

2024 Mock Newbery Discussion #2

October 25, 2023

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2023. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter of participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development.

Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/Rnewbery24>

Mock Newbery Discussion #2

Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, [Register](#)

2024 Mock Newbery Reading List #2

1. *Conjure Island* by Eden Royce
2. *A First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat
3. *The Ghosts of Rancho Espanto* by Adrianna Cuevas
4. *Ginny Off the Map* by Caroline Hickey
5. *Good Different* by Meg Eden Kuyatt
6. *Hope in the Valley* by Mitali Perkins (**added October 18**)
7. *How to Stay Invisible* by Maggie Rudd
8. *The Labors of Hercules Beal* by Gary D. Schmidt
9. *Leeva At Last* by Sara Pennypacker
10. *The Lost Year: A Survival Story of the Ukrainian Famine* by Katherine Marsh
11. *The Puppets of Spelhorst* by Kate DiCamillo (**added October 18**)
12. *Race Against Death: The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II* by Deborah Hopkinson
13. *Simon Sort of Says* by Erin Bow
14. *The Song of Us* by Kate Fussner (**Added October 18**)
15. *What Happened to Rachel Riley?* by Claire Sinarski
16. *We Still Belong* by Christine Day (**added October 18**)
17. *When Sea Becomes Sky* by Gillian McDunn
18. *You Are a Story* by Bob Raczka, illustrated by Kristen and Kevin Howdshell (**added October 18**)
19. *A Work in Progress* by Jarrett Lerner

Dropped on October 19:

1. *Aniana del Mar Jumps In* by Jasminne Mendez
2. *Big Tree* by Brian Selznick
3. *A Bit of Earth* by Karuna Riazi
4. *Ebb and Flow* by Heather Smith (should have been *Eb and Flow* by Kelly J. Baptist, Heather Smith is Canadian making this book ineligible)
5. *Grounded* by Aisha Saeed
6. *Hands* by Torrey Maldonado
7. *Not an Easy Win* by Chrystal D. Giles
8. *Superpod: Saving the Endangered Orcas of the Pacific Northwest* by Nora Nickum
9. *The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams* by Daniel Nayeri
10. *When Clouds Touch Us* by Thanh Hà Lai
11. *The Windeby Puzzle* by Lois Lowry
12. *You Are Here: Connecting Flights* by Ellen Oh

Please send suggested titles for Reading List #3 by December 9th to: danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov

Reading List #3 will be available December 11th at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/youth/newbery/index.php>

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 17, 2024 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

Continuing sessions:

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting

Wednesday, January 17, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, [Register](#)

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

Criteria

1. In identifying “distinguished contribution to American literature,” defined as text, in a book for children,

- a. Committee members need to consider the following:
 - i. Interpretation of the theme or concept.
 - ii. Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization.
 - iii. Development of a plot.
 - iv. Delineation of characters.
 - v. Delineation of a setting.
 - vi. Appropriateness of style.

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

- b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.
2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.
 3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

See [Definitions](#) (pg. 11) and [Appendix B: Expanded Definitions and Examples](#) (pg. 57) in the [manual](#) for additional information about the criteria.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008. Revised, March 2023.