

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Title	Author		Illustrator		Group	Grade Range		Rating	Reviewer	Annotation	Review Date
Althea Gibson: The Story of Tennis' Fleet-of-Foot Girl	Reid	Megan	Freeman	Laura	Bio	PS		3 O	Eny	With clever, dynamic text and illustrations, this book takes the reader through Gibson's rising tennis career. Readers follow her from her sporty origin playing on the streets of Harlem to her historic win at Wimbledon. An excellent introduction to a pioneering African-American champion of sport.	Mar-20
Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace	Bryan	Ashley	Bryan	Ashley	Bio		5	12 O	Sally	In an easy-to-follow narrative, award-winning writer/illustrator Ashley Bryan remembers through his artist's eyes the boredom, hard work, and horrors of war as well as the racism Black soldiers experienced. Infinite Hope powerfully intertwines the three vast subjects of art, race, and World War II.	Jan-20
The Rise and Fall of Charles Lindbergh	Fleming	Candace			Bio		7 A	O	Yesica	Fleming seamlessly weaves primary sources with her own narrative to tell this gripping story of a fallen hero. This book is an exceptional biography that tells a compelling story.	Dec-20
See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog	LaRochelle	David	Wohnoutka	Mike	ER	PS		2 O	Beth	Gouache illustrations humorously tell of an exasperated dog named Max who learns to channel the power of the text in this best in class easy reader. Hand to fans of "The Book with No Pictures."	Nov-20
28 Days: A Novel of Resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto	Safier	David			Fic		9	12 O	Lesley	16-year-old Mira is sneaking food into the Warsaw ghetto as the novel opens, and the mind-numbing fear of that smuggling trip leads into a chilling and detailed description of the Nazi's genocidal liquidation of the Jewish population the fierce but doomed resistance of the dwindling survivors.	Jan-20
A High Five for Glenn Burke	Bildner	Phil			Fic		4	8 O	Eric	In a novel that thoroughly explores the coming out process, sixth-grader Silas Walker feels as though he has taken a huge step toward acknowledging his gayness when he does a class report on Glenn Burke, a 1970s gay, black baseball player who invented the "high five".	Mar-20
All He Knew	Frost	Helen			Fic		4	8 O	Penny	Six-year-old Henry is sent to a special home for disabled boys after he becomes deaf from an illness, in this poignant novel in verse set in 1939-1945. A conscientious objector named Victor is assigned to work there as part of the WWII draft, which benefits Henry.	Nov-20
Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes	Collins	Suzanne			Fic	7	12	O	Hayley	While not entirely new or inventive, this Hunger Games prequel detailing the origins of the games and the devious villain President Snow will be sure to delight fans of the original trilogy.	Jul-21
Be Not Far From Me	McGuinnis	Mindy			Fic		10	12 O	Solia	Separated from her friends on a camping trip and seriously injured, Ashley must survive being lost in the woods, as days turn to weeks. Themes explore isolation, strength and the desire to survive.	Jun-20
Becoming Muhammad Ali	Patterson	James	Anyabwile	Dawud	Fic		5	7 O	Rachael	This book gives a great view in verse and prose of the life of a young Muhammad Ali. The reader gets a great view of how Ali grows as both an athlete and an activist.	Jan-21
Before the Ever After	Woodson	Jacqueline			Fic		4	8 O	Rachael	This middle grade tour de force shows the decline of a successful pro- football player as seen through his 12 year old son's eyes. Heartbreaking in a way that only Woodson can be. This book portrays a family being torn apart but also pulling together while facing a bewildering disability.	Oct-20
Chirp	Messner	Kate			Fic		3	6 O	Eric	In this #metoo novel for middle graders, Mia has a full summer of helping to promote her grandmother's cricket farm, working with some new friends to solve the mystery of who is trying to sabotage the farm, and recovering from physical and emotional trauma experienced while in a gymnastics program.	Sep-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Clap When You Land	Acevedo	Elizabeth			Fic	7	12	O	Solia	Yahaira's father is killed in a plane crash on his way from New York to the DR. Camino, waits at the airport in the DR for her father, but is met with the news that the crash had no survivors. Connected by their father's secrets, Yahaira and Camino navigate loss, secrets and the meaning of family.	Sep-20
Clean Getaway	Stone	Nic	Anyabwile	Dawud	Fic	3	7	O	Eric	Scoob jumps at the chance to take a road trip with his G'ma as he wants to skip out on his father's lockdown punishment, and learn more about his white grandmother and black grandfather's life in the racist South. A humorous, 3rd person narration drives this timely, engaging, and accessible novel.	Jun-20
