights by Lincoln Peirce Grades 3+
Max and a group of friends, dubbed the Midnights, go on a quest to rescue the Kingdom of Byjovia from the mean King Gastley! Fantasy.

Nina Soni, Former Best Friend by Kashmera Sheth Grades 3+
Organized but sometimes forgetful Nina has a lot to keep track of as she rushes to complete a school project, help with little sister Kavita's birthday party, and make up with best friend Jay. Realistic Fiction.

One-Third Nerd by Gennifer Choldenko Grades 3+
Fifth-grader Liam and his younger sisters must get their dog Cupcake under control if they are to stay in their apartment. Liam and his sisters have different ideas on how to pay for Cupcake's veterinary bill. Realistic Fiction.

Out of My Shell by Jenny Goebel Grades 3+
Olivia is excited to be spending the summer in Florida. However, when she realizes the sea turtles can't find their nests on the beach because of the light coming from the resort next door, she makes it her mission to help. Realistic Fiction.

Over the Moon by Natalie Lloyd Grades 4+
In Coal Top, the Dust has blocked out all the light where Mallie and her family live. Mallie must go on a magical yet dangerous mission to save her family and her town. Fiction/Fantasy.

Pie in the Sky by Remy Lai Grades 4+
Jingwen is struggling with the recent death of his father and moving to a new country. Along with his younger brother, Jingwen decides to bake all the cakes that would have been in his dad's bakery. Realistic Fiction.

The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhamma Grades 3+
Faizah is so excited for the first day of school and it's her older sister's first day of hijab. Asiya wears her beautiful blue hijab with pride but not all children are kind. The sisters find their strength in the love they have for each other. Picture book.

Scouts by Shannon Greenland Grades 3+
One summer night in 1985, a group of 6th grade friends who call themselves the "Scouts" set out on an adventure to find a crashed meteor. They soon find themselves on the run – and their friendships tested like never before. Fiction.

Shouting at the Rain by Lynda Mullaly Hunt Grades 4+
Weather-loving Delsie has always lived on Cape Cod with Grammy, but lately she wishes she could have a "regular family." This summer she struggles with stormy feelings about her mother's abandonment and a friend who's recently outgrown her. But with the help of caring neighbors and some adventures with a new friend, Delsie learns that she is not alone in weathering this storm. Realistic Fiction.

Titan and the Wild Boars: The True Cave Rescue of the Thai Soccer Team by Susan Hood & Pathana Sornhiran Grades 3+
Based on Sornhiran's first-hand reporting of the event, this picture book relates the thrilling 2018 international rescue of a soccer team from a flooded cave in Thailand. Nonfiction Picture Book.

The Undeclared by Kwame Alexander Grades 3+
This beautifully illustrated poem in picture book form highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest African American heroes. Includes additional details and historical context at the end. Poetry.

Wildfire by Rodman Philbrick Grades 5+
When 12-year-old Sam's summer camp evacuates to escape a wildfire, he makes a fateful decision to go back for his phone. Suddenly cut off from his camp by explosive flames, Sam is alone -and must run for his life. Fighting to survive, Sam teams up with a lost girl to try to beat the odds and outwit one of the deadliest fires ever. Fiction.

Rhode Island Children's Book Award
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