

Children's Fiction Books

1980-2023

The Children's Literature Association of Utah does not necessarily recommend that all children read all books. These nominees offer a balance in reading level, interest level, and types of fiction for grades 3 through 6. We encourage parents to read and discuss these books with their children. (indicates mature reader)*

2023 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Beatryce Prophecy* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Born Behind Bars* by Padma Venkatraman
- *Clues to the Universe* by Christina Li
- *A Discovery of Dragons* by Lindsay Galvin
- *Distress Signal* by Mary E. Lambert
- *Double the Danger and Zero Zucchini* by Betsy Uhrig
- *Glitch* by Laura Martin
- *Hockey Night in Kenya* by Danson Mutinda
- *Monster and Boy* by Hannah Barnaby
- *The Republic of Birds* by Jessica Miller

2022 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman
- *The Boy Who Grew Dragons* by Andy Shepherd
- *Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- *The Great Pet Heist* by Emily Ecton, illustrated by David Mottram
- *Homerooms and Hall Passes* by Tom O'Donnell
- *How to Make Friends with the Sea* by Tanya Guerrero
- *My Life as a Potato* by Arianne Costner
- *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renee Watson
- *Willa and the Whale* by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown
- *Wink* by Rob Harrell

2021 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Beneath the Bed and Other Scary Stories* by Max Brallier, illustrated by Letizia Rubegni
- *Dragons in a Bag* by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Geneva B
- *Inkling* by Kenneth Oppel, illustrated by Sydney Smith
- *Mr. Penguin and the Lost Treasure* by Alex T. Smith

- *Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga
- *Over the Moon* by Natalie Lloyd
- *Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- *Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster* by Jonathan Auxier
- *The Unteachables* by Gordon Korman
- *A Wolf Called Wander* by Rosanne Parry, illustrated by Mónica Armijo

2020 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Aru Shah and the End of Time* by Roshani Chokshi
- *Checked* by Cynthia Kadohata
- *Fairy Mom and Me* by Sophie Kinsella
- *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
- *The Mad Wolf's Daughter* by Diane Magras
- *The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani
- *Rebound* by Kwame Alexander
- *Two Dogs in a Trench Coat Go to School* by Julie Falatko
- *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate
- *You Go First* by Erin Entrada Kelly

2019 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan
- *Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk
- *The Dragon with a Chocolate Heart* by Stephanie Burgess
- *Overboard!* by Terry Lynn Johnson
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *Restart* by Gordan Korman
- *The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl: Squirrel Meets World* by Shannon Hale & Dean Hale
- *Wedgie & Gizmo* by Suzanne Selfors, illustrated by Barbara Fisinger
- *Wolfie & Fly* by Cary Fagan, illustrated by Zoe Si
- *Word of Mouse* by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein

2018 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Adventures with Waffles* by Maria Parr, illustrated by Kate Forrester, translated by Guy Puzey
- *A Bandit's Tale: the Muddled Misadventures of a Pickpocket* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Book Scavenger* by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

- *Clover's Luck* by Kallie George
- *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
- *The Girl in the Tower* by Lisa Schroeder, illustrated by Nicoletta Ceccoli
- *Secrets of the Dragon Tomb* by Patrick Samphire, illustrated by Jeremy Holmes
- *Shadow Magic* by Joshua Khan, illustrated by Ben Hibon
- *Some Kind of Courage* by Dan Gemeinhart
- *Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk

2017 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Appleblossom the Possum* by Holly Sloan, illustrated by Gary A. Rosen
- *Beast Keeper* by Lucy Coats
- *The Blackthorn Key* by Kevin Sands *
- *Castle Hangnail* by Ursula Vernon
- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- *The Honest Truth* by Dan Gemeinhart *
- *My Brother is a Superhero* by David Solomons
- *Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson
- *The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley *
- *Zane and the Hurricane* by Rodman Philbrick *

2016 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Blood Guard* by Carter Roy
- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell
- *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jennifer L. Holm
- *Frostborn* by Lou Anders
- *The Great Trouble: a Mystery of London, the Blue Death and a Boy Called Eel* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Loot: How to Steal a Fortune* by Jude Watson
- *The Night Gardener* by Jonathan Auxier
- *Spell Robbers* by Matthew J. Kirby
- *Under the Egg* by Laura Marx Fitzgerald
- *The Vanishing Coin* by Kate Egan & Magician Mike Lane

2015 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Breathing Room* by Marsha Hayles