Deathless Divide	Ireland	Justina			Fic	8	12	O	Lesley	The second book in the Dread Nation series, Deathless Divide is narrated by Jane McKeene and her unlikely friend Katherine Deveraux. The novel explores relationships between black women and examines tensions between communities of color and the corrupting, colonizing influence of white settlement.	Jan-21
Dress Coded	Firestone	Carrie			Fic	6	8	O	Beth	Molly Frost is motivated to political action by the uneven application of Fisher Middle School's dress code. Although the plot easily could have become drama driven, Firestone has produced a sophisticated and timely read sure to find an audience.	Jul-20
Echo Mountain	Wolk	Lauren			Fic	5	7	O	Beth	Wolk's latest historical fiction takes readers to life in the Maine mountains during the Depression. Beautifully written prose is slow to start as it builds to an empowering tale of a twelve year old girl finding her voice.	Jun-20
Elatsoe	Little Badger	Darcie	Cai	Rovina	Fic	7	12	O	Eny	Ellie is a Lipan Apache teen with the hereditary gift of raising spirits. Her summer plans change when her cousin Trevor dies and his spirit appears to her with a plea: he names his murderer and asks Ellie for justice. This is a story with wide appeal for any readers looking for a fresh mystery. Ellie is a Lipan Apache teen with the hereditary gift of raising spirits. Her summer plans change when her cousin Trevor dies and his spirit appears to her with a plea: he names his murderer and asks Ellie for justice. This is a story with wide appeal for any readers looking for a fresh mystery. Ellie is a Lipan Apache teen with the hereditary gift of raising spirits. Her summer plans change when her cousin Trevor dies and his spirit appears to her with a plea: he names his murderer and asks Ellie for justice. This is a story with wide appeal for any readers looking for a fresh mystery.	Jan-21
Everything Sad is Untrue	Nayeri	Daniel			Fic	7	A	O	Jenny	Khosrou spins tales for his dubious and often hostile classmates based on Persian legends and his family's history including their escape from Iran to Oklahoma via an Italian refugee camp. His account brims with rich language, memorable characters, and moments both dramatic and humorous.	Dec-20
Felix Ever After	Callender	Kacen			Fic	9	12	O	Carla	Felix, a queer, black, trans teen struggling with identity, finds someone has posted pre-transition photos and his deadname at his school. This tough #ownvoices story resolves the mystery and Felix's identity quest in a realistic, satisfying way.	May-20
Fighting Words	Bradley	Kimberly Brubaker			Fic	4	7	O	Beth	Sexual abuse, sexual harassment among tweens, suicide, homelessness-Bradley has covered a variety of tough topics with her signature strong characterization. Ultimately, this survival story is a triumph against being dealt a very poor hand.	Oct-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

From the Desk of Zoe Washington	Marks	Janae	Ortega	Mirelle	Fic	4	8	O	Eric	Budding pastry chef Zoe begins corresponding with the birth father she has never know, his having been incarcerated for murder before she was born. This timely debut novel conveys the weighty issue of systemic racism in an accessible way, hopefully bringing the subject matter to a wider audience.	May-20
Gold Rush Girl	Avi				Fic	4	8	O	Penny	Tory recounts her experience in San Francisco, where she, her father, and younger brother have relocated to seek their fortune in the 1849 Gold Rush. After father leaves for the diggings, Tory's brother is kidnapped; she searches for him with the help of new friends Sam and Thad.	May-20
Grown	Jackson	Tiffany D.			Fic	9	12	O	Lesley	Based partially on the stories of R. Kelly's victims, Grown is a condemnation of the social and legal systems which facilitate the victimization of black women, especially in the entertainment world. Protagonist Enchanted's voice is convincing and her story is disturbing, powerful and important.	Oct-20
How and the Why, The	Hand	Cynthia			Fic	8	12	O	Hayley	An affecting and insightful look at adoption from the perspectives of an adopted child and her birth mother. Fine writing and rich character development enhance the letters that "S" writes to her unborn daughter and the quest that her daughter takes to find her 18 years later.	Jan-20
I Can Make this Promise	Day	Christine			Fic	4	7	O	Lesley	12-year-old Edie loves to interpret her world through drawings, but she finds the hidden layers underneath this world which centering around her Native American mom's adoption by a white couple and her own mixed-race heritage are less easy to delineate.	Jan-20
King and the Dragonflies	Callender	Kacen			Fic	4	8	O	Eric	In the Louisiana bayou, King mourns the recent passing of his older brother, while also dealing with the disappearance of the friend who has told King that he's gay, in a middle grade novel that touches on toxic masculinity, complicated relationships between fathers and sons, and homophobia.	May-20
Legendborn	Deonn	Tracy			Fic	9	A	O	Jennifer	Debut author Tracy Deonn combines African American history and spiritual traditions with Arthurian legend, mages, and demons, in a fast-paced, contemporary, entertaining and engrossing tale of a Black girl coming of age and coming into her own, on the campus of UNC Chapel Hill.	Sep-20
LIGHT IT UP	Magoon	Kekla			Fic	6	12	O	Lesley	Told from a variety of viewpoints, this story of the police shooting of an unarmed 13-year-old girl is rich with detail, despair and humanity, examining the stark realities of racial bias in policing, politics and all elements of American life. Multiple narrators create a convincing reality.	Feb-20
Mañanaland	Ryan	Pam Muñoz			Fic	3	7	O	Eric	When Latinx Max Córdoba offers to help a young girl escape a terrible situation in her country, he comes to understand his family's connection to the fabled "Guardians of the Hidden Ones", and the difficult choices his mother had to make when she left him in his Papá's care shortly after his birth.	Jul-20
My Storied Year	Proctor	Katie			Fic	5	7	O	Megan	A thoughtful middle grade story depicting empathy and learning differences, and sure to inspire young writers, this debut novel is a valuable choice for public and school library shelves.	Nov-20
Not So Pure and Simple	Giles	Lamar			Fic	8	12	O	Lesley	When protagonist Del Rainey Jr. inadvertently takes the Purity Pledge at his church in an attempt to put the moves on his long-time crush Keira and is then caught ferrying questions from his church group to his high school health class, humor tempers a serious examination of gender politics.	Jan-21

## 2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

One and Only Bob	Applegate	Katherine		Fic	3	7	O	Penny	In this sequel to The One and Only Ivan (2012), Bob the dog describes the hurricane that damages the zoo where Ivan the gorilla and Ruby the elephant live. Although the story is a little slow at the beginning, the last half involving the hurricane is action-packed.	Jun-20
Paper Daughters of Chinatown, The	Moore	Heather B.		Fic	9	A	O	Penny	Donaldina Cameron and the Occidental Mission Home for Girls was a sanctuary for Chinese girls who often were brought to California as part of a human trafficking effort. The story alternates between chapters on Cameron and a composite character Mei Lien who escapes a brothel.	Jul-20
Prairie Lotus	Park	Linda Sue		Fic	4	8	O	Penny	Hanna is half white and half Chinese/Korean, which means she is the target of ridicule when she and her white father move from Los Angeles to the Dakota Territory in 1880. Will they be welcomed by the community, will she be allowed to attend school, will residents patronize their dress shop?	May-20
Punching the Air	Zoboi	Ibi		Fic	8	12	O	Lesley	A novel in verse, Punching the Air tells the story of teenaged Amal Shahid, imprisoned for a crime he did not commit. It details his physical and mental suffering, examining our brutalizing prison system and exploring the inner strength and creativity he calls on to maintain himself.	Jan-21
Raybearer	Ifueko	Jordan		Fic	8	12	O	Lesley	Author Ifueko uses the unique heroine sixteen-year-old Tarisai, raised in isolation and thrust into her world's political and spiritual center, to explore themes of belonging, difference, power and imperialism in a sensitive and sensual fantasy coming-of-age novel.	Oct-20
Show Me a Sign	LeZotte	Ann Claire		Fic	4	7	O	Jenny	An articulate 11-year-old Deaf girl faces danger when she is abducted by a ruthless scientist seeking a "live specimen." Set in a historic Martha's Vineyard town, the author brilliantly weaves sign language into an exciting and unique narrative set at the turn of the 19th century. An articulate 11-year-old Deaf girl faces danger when she is abducted by a ruthless scientist seeking a "live specimen." Set in a historic Martha's Vineyard town, the author brilliantly weaves sign language into an exciting and unique narrative set at the turn of the 19th century.	Oct-20
The Blackbird Girls	Blankman	Anne		Fic	6	8	O	Jenny	Two Ukrainian girls flee their ravaged town in a suspenseful and heart-warming story set in 1986, during the Chernobyl disaster. This masterful portrayal of life in a totalitarian society celebrates the enduring values of friendship, kindness, and courage.	Aug-20