- *Duke* by Kirby Larson
- *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
- *I Survived Hurricane Katrina, 2005* by Lauren Tarshis, illustrated by Scott Dawson
- *Of Giants and Ice* by Shelby Bach, illustrated by Cory Loftis
- *One Dead Spy: Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales* by Nathan Hale
- *Paperboy* by Vince Vawter *
- *Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin* by Liesl Shurtliff
- *Sky Jumpers* by Peggy Eddleman
- *Wild Born* by Brandon Mull

2014 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Brixen Witch* by Stacy DeKeyser
- *Close to Famous* by Joan Bauer
- *The Humming Room* by Ellen Porter
- *Icefall* by Matthew Kirby
- *Inside Out & Back Again* by Thanhha Lai
- *Malcom at Midnight* by W.H. Beck
- *Three Times Lucky* by Shelia Turnage
- *Tuesdays at the Castle* by Jessica Day George
- *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio
- *Zita the Spacegirl: Far From Home* by Ben Hatke

2013 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *A Dog's Way Home* by Bobbie Pyron
- *Edgar Allan's Official Crime Investigation Notebook* by Mary Amato
- *The Emerald Atlas* by John Stephens
- *The Familiars* by Adam Jay Epstein and Andrew Jacobson
- *Heart of a Samurai* by Margi Preus
- *Lulu and the Brontosaurus* by Judith Viorst, illustrated by Lane Smith
- *True (...Sort Of)* by Katherine Hannigan
- *Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer L. Holm
- *The Unwanteds* by Lisa McMann
- *With a Name Like Love* by Tess Hilmo

2012 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea
- *The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had* by Kristin Levine
- *The Clockwork Three* by Matthew Kirby
- *Emily's Fortune* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *Lincoln and His Boys* by Rosemary Wells, illustrated by P.J. Lynch
- *The Mysterious Howling* by Maryrose Wood & Jon Klassen
- *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper
- *Palace Beautiful* by Sarah DeFord Williams
- *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger
- *Wild Girl* by Patricia Reilly Giff

2011 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *11 Birthdays* by Wendy Mass
- *The Adventurous Deeds of Deadwood Jones* by Helen Hemphill
- *Binky the Space Cat* by Ashley Spires
- *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly
- *Extra Credit* by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Mark Elliott
- *The Leanin' Dog* by K.A. Nuzum
- *Me and the Pumpkin Queen* by Marianne Kennedy
- *Mudville* by Kurtis Scaletta
- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin
- *The Year the Swallows Came Early* by Kathryn Fitzmaurice

2010 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Big Field* by Mike Lupica
- *The Cabinet of Wonders* by Marie Rutkoski
- *A Crooked Kind of Perfect* by Linda Urban
- *Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree* by Lauren Tarshis
- *The Girl Who Could Fly* by Victoria Forester
- *The Magic Thief* by Sarah Prineas
- *Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf: a Year Told Through Stuff* by Jennifer L. Holm, illustrated by Elicia Castaldi
- *The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton Lee Stewart, illustrated by Carson Ellis
- *Night of the Howling Dogs* by Graham Salisbury
- *Someone Named Eva* by Joan M. Wolf

2009 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Aurora County All-Stars* by Deborah Wiles
- *The Candy Shop Wars* by Brandon Mull
- *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker, illustrated by Marla Frazee
- *Dragon Slippers* by Jessica Day George
- *Houndsley and Catina* by James Howe, illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay
- *No Talking* by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Mark Elliott
- *On the Wings of Heroes* by Richard Peck
- *Paint the Wind* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Rules* by Cynthia Lord
- *Way Down Deep* by Ruth White

2008 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Bella at Midnight* by Diane Stanley, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline
- *The Boy Who Saved Cleveland* by James Cross Giblin, illustrated by Michael Dooling
- *Fairest* by Gail Carson Levine
- *Fairy Tale Detectives* by Michael Buckley, illustrated by Peter Ferguson
- *Hero Revealed* by William Boniface, illustrated by Stephen Gilpin
- *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline
- *Moose's Big Idea* by Stephanie Greene, illustrated by Joe Mathieu
- *Our Hero* by Jennifer Holm, illustrated by Matthew Holm
- *Weedflower* by Cynthia Kadohata
- *Yellowstar* by Jennifer Rozines Roy

2007 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Blue Fingers: a Ninja Tale* by Cheryl Aylward Whitesel
- *Forging of the Blade* by R.L. LaFevers
- *The Liberation of Gabriel King* by K.L. Going
- *Listening for Lions* by Gloria Whelan
- *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Chris Van Dusen
- *The Naked Mole-Rat Letters* by Mary Amato
- *Princess Academy* by Shannon Hale
- *The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan

- *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs* by Betty G. Birney, illustrated by Matt Phelan
- *An Unremarkable Boy and a Rather Remarkable Ghost* by Louise Arnold
- *Wolf Brother* by Michelle Paver, illustrated by Geoff Taylor

2006 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Becoming Naomi Leon* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliet, illustrated by Brett Helquist
- *Dragon Rider* by Cornelia Funke
- *Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia* by Barbara O'Connor
- *Heartbeat* by Sharon Creech
- *Ida B: and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster and (Possibly) Save the World* by Katherine Hannigan
- *Measle and Wrathmonk* by Ian Ogilvy
- *Niagara Falls, Or Does It?* by Henry Winkler & Lin Oliver, illustrated by Jesse Watson
- *The Postman Always bring Mice* by Holm & Hammell, illustrated by Brad Weinman
- *Ruby Lu, Brave and True* by Lenore Look, illustrated by Anne Wilsdorf
- *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney

2005 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- *The Field Guide* by Tony DiTerlizzi & Holly Black
- *Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen
- *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup* by Sharon Creech
- *Gregor the Overlander* by Suzanne Collins
- *Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke
- *Maggie's Door* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Midnight for Charlie Bone* by Jenny Nimmo
- *Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism* by Georgia Byng
- *The One-Eyed Giant* by Mary Pope Osborne, illustrated by Tony Howell
- *Rodzina* by Karen Cushman

2004 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Angel on the Square* by Gloria Whelan
- *Charlotte's Rose* by A.E. Cannon
- *Gooney Bird Greene* by Lois Lowry

- *Journey to the River Sea* by Eve Ibbotson, illustrated by Kevin Hawkes
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Riding Freedom* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Rowan of Rin* by Emily Rodda
- *Ruby Holler* by Sharon Creech
- *The Thief Lord* by Cornelia Funke, illustrated by Christian Birmingham
- *When My Name Was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park

2003 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Beany and the Dreaded Wedding* by Susan Wojciechowski, illustrated by Susanna Natti
- *Frankenbug* by Steven Cousins
- *Gold Dust* by Chris Lynch
- *Jack Black and the Ship of Thieves* by Carol Hughes
- *Judy Moody* by Meghan McDonald, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds
- *The Last Lobo* by Roland Smith
- *Love, Ruby Lavender* by Deborah Wiles
- *The School Story* by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Brian Selznick
- *Silent Thunder* by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- *Trial by Journal* by Kate Klise & M. Sarah Klise
- *Two Princesses of Bamarre* by Gail Carson Levine

2002 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Adaline Falling Star* by Mary Pope Osborne
- *Alida's Song* by Gary Paulsen
- *Alien for Rent* by Betsy Duffey, illustrated by Abby Carter
- *Cinderellis and the Glass Hill* by Gail Carson Levine, illustrated by Mark Elliott
- *The Janitor's Boy* by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Brian Selznick
- *Midnight Magic* by Avi
- *My Brother Made Me Do It* by Peg Kehret
- *Song of the Wanderer* by Bruce Coville
- *Surviving Brick Johnson* by Laurie Myers
- *The Water Horse* by Dick King-Smith, illustrated by David Parkins
- *The Word Eater* by Mary Amato, illustrated by Christopher Ryniak
- *The Year of Miss Agnes* by Kirkpatrick Hill

2001 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Choosing Up Sides* by John H. Ritter
- *Eye of the Great Bear* by Bill Wallace
- *I'm Not Who You Think I Am* by Peg Kehret
- *The Kidnappers: a Mystery* by Willo Davis Roberts
- *Nowhere to Call Home* by Cynthia C. DeFelice
- *Our Only May Amelia* by Jennifer L. Holm
- *Perloo the Bold* by Avi
- *Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief* by Wendelin Van Draanen
- *Sasquatch* by Roland Smith
- *The Secret of Platform 13* by Eva Ibbotson
- *Well Wished* by Franny Billingsley, illustrated by Leonid Gore
- *When the Soldiers Were Gone* by Vera W. Propp

2000 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Among the Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *Bandit's Moon* by Sid Fleischman, illustrated by Jos A. Smith
- *Can You Keep a Secret?* by P.J. Peterson, illustrated by Meredith Johnson
- *Frindle* by Andrew Clements
- *The Ghost of Fossil Glen* by Cynthia C. DeFelice
- *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J. K. Rowling
- *Honus and Me* by Dan Gutman
- *In Care of Cassie Tucker* by Ivy Ruckman
- *Poppy* by Avi, illustrated by Brian Floca
- *School Spirits* by Michael O. Tunnell
- *Search for the Shadowman* by Joan Lowery Nixon
- *Smart Dog* by Vivian Vande Velde