The Boys in the Back Row	Jung	Mike		Fic	4	7	O	Jennifer	Best friends since 4th grade, Matt and Eric are 6th grade comic book fans and band geeks who sit together in the back row of band practice. This well-crafted middle-grade novel celebrates letting your geek flag fly with loyalty, humor, bravery, and resistance to bullies and racism.	Sep-20
The Bridge	Konigsberg	Bill		Fic	9	A	O	Rachael	The Bridge tells four stories - in each of them Aaron & Tillie come to the George Washington Bridge intending to jump but there the stories diverge. Ultimately this book showcases hope and reasons for each of the characters to live.	Jan-21
The Cousins	McManus	Karen M.		Fic	8	12	O	Hayley	Right from the start, secrets are exposed, twists are turned, and danger lurks in this riveting and fast-moving YA mystery in which three 17-year-old cousins try to uncover the mystery behind their parents' disinheritance twenty four years ago.	Jul-20

## 2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

The Enigma Game	Wein	Elizabeth			Fic	8	12	O	Hayley	This dramatic and intense YA historical novel is set in the early days of World War II and is back in the Code Name Verity universe. Four well-rounded and diverse characters are able to make a difference when a German pilot secretly delivers an Enigma decoding machine.	Jul-20
The Land of the Cranes	Salazar	Aida			Fic	3	7	O	Yesica	Oakland writer Aida Salazar uses verse to depict the experience of nine-year-old Latinx Betita Quintero and her pregnant mother in an immigration family detention center. Salazar creates visceral images that do not pander to stereotypes in this timely story.	Jan-21
The Magnificent Monsters of Cedar Street	Oliver	Lauren	Aldridge	Ethan M.	Fic	4	8	O	Eric	Cordelia, along with an orphan boy named Gregory, must solve the mystery surrounding the disappearance of her father and the sick magical creatures that they tend to in this timely novel which asks the question: who are the real monsters in this world?	May-20
The New David Espinoza	Aceves	Fred			Fic	9	A	O	Eny	Painfully skinny David has gotten used to being shoved around at school. When a video of him getting slapped goes viral, he decides to spend the summer bulking up using steroids. As David's gains increase, his relationships disintegrate. A gripping, realistic story.	Mar-20
The Voting Booth	Colbert	Brandy			Fic	9	12	O	Hayley	Set over the course of Election Day 2020, this delightful two-hander starts when activist "dark brown" skinned Marva and biracial musician Duke meet cute at a polling station. A charming romance with a core message about injustice and the need to vote to get change.	May-20
This Is My Brain In Love	Gregorio	I. W.			Fic	8	12	O	Carla	Jos and Will, both children of immigrants, feel attracted to each other but are hampered by their mental health issues. Stigmas in communities of color around managing mental health are examined realistically through honest characters and outcomes.	May-20
This Light Between Us: A Novel of World War II	Fukuda	Andrew			Fic	7	12	O	Julia	World War II is experienced through the eyes of Japanese American boy Alex Maki, as well as the letters he shares with a Jewish girl named Charlie Levy. This powerful story of friendship during a time of war is a must read for teen fans of historical fiction.	Jan-21
Time of Green Magic, The	McKay	Hilary			Fic	4	8	O	Penny	In a newly blended family, Abi and her father (of Jamaican heritage) move into a unique old house with her stepmother and two stepbrothers; the three new siblings join forces to defeat a magical element in the house that is threatening the little brother Louis.	Sep-20
Trowbridge Road	Pixley	Marcella			Fic	4	8	O	Eric	Fellow outcasts June Bug and Ziggy work through the pain in their lives by retreating to the "ninth dimension", an imaginary place where they have some control over their environment. A heavy and intense, though ultimately hopeful, novel for fans of Katherine Paterson's <i>The Bridge to Terabithia</i> .	Oct-20
Turning Point	Chase	Paula			Fic	5	9	O	Jenny	Monique attends an intensive ballet program where she is one of only two Black students, while her best friend Rasheeda struggles with the restrictions imposed by her religious aunt. A compelling narrative filled with well-developed characters grappling with issues of race, identity and trust.	Nov-20
Under the Broken Sky	Nagai	Mariko			Fic	5	8	O	Sarah Jo	When the Soviet enemy invades Japanese-controlled Manchuria near the end of World War II, twelve-year old Natsu and her younger sister Asa must flee their settlement and embark on an epic flight for survival. The story unfolds in a series of short poems arranged in a powerful, literary arc.	May-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Watch Over Me	LaCour	Nina			Fic	8	12	O	Hayley	LaCour's exquisitely lovely magical realist novel has themes of guilt, grief, and the comfort of family. Mila moves to a farm where Terry and Julia provide a home and refuge for children and young adults, but she soon finds that she cannot leave her past behind as reminders of it haunt her.	Jul-20
WE ARE NOT FROM HERE	Torres Sanchez	Jenny			Fic	8	A	O	Lesley	Teen cousins Pulga and Pequena recount their harrowing journey fleeing from their home in Guatemala towards what they hope will be the safety of the United States. Well-documented and beautifully narrated, this is a truly terrifying story buoyed by the strength and hope of its narrators.	Nov-20
We Dream of Space	Kelly	Erin Entrada			Fic	4	7	O	Eric	In January 1986, the Space Shuttle Challenger launch is looming, while the three Nelson-Thomas siblings are all in their own worlds, dealing with their own issues, unable to count on their unsupportive, bickering parents. A visceral and emotional novel that will ring true and stick with readers.	Dec-20
What Lane?	Maldonado	Torrey			Fic	5	7	O	Beth	Stephen is a biracial twelve year old in Brooklyn with a dawning racial identity. "What Lane" soars in introducing tweens to the injustices young teens of color face, as well as the importance of the Black Lives Matter movement.	Aug-20
When You Trap A Tiger	Keller	Tae			Fic	3	6	O	Rachael	Coming of age, loss, and sibling relationships are all themes in this expertly crafted novel which weaves a contemporary story, family memories and a mystical tiger from Korean folklore into a compelling portrait of a family coming to terms with loss. It will take your breath away.	
Wink	Harrell	Rob			Fic	5	8	O	Melissa	Ross has all the usual seventh-grade issues plus the massive drama of rare eye cancer that threatens his life. Reluctant readers will be pulled in by the humor and comics and avid readers will find plenty to appreciate in this story of how to stay alive, while figuring out what makes you feel alive.	Jan-21
Almost American Girl	Ha	Robin	Ha	Robin	GN	6	12	O	Solia	In this illustrated memoir 14 year old Chuna's life is upended after a "vacation" to Alabama. Her mother has gotten married and they're starting a new life in America. Themes include: mother/daughter relationships, new immigrant experiences, grief, and single parenthood.	Jan-21
AstroNuts Mission One: The Plant Planet	Scieszka	Jon	Weinberg	Steven	GN	3	5	O	Kathy L	Dangerous CO <sub>2</sub> levels caused by humans means four untested, mutant animals (AlphaWolf, SmartHawk, LaserShark, and StinkBug) secretly created by NNASA--that is, Not NASA--just for this emergency, have two weeks to find a "Goldilocks Planet" (not too hot, not too cold) for earthlings.	May-20
Catherine's War	Billet	Julia	Fauvel	Claire	GN	4	9	O	Penny	Originally published in France in 2017, this graphic novel is based on the true story of a Jewish girl who is hidden in various locations during WWII in France. The full color cartoon artwork in panels is distinctive and conveys a lot of emotion.	Mar-20
Class Act	Craft	Jerry	Craft	Jerry	GN	5	9	O	Carla	This follow up to New Kid looks deeper into the differing experiences of students at an affluent private school based on class and race. With expansive, colorful art, the story wraps realistic characters, humor and sharp insights into an authentic view of the 8th graders' day to day world.	Sep-20
Displacement	Hughes	Kiku	Hughes	Kiku	GN	7	12	O	Carla	Japanese American teen Kiku visits San Francisco and is pulled back in time to the 1942 incarceration camps. Her experience leads her to become an anti-racist activist. The strong story, spare art and muted color palette communicate the camps' bleakness and Kiku's current day activism equally well.	Nov-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Dragon Hoops	Yang	Gene Luen	Yang	Gen Luen	GN	8	12	O	Carla	Using a season of Bishop O'Dowd High School's basketball team as a launch point, Yang explores the history of the game and his own journey as a graphic novelist. The rich narrative and compelling art will appeal to more than just basketball fans.	May-20
Go with the Flow	Williams	Lily	Schneeman	Karen	GN	4	10	O	Penny	In this much needed graphic novel, new girl Sasha is at high school when she gets her first period; three other girls befriend and help Sasha, and the four quickly bond. One girl advocates for free sanitary products in the girls restrooms, while they all deal with other normal high school issues.	May-20
Superman Smashes the Klan	Yang	Gene Luen		Gurihiru	GN	6	A	O	Julia	Chinese American siblings Roberta & Tommy Lee team up with Superman to fight racism and embrace their true selves. Solid characters, lively artwork, and relevant themes make this a superhero story that is not to be missed.	Jan-21
The Magic Fish	Nguyen	Trung Le	Nguyen	Trung Le	GN	7	11	O	Carla	13 year old Ti�n and his mother share fairytales to help bridge his limited Vietnamese and her limited her English. Ti�n has something important to tell her but can't find the right words. Supported by stunning artwork, this moving tale shows how stories can help communicate even sensitive things.	Nov-20
Twins	Johnson	Varian	Wright	Shannon	GN	3	7	O	Carla	Black identical twins Maureen and Francine are entering middle school; Maureen resists "Fran's" attempts to be seen as an individual. The narrative provides a fresh take on the old "twins growing up" storyline, with strong art and rich colors bringing their world to life.	Sep-20
When Stars Are Scattered	Jamieson	Victoria	Jamieson	Victoria	GN	4	7	O	Eric	In this graphic novel memoir, Somalian brothers Omar and Hassan live on their own in the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, with Omar continually hoping for some sort of reunification with their mother and wrestling with guilt after getting an opportunity to attend school in the camp. A must read.	Oct-20
All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team	Soontornvat	Christina			NF	5	10	O	Penny	A boys' soccer team led by their coach explored a local cave and were stranded due to flooding in Thailand on June 23, 2018. The efforts to rescue them, which took seventeen days, is described using an edge-of-your-seat narrative and color photos on every other page. Newbery and Sibert Honor.	
Bones: An Inside Look at the Animal Kingdom	Howard	Jules	Fryer	Chervelle	NF	2	5	O	Eny	This guide to bones focuses on evolutionary adaptations that help animals dig, grasp, and more. A scientific introduction to bones is followed by profiles of animals that exemplify the adaptation. The illustrations are full of life – nothing is static, and every animal has personality.	Jul-20
Clever Hans: The true story Clever Hans: The True Story of the Counting, Adding, and Time-Telling Horse	Kokias	Kerri	Lowery	Mike	NF	K	3	O	Melissa	Hans, a horse in 1904 Berlin, seemed capable of human reason. Scientists endeavored to discover whether his brilliance was a fraud. Lively and immediate text and lots of colorful, cartoon-style illustrations introduce the scientific method and the importance of well-designed experiments.	Jan-21
Flight for Freedom	Fulton	Kristen	Kuhlmann	Torben	NF	1	4	O	Melissa	The true-life tale of two families who make a daring escape from East Berlin in a homemade hot air balloon, offers an exciting window into Cold War history. Extensive back-matter provides engineering details, historical context and personal perspectives.	Jan-21
Hack Your Cupboard: Make Great Food with What You've Got	Wiegand	Alyssa	[photos]		NF	8	A	O	Kathy L	This attractive and accessible cookbook is divided into several sections, all of which include recipes, dinner menus, and various "hacks"--Gourmet, Fun, Hearty, Spicy, Budget, and so on. Also includes hints for sharing pantries, food storage, and kitchen skills.	May-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure	Rocco	John	Rocco	John	NF		4	10	O	Penny	Caldecott Honor illustrator Rocco has written and created detailed artwork for this history of how the U.S. was able to successfully land on the moon. The book has sidebars, charts, diagrams, and portraits.	Nov-20
Mission: HTML	Preuitt	Sheela			NF		3	6	O	Eny	Series Review: In these efficient books, readers can learn coding basics and practice along in real time on their computers. Practical applications are given at the beginning of each book. A fine addition to a computer classroom in conjunction with a project or as a basis for coding lessons.	Jan-20
Mission: Javascript	Preuitt	Sheela			NF		3	6	O	Eny	Series Review: Please see Mission: HTML by Sheela Preuitt for the series review.	Jan-20
Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You	Reynolds	Jason			NF		5	A	O	Solia	A YA adaptation of Ibrahim X. Kendi's Stamped from the Beginning, this book examines how racist ideas began and unfortunately thrive through the present day. Reynold's conversational tone makes a tough topic accessible and easy to understand for younger readers.	Jul-20
Teachers March: How Selma's Teacher Changed History, The	Wallace	Sandra Neil	Palmer	Charly	NF		2	5	O	Penny	A march in Selma, Alabama in 1965 to advocate for voter registration and civil rights was led by Reverend F.D. Reese, a teacher at a local segregated high school. This true story is a timely look at the act of protesting, describing how average people really can make a difference.	Oct-20
This is Your Time	Bridges	Ruby			NF		1	A	O	Solia	Activist and civil rights icon Ruby Bridges writes a passionate letter to children reflecting on her experiences and the Black Lives Matter Movement. Historic and contemporary black and white Pictures accompany each page of text. A small, yet powerful book that will appeal to all ages.	
Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of "The Children's Ship"	Heiligman	Deborah	Lee	Lawrence	NF		5	10	O	Penny	Using an engaging text, this details how a ship carrying more than 100 children from England to Canada during WWII was blown up by a German U-boat. Supported by both b&w photos and ink artwork, tweens who seek out books on the Titanic will find this equally fascinating.	Feb-20
Voice of Liberty, The	Carpenter	Angelica Shirley	Fotheringham	Edwin	NF		2	6	O	Kathy L	In 1886, three intrepid women -- Lillie Devereux Blake, Blake's daughter Katie, and Matilda Joslyn Gage -- fought to be in the boat parade dedication ceremony for the Statue of Liberty. Although only able to afford a smelly cattle boat, two hundred (including twenty-five men) joined them in protest.	Nov-20
¡Vamos! Let's Go Eat	the Third	Raúl	the Third	Raúl	PB	PS		2	O	Yesica	Little Lobo, his dog Bernabé and his friend, Kooky Dooky provide food for the hungry luchadores before the Lucha Libre 5000 match. The kaleidoscope of colors conveys the excitement of, and pays homage to, the lucha libre tradition. This book is a feast for the eyes and electrifies the senses.	
A Bear Is a Bear (Except When He's Not)	Newson	Karl	Allepuz	Anuska	PB	PS		2	O	Penny	A bear imagines he is various animals in this rhyming story with alliteration and the repeated phrase "For a bear is a bear. Except when he's not...What would he be if a bear forgot?" The storytime listeners can call out the repeated phrase as well as guess what animal the bear is imitating.	Jun-20
Balletball	Dionne	Erin	Flint	Gillian	PB	PS		3	O	Solia	Nini is disappointed that ballet is over and she has to play baseball. Can she learn to be a team player? The charming watercolor illustrations show Nini as dark-skinned with curly hair, and the background characters also show a wide diversity including ability, orientation, religion and skin tone.	Feb-20
Bear Came Along	Morris	Richard T.	Pham	LeUyen	PB	PS		2	O	Penny	First a bear and then other animals fall one by one into a river and all ride on a branch until they reach a waterfall in this joyous story of adventure and friendship. The narrative repeats the word "until" making this a great choice for audience participation at storytime.	Feb-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Bedtime for Sweet Creatures	Grimes	Nikki	Zunon	Elizabeth	PB	B/T	K	O	Penny	Mother narrates this look at going to bed, describing a toddler who mimics various animals with sounds. The full color collage art is unusual, with a realistic African American family but with animals depicted as patterned block prints.	Mar-20
Bruce's Big Storm	Higgins	Ryan T.	Higgins	Ryan T.	PB	PS		3O	Solia	Grumpy bear Bruce is back, and Soggy Hollow is facing a big storm! In this follow up to Mother Bruce themes of community and resilience are explored.	Feb-20
Button Book, The	Nicholls	Sally	Woolvin	Bethan	PB	PS		2O	Penny	In this clever story, the buttons are those to push to hear a sound. Even though the buttons are only pictured, not actual buttons to push, this is fun, motivating listeners to clap, sing, bounce, and more. Colors and shapes also featured.	Feb-20
Dads	Coy	John	Huie	Wing Young	PB	B/T		2O	Diana	Celebrate fathers and all they do with this picture book filled with diverse photos of fathers and families specifically featuring blue-collar and inner-city environments. Sparse text fitting for toddlers through lower elementary accompany the powerful images to make a unique, moving collection.	Mar-20
Don't Worry Little Crab	Haughton	Chris	Haughton	Chris	PB	PS		2O	Penny	Little Crab and Very Big Crab venture from the tidepool to the ocean in this charming story, filled with onomatopoeia. Little Crab overcomes his fear of the ocean waves and enjoys seeing what is under the water.	Jul-20
Double Bass Blues	Loney	Andrea J.	Gutierrez	Rudy	PB	PS		3O	Penny	Young Nic is great on the double bass but he can barely lift it, traveling from school back home, but he never gives up. Using a very brief text filled with onomatopoeia, with full color acrylic illustrations resembling elements of Cubism with graffiti.	Feb-20
Evelyn del Rey Is Moving Away	Medina	Meg	Sanchez	Sonia	PB	PS		4O	Rachael	Its Evelyn's last day in her apartment and as the final boxes are packed she has to say goodbye to her best friend.	Dec-20