1999 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple* by Karen Cushman
- *The Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo
- *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine
- *Earthquake Terror* by Peg Kehret
- *Flea Circus Summer* by Cheryl Ware
- *The Last Man's Reward* by David Patneaude
- *Lone Wolf* by Kristine L. Franklin

- *The Music of Dolphins* by Karen Hesse
- *The Stray* by Dick King-Smith
- *The Summer of the Bonepile Monster* by Aileen Kilgore Henderson, illustrated by Kim David Cooper
- *Thunder Cave* by Roland Smith
- *When the Circus Came to Town* by Polly Horvath

1998 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The 13th Floor: a Ghost Story* by Sid Fleischman, illustrated by Peter Sis
- *Defenders of the Universe* by D.V. Kelleher
- *Dragonslayers* by Bruce Coville
- *Kokopelli's Flute* by Will Hobbs
- *Later, Gator* by Laurence Yep
- *Mr. Lincoln's Drummer* by G. Clinton Wisler
- *My Name is ~~Brian~~ Brian* by Jeanne Betancourt
- *The Private Notebook of Katie Roberts, Age 11* by Amy Hest, illustrated by Sonja Lamut
- *Running Out of Time* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *Someone Was Watching* by David Patneaude
- *Tornado* by Betsy Cromer Byars and Doron Ben-Ami
- *You're Dead, David Borelli* by Susan M. Brown

1997 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Backyard Dragon* by Betsy Serman & Samuel Serman, photographs by David T. Wenzel
- *Cat Running* by Zilpha Keatly Snyder
- *The Fear Place* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *Fig Pudding* by Ralph Fletcher
- *Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns* by Mary Quattlebaum
- *Silent Storm* by Sherry Garland
- *Tarantula Shoes* by Tom Birdseye
- *Titanic Crossing* by Barbara Williams
- *The Twin in the Tavern* by Barbara Brooks Wallace
- *Watchdog and the Coyotes* by Bill Wallace, illustrated by David Slonim
- *The Well: David's Story* by Mildred D. Taylor

1996 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Amber Brown Is Not a Crayon* by Paula Danziger, illustrated by Tony Ross
- *Bigger* by Patricia Calvert
- *The Cannibals of Sunset Drive* by Dan K. Carlsruh
- *Crossroads* by Paul Pitts
- *Just Call Me Stupid* by Tom Birdseye
- *Over the Joshua Slope* by Lyman Hafen
- *Scooter* by Vera B. William
- *The Shiniest Rock of All* by Nancy Ruth Patterson
- *Stardust* by Alane Ferguson
- *Terror at the Zoo* by Peg Kehret
- *Time for Andrew: a Ghost Story* by Mary Downing Hahn
- *Why Me?* by Deborah Kent

1995 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *213 Valentines* by Barbara Cohen, illustrated by Wil Clay
- *The Adventures of King Midas* by Lynne Reid Banks
- *Attaboy, Sam!* by Lois Lowry
- *The Boggart* by Susan Cooper, illustrated by Omar Rayyan
- *Boys Start the War* by Phyllis Naylor
- *Cages* by Peg Kehret
- *Chocolate-Covered Ants* by Stephen Manes
- *Death at Devil's Bridge* by Cynthia C. DeFelice
- *Ghosts of Mercy Manor* by Betty Ren Wright
- *Hannah* by Gloria Whelan, illustrated by Leslie Bowman
- *Invisible Dog* by Dick King-Smith
- *Jacob's Bridge* by Malka Drucker
- *Little House on Rocky Ridge* by Roger Lea MacBride, illustrated by David Gilleace
- *Maria: a Christmas Story* by Theodore Taylor
- *The Morning Glory War* by Judy Glassman
- *Orp Goes to the Hoop* by Suzy Kline
- *The Stuttgart Nanny Mafia* by Susan Fletcher
- *Uptime, Downtime* by John Peel
- *Windcatcher* by Avi

1994 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Away is a Strange Place to Be* by H.M. Hoover
- *Coaching Ms. Parker* by Carla Heymsfeld, illustrated by Jane O'Connor
- *Finding Buck McHenry* by Alfred Slote
- *Flawed Glass* by Ian Strachan
- *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* by Bruce Coville, illustrated by Gary A. Lippincott
- *Journey* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *The Knights of the Kitchen Table* by Jon Scieska
- *Letters from Rifka* by Karen Hesse
- *Little Brother* by Allan Baille
- *The Night the Bells Rang* by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock, illustrated by Leslie W. Bowman
- *Nightmare Mountain* by Peg Kehret
- *The Practical Joke War* by Alane Ferguson
- *The Shadowman's Way* by Paul Pitts
- *Shoebag* by Mary James
- *Stepping on the Cracks* by Mary Downing Hahn
- *Words of Stone* by Kevin Henkes
- *Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear* by Lensey Namioka

1993 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Afternoon of the Elves* by Janet Taylor Lisle
- *The Dead Man in Indian Creek* by Mary Downing Hahn
- *Dynamite Dinah* by Claudia Mills
- *Fudge-a-Mania* by Judy Blume
- *Ghost Cadet* by Elaine Marie Alphin
- *Glass Slippers Give You Blisters* by Mary Jane Auch
- *Go Fish* by Mary Stolz, illustrated by Pat Cummings
- *Have a Happy...a Novel About Kwanzaa* by Mildred Pitts Walter, illustrated by Carole Bayard
- *Higbee's Halloween* by Robert Newton Peck
- *Hugh Glass, Mountain Man* by Robert McClung
- *It's Not Easy Being George: Stories by Adam Joshua (and his dog)* by Janice Lee Smith, illustrated by Dick Gackenbach
- *My Grandmother's Stories: a Collection of Jewish Folk Tales* by Adele Geras, illustrated by Anita Lobel
- *Our Sixth-Grade Sugar Babies* by Eve Bunting
- *Sam and the Moon Queen* by Alison Craigin Herzig and Jane Lawrence Mali

- *Stepbrother Sabotage* by Sally Wittman, illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully
- *Strider* by Beverly Cleary, illustrated by Paul O. Zellinsky
- *Weasel* by Cynthia C. DeFelice
- *The Year of the Panda* by Miriam Schlein, illustrated by Kam Mak
- *Your Move. J.P.* by Lois Lowry

1992 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Baseball in April and Other Stories* by Gary Soto
- *Bobby Baseball* by Robert K. Smith, illustrated by Alan Tiegreen
- *The Boy Who Owned the School* by Gary Paulsen
- *The Burning Questions of Bingo Brown* by Betsy Cromer Byars
- *The Canada Geese Quilt* by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock, illustrated by Leslie W. Bowman
- *Cricket and the Cracker Box Kid* by Alane Ferguson
- *Dangerous Ground* by Gloria Skurzynski
- *Eddie's Blue-Winged Dragon* by C.S. Adler
- *The Fastest Friend in the West* by Vicki Grove
- *The Gold Cadillac* by Mildred Taylor, illustrated by Max Ginsberg
- *The High Rise Glorious Skittle Skat Roarious Sky Pie Angel Food Cake* by Nancy Willard, illustrated by Richard Jesse Watson
- *Martin's Mice* by Dick King-Smith, illustrated by Jez Alborough
- *Megan's Island* by Willo Davis Roberts
- *The Monster Garden* by Vivien Alcock
- *Muggy Maggie* by Beverly Cleary
- *My Name is Not Angelica* by Scott O'Dell
- *Stargone John* by Ellen Kindt McKenzie
- *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* by Louis Sachar
- *Vision Quest* by Pamela F. Service
- *Who Invited the Undertaker?* by Ivy Ruckman

1991 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *All About Sam* by Lois Lowry
- *The Broccoli Tapes* by Jan Slepian
- *Catwings* by Ursula K. LeGuin
- *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen
- *The Fairy Rebel* by Lynne Reid Banks
- *Family Picture* by Dean Hughes
- *Flame-Colored Taffeta* by Rosemary Sutcliff

- *A Handful of Time* by Kit Pearson
- *Hey World, Here I Am!* by Jean Little, illustrated by Sue Truesdell
- *Hugh Pine and the Good Place* by Janwillem Van De Wetering, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger
- *The Lives of Christopher Chant* by Diana Wynne Jones
- *Matilda* by Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake
- *Me, Mop and the Moondance Kid* by Walter Dean Myers
- *The Most Beautiful Place in the World* by Ann Cameron
- *The Pigs Are Flying* by Emily Rodda
- *Racing the Sun* by Paul Pitts
- *Seventeenth Swap* by Eloise McGraw
- *Shades of Gray* by Carolyn Reeder, illustrated by Tim O'Brien
- *Starstone* by Grace Chetwin
- *Staying Nine* by Pam Conrad, illustrated by Michael Wimmer