Favorite Book, The	Murguia	Bethanie Deeney	Murguia	Bethanie Deeney	PB	PS		1O	Kathy L	Children of various skin colors make decisions about such things as paint, dogs, trees, desserts, hats, flowers, musical instruments, etc. Is it okay to switch favorites? Is it okay to have multiples? Must one have a favorite? (See the scene in the reptile house where one child races on by!)	Feb-20
From Maybe to Forever: An Adoption Story	Gold	M.L.	Hong	Jess	PB	PS		2O	Eny	"I have been waiting for a long time to be a big sister," says the bubbly girl who describes the adoption process. Engaging illustrations show splendid diversity of families of all skin colors, including gay couples and a single parent family. An excellent choice to read aloud.	Jul-20
Gnome	Blunt	Fred	Blunt	Fred	PB	PS		4O	Eny	"This little fellow is a gnome. Say hello to the readers, Mr. Gnome." "NO!" Readers follow the rude gnome on a fishing trip, where we see him refuse to help or answer politely. The mix of narrated text and speech bubbles works unusually well when read aloud, and would be a big hit at a storytime.	Feb-20
Hike	Oswaldt	Pete	Oswaldt	Pete	PB	K		3O	Julia	A father and his young child go on a hike together through a beautiful nature landscape in this wordless picture book celebration of adventure, family, tradition, and the great outdoors.	Aug-20
I Am Every Good Thing	Barnes,	Derrick	James	Gordon C	PB	PS		5O	Rachael	The boys in this book soar and fall, are brave and also scared, are held by family and supported by history. Probably one of the most important and also one of the most amazing picture books released this year. The book is a love letter to and a celebration of black boyhood.	Oct-20
If You Come to Earth	Blackall	Sophie	Blackall	Sophie	PB	PS		2O	Eric	Blackall's long-form picture book acts as a basic primer on Planet Earth: a vividly-colored and breathtakingly-detailed visual feast, with a logical visual and narrative flow, that one will want to return to and pore over again and again.	Nov-20

2020 Outstanding Books final draft.ods

Julián at the Wedding	Love	Jessica	Love	Jessica	PB	PS	3	O	Rachael	This is Jessica Love's follow up picture book to Julian is a Mermaid - this time Julian and his Abuela are going to a wedding.	Dec-20
Stop! Bot!	Yang	James	Yang	James	PB	K	2	O	Penny	A boy's drone (referred to as a "bot") flies out of his reach at his apartment building in this tall and slender picture book that received the Geisel Award for easy reader. All of the text is in dialogue balloons, with lots of repetition, making this ideal for the emergent reader.	Feb-20
The Camping Trip	Mann	Jennifer K.	Mann	Jennifer K.	PB	PS	2	O	Beth	Ernestine's aunt and cousin invite her to leave the city to go car camping. This is the book to be pressed into the hands of every family preparing a child for a first camping trip.	Aug-20
The Moon Keeper	Zosienka		Zosienka		PB	B/T	3	O	Rachael	This very attractive picture book about a polar bear who is caring for the moon will be wonderful as a bedtime story or quiet read aloud. This is the first picture book by Zosienka as an author/illustrator the story is gentle and the illustrations are divine.	Jun-20
The Same but Different Too	Newson	Karl	Hindley	Kate	PB	PS	1	O	Joshua	Newson celebrates many differences and similarities people have by comparing various types of kids with wide ranging variety of anthropomorphic animals.	Oct-20
Thukpa for all	Ram	Praba	Ranade	Shilpa	PB	PS	3	O	Erica	As blind Tsering walks the mountain path from temple to the home he shares with his grandma, he invites their neighbors to join them for Thukpa - Ladakhi noodle soup, while demonstrating his ability to navigate, be part of the community, and help cook, in this colorful #ownvoices picture book.	Feb-20
Waa'aka': The Bird Who Fell in Love with the Sun	Alvitre	Cindi M.	Lake	Carly	PB	K	4	O	Lauren	The Tongva creation myth is beautifully explored by this #ownvoices author.	Dec-20
We are Water Protectors	Lindstrom	Carole	Goade	Michaela	PB	K	3	O	Keira	A young girl tells a simple, yet powerful story about the importance of standing up for ourselves and for others who are not able to. Inspiring words and illustrations make this outstanding book great for anyone teaching about environmental causes and the value of water to life.	