1990 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Beethoven's Cat* by Elizabet McHugh
- *Black Star, Bright Dawn* by Scott O'Dell
- *Brother of the Heart: a Story of the Old Northwest, 1837-1838* by Joan W. Blos
- *The Case of the Watching Boy* by Robert Newman
- *Charley Skedaddle* by Patricia Beatty
- *Cry Uncle!* by Mary Jane Auch
- *Cuckoo Clock* by Mary Stolz
- *The Facts and Fictions of Minna Pratt* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Gom on Windy Mountain* by Grace Chetwin
- *I'll Meet You at the Cucumbers* by Lilian Moore, illustrated by Sharon Wooding
- *The Illyrian Adventure* by Lloyd Alexander
- *The Luck of Z.A.P. and Zoe* by Athena V. Lord, illustrated by Jean Jenkins
- *Magic Hat of Mortimer Wintergreen* by Myron Levoy
- *Mail-Order Kid* by Joyce McDonald
- *The Mermaid Summer* by Mollie Hunter
- *Redwall* by Brian Jacques
- *Stinker from Space* by Pamela F. Service
- *Teacher's Pet* by Joanna Hurwitz, illustrated by Sheila Hamanaka
- *This Island Isn't Big Enough for the Four of Us!* by Gery Greer and Robert Ruddick
- *Woof!* by Allan Ahlberg

1989 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Addie Across the Prairie* by Laurie Lawlor
- *Anastasia's Chosen Career* by Lois Lowry
- *Behave Yourself, Bethany Brant* by Patricia Beatty
- *Bodies in the Besseldorf Hotel* by Phyllis R. Naylor
- *Class Clown* by Joanna Hurwitz, illustrated by Sheila Hamanaka
- *Devil's Other Storybook* by Natalie Babbitt
- *Don't Call Me Toad* by Mary Francis Shura
- *Dr. Dredd's Wagon of Wonders* by Bill Brittain, illustrated by Andrew Glass
- *Ghost Drum* by Susan Price
- *Harry's Mad* by Dick King-Smith
- *House in the Snow* by M.J. Engh
- *The Miracle Tree* by Christobel Mattingley, illustrated by Marianne Yamaguchi
- *Mostly Michael* by Robert Kimmel Smith
- *Oliver Dibbs and the Dinosaur Cause* by Barbara A. Steiner, illustrated by Eileen Christelow
- *Pearl's Pirates* by Frank Asch
- *The Tar Pit* by Tor Seidler
- *This is Your Captain Speaking* by Ivy Ruckman
- *Trapped in Death Cave* by Bill Wallace
- *Water Sky* by Jean Craighead George

1988 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Adventures of Johnny May* by Robbie Branscum, illustrated by Deborah Howland
- *After the Dancing Days* by Margaret Rostowski
- *Babe: the Gallant Pig* by Dick King-Smith, illustrated by Maggie Kneen
- *Building Blocks* by Cynthia Voigt
- *The Eternal Spring of Mr. Ito* by Sheila Garrigue
- *General Butterfinger* by John Reynolds Gardiner, illustrated by Catherine Bowman Smith
- *A Hidden Magic* by Vivian Vande Velde, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
- *The Magic Book* by Willo Davis Roberts
- *Me, My Goat, and My Sister's Wedding* by Stella Pevsner
- *More Stories Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron, illustrated by Ann Strugnell
- *The Not-Just-Anybody Family* by Betsy Cromer Byars
- *Prairie Songs* by Pam Conrad
- *Racso and the Rats of NIMH* by Jane Leslie Conly, illustrated by Leonard Lubin
- *Return of the Indian* by Lynne Reid Banks

- *Streams to the River, River to the Sea* by Scott O'Dell
- *Switcharound* by Lois Lowry
- *Today's Special: Z.A.P. and Zoe* by Athena V. Lord
- *Wait Till Helen Comes: a Ghost Story* by Mary Downing Hahn
- *What Eric Knew* by James Howe

1987 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *The Adventures of Ali Baba Bernstein* by Johanna Hurwitz
- *And Don't Bring Jeremy* by Marilyn Levinson
- *Blair's Nightmare* by Zelpha Keatley Snyder
- *A Blue-Eyed Daisy* by Cynthia Rylant
- *The Castle in the Attic* by Elizabeth Winthrop
- *Caught in the Moving Mountains* by Gloria Skurzynski, illustrated by Ellen Thompson
- *Come Sing, Jimmy Jo* by Katherine Paterson
- *The Dark Secret of Weatherend* by John Bellairs
- *Ghost Cat* by Beverly Butler
- *Jackaroo* by Cynthia Voigt
- *Nay Nuki: Shoshoni Girl Who Ran* by Kenneth Thomasma, illustrated by Eunice Hundley
- *Nutty and the Case of the Ski-Slope Spy* by Dean Hughes
- *Quentin Corn* by Mary Stolz, illustrated by Pamela Johnson
- *The Root Cellar* by Jane Lunn, illustrated by N.R. Jackson
- *Search for Grissi* by Mary Francis Shura
- *Skinnybones* by Barbara Park
- *Soup on Ice* by Robert Newton Peck, illustrated by Charles Robinson
- *Stay Away from Simon!* by Carol Carrick, illustrated by Donald Carrick
- *The War with Grandpa* by Robert Kimmel Smith

1986 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Acorn Quest* by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Susanna Natti
- *Eight Mules from Monterey* by Patricia Beatty
- *The Flunking of Joshua T. Bates* by Susan Shreve, illustrated by Diane de Groat
- *The Ghosts of Austwick Manor* by Reby Edmond MacDonald
- *The Girl with the Silver Eyes* by Willo Davis Roberts
- *The Horse in the Attic* by Eleanor Clymer
- *I Be Somebody* by Hadley Irwin
- *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord, illustrated by Marc Simont

- *Me and the Weirdos* by Jane Sutton
- *Mitzi and Frederick the Great* by Barbara Williams, illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully
- *Night of the Twisters* by Ivy Ruckman
- *Out of the Bug Jar* by Kathleen Thomas
- *Rich Mitch* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
- *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* by Alvin Schwartz, illustrated by Brett Helquist
- *Switching Tracks* by Dean Hughes
- *The Talking Earth* by Jean Craighead George
- *Time's Up!* by Florence Parry Heide
- *Where's Buddy* by Ron Roy
- *The Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree* by Bill Brittain, illustrated by Andrew Glass
- *Zan Hagen's Marathon* by R.R. Knudson

1985 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Behind the Attic Wall* by Sylvia Cassedy
- *The Celery Stalks at Midnight* by James Howe, illustrated by Leslie Morrill
- *Chester Cricket's New Home* by George Selden
- *The Curse of the Blue Figurine* by John Bellairs
- *Dancing Carl* by Gary Paulsen
- *Devil's Donkey* by Bill Brittain
- *The Gift* by Joan Lowery Nixon, illustrated by Andrew Glass
- *The Great Ringtail Garbage Caper* by Timothy Foote
- *Homesick: My Own Story* by Jean Fritz
- *The Journey of the Shadow Bairns* by Margaret Jean Anderson
- *Moffat Museum* by Eleanor Estes
- *The One Hundredth Thing About Caroline* by Lois Lowry, illustrated by Diane de Groat
- *Peppermints in the Parlor* by Barbara Brooks Wallace
- *The Pet-Sitting Peril* by Willo Davis Roberts
- *The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner, illustrated by Marcia Sewall
- *Toad Food and Measle Soup* by Christine McDonnell, illustrated by G. Brian Karas
- *The Trouble with Tuck: The Inspiring Story of a Dog Who Triumphs Against All Odds* by Theodore Taylor
- *What a Wimp!* by Carol Carrick

1984 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Anastasia Again* by Lois Lowry

- *Apple is My Sign* by Mary Riskind
- *The Cat that was Left Behind* by Carol S. Adler
- *Coydog* by Evelyn Wilde Mayerson
- *The Crystal Child* by Barbara Wersba & Donna Diamond
- *Hello...Wrong Number* by Marilyn Sachs
- *Honestly Myron* by Dean Hughes
- *How it Feels When a Parent Dies* by Jill Krementz
- *I Am the Cat* by Lee Bennett Hopkins
- *Journey to an 800 Number* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *Lost in the Devil's Desert* by Gloria Skurzynski
- *New Neighbors for Nora* by Joanna Hurwitz
- *The Night Journey* by Kathryn Lasky
- *The Night Swimmers* by Betsy Cromer Byars
- *Pennies for the Piper* by Susan McLean
- *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* by Beverly Cleary, illustrated by Tracy Dockray
- *The 79 Squares* by Malcom J. Bosse
- *Summer Switch* by Mary Rodgers
- *Thousand Camps* by Mary Waldorf
- *Where Are You, Angela Von Hauptmann, Now That I Need You?* by Barbara Williams

1983 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Anastasia Krupnik* by Lois Lowry
- *Arthur the Kid* by Alan Coren
- *Bunnica: a Rabbit Tale of Mystery* by Deborah Howe & James Howe, illustrated by Alan Daniel
- *The Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling, illustrated by Margot Apple
- *Eddie, Incorporated* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *First Travel Guide to the Moon* by Rhonda Blumberg
- *The Fledgling* by Jane Langton
- *I Carve Stone* by Joan Fine
- *Last Was Lloyd* by Doris Buchanan Smith
- *The Legend of Scarface: a Blackfeet Indian Tale* by Robert San Souci, illustrated by Dan San Souci
- *Long View into Space* by Seymour Simon
- *Nutty for President* by Dean Hughes
- *Save Queen of Sheba* by Louise Moeri
- *Son for a Day* by Corinne Gerson
- *The Stories Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron, illustrated by Ann Strugnell

- *Throwing Shadows* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *Thor Heyerdahl: Viking Scientist* by Wyatt Blassingame
- *Westmark* by Lloyd Alexander
- *Words in Our Hands* by Ada B. Litchfield, illustrated by Helen Cogancherry

1982 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Childtimes: a Three Generation Memoir* by Eloise Greenfield & Lessie Jones Little, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
- *City of Birds and Beasts: Behind the Scenes at the Bronx Zoo* by Jack Denton Scott, photographs by Ozzie Sweet
- *Connie's New Eyes* by Bernard Wolf
- *The Deadly Mandrake* by Larry Callen, illustrated by Larry Johnson
- *Do Bananas Chew Gum?* by Jamie Gilson, illustrated by Michael Garland
- *Eat the Fruit, Plant the Seed* by Millicent Ellis Selsam
- *Ghosts I Have Been* by Richard Peck
- *The Headless Horseman Rides Tonight: More Poems to Trouble Your Sleep* by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by Arnold Lobel
- *Ida Early Comes Over the Mountain* by Robert Burch
- *The Island of the Grass King* by Nancy Willard, illustrated by David McPhail
- *Mr. Yowder and the Giant Bull Snake* by Glen Rounds
- *On the Frontier with Mr. Audubon* by Barbara Brenner, illustrated by Gary Lippincott
- *Salted Lemons* by Doris Buchanan Smith
- *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls
- *Superfudge* by Judy Blume
- *Weird & Wacky Inventions* by Jim Murphy
- *Weird Henry Berg* by Sarah Sargent
- *Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus?* by Jean Fritz, illustrated by Margot Tomes
- *A Very Young Skater* by Jill Krementz

1981 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Alan Mendelsohn, the Boy from Mars* by Daniel Pinkwater
- *Beat the Turtle Drum* by Constance C. Greene
- *The Bones on Black Spruce Mountain* by David Budbill
- *Brendan the Navigator* by Jean Fritz
- *The Cartoonist* by Betsy Cromer Byars
- *Chameleon was a Spy* by Diane R. Massie

- *Conquista!* by Clyde Robert Bulla & Michael Syson, illustrated by Ronald Himler
- *Eddie's Menagerie* by Carolyn Haywood, illustrated by Ingrid Fetz
- *The Eyes of Amaryllis* by Natalie Babbitt
- *Girl Who Married a Ghost, and Other Tales from the North American Indian* edited by John Bierhorst, photographs by Edward S. Curtis
- *Goblin, a Wild Chimpanzee* by Geza Teleki & Karen Steffy
- *Humbug Mountain* by Sid Fleischman
- *The Letter, The Witch, and the Ring* by John Bellairs, illustrated by Richard Egelski
- *My Village: Sturbridge* by Gary Bowen
- *The Odyssey of Ben O'Neal* by Theodore Taylor
- *A Swiftly Tilting Planet* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *A Very Young Gymnast* by Jill Krementz
- *Warton's Christmas Eve Adventure* by Russell Erickson
- *Wind is not a River* by Arnold A. Griese, illustrated by Glo Coalson
- *Zia* by Scott O'Dell

1980 Children's Fiction Nominees

- *Abel's Island* by William Steig
- *And This is Laura* by Ellen Conford
- *Below the Root* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder
- *Billion For Boris* by Mary Rodgers
- *Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?* by Jean Fritz, illustrated by Margot Tomes
- *The First Two Lives of Lucas-Kasha* by Lloyd Alexander
- *The Garden is Doing Fine* by Carol J. Farley, illustrated by Lynn Sweat
- *The Great Gilly Hopkins* by Katherine Paterson
- *The Hundred Penny Box* by Sharon Bell Mathis & Leo Dillon, illustrated by Diane Dillon
- *Hundredth Dove and Other Tales* by Jane Yolen
- *In the Face of Danger* by Mara Kay
- *Is There Life on a Plastic Planet?* by Mildred Ames
- *Philip Hall Likes Me. I Reckon Maybe* by Bette Greene, illustrated by Charles Lilly
- *The Pinballs* by Betsy Cromer Byars
- *Pyramid* by David MacAulay
- *Ramona and Her Father* by Beverly Cleary, illustrated by Tracy Dockray
- *Somebody Else's Child* by Roberta Silman
- *A Toad for Tuesday* by Russell E. Erickson
- *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt