

# Awards that Celebrate Diversity in Children's Literature

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So, you have just read “Day of Diversity: Extending the Dialogue, Encouraging the Action” (page 23) and you are eager to buy and promote diverse books, and read and support award-winning books given by diverse groups. But, where do you start? Right here! Below we've listed a sampling of book awards and recommended reading lists that highlight high-quality literature for young people about diverse peoples and triumphs of the human spirit.

The focus, given below for each award, was taken directly from descriptions at the award websites. Please visit individual sites for more information about the awards.

## **Jane Addams Children's Book Awards**

Jane Addams Peace Association

<http://bit.ly/cal-addams>

*First awarded:* 1953

*Focus:* books that effectively promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and equality.

## **American Indian Youth Literature Awards**

American Indian Library Association

<http://bit.ly/cal-aiyla>

*First awarded:* 2006

*Focus:* writing and illustrations by and about American Indians.

## **Américas Award**

Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs

<http://bit.ly/cal-aba>

*First awarded:* 1993

*Focus:* books that authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the U.S.

## **Arab American Book Award**

Arab American National Museum

<http://bit.ly/cal-aaba>

*First awarded:* 2007

*Focus:* books written by and about Arab Americans.

## **Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature**

Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association

<http://bit.ly/cal-apaal>

*First awarded:* 2003

*Focus:* books about Asian/Pacific Americans and their heritage.

## **Mildred L. Batchelder Award**

ALSC

<http://bit.ly/cal-mlba>

*First awarded:* 1968

*Focus:* books originally published in a language other than English in a country other than the U.S., and subsequently translated into English for publication in the U.S.

## **Pura Belpré Awards**

ALSC

<http://bit.ly/cal-pba>

*First awarded:* 1996

*Focus:* books that best portray, affirm, and celebrate the Latino cultural experience.

## **Amelia Bloomer Book List**

ALA

<http://bit.ly/cal-abbl>

*First released:* 2002

*Focus:* books with significant feminist content.

## **The Christopher Awards**

The Christophers

<http://bit.ly/cal-ca>

*First awarded:* 1949

*Focus:* media that affirm the highest values of the human spirit.



**Dolly Gray Children's Literature Award**

Council for Exceptional Children

<http://bit.ly/cal-dga>

*First awarded:* 2000

*Focus:* books that appropriately portray individuals with developmental disabilities.

**Ezra Jack Keats Book Award**

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

<http://bit.ly/cal-ejkba>

*First awarded:* 1985

*Focus:* books that portray universal qualities of childhood, strong and supportive family, and multiculturalism.

**Coretta Scott King Book Awards**

ALA

<http://bit.ly/cal-cska>

*First awarded:* 1970

*Focus:* books that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values.

**Walter Dean Myers Award**

We Need Diverse Books

<http://bit.ly/cal-wdma>

*First awarded:* February 2016

*Focus:* books that best exemplify Myers's commitment to providing children with powerful mirrors and windows.

**National Jewish Book Award**

Jewish Book Council

<http://bit.ly/cal-njba>

*First awarded:* children's literature, 1952; picture book, 1983

*Focus:* books of Jewish interest.

**Notable Books for a Global Society**

International Reading Association

<http://bit.ly/cal-nbgs>

*First awarded:* 1996

*Focus:* books that enhance understanding of individuals and cultures throughout the world.

**Once Upon a World Children's Book Award**

Museum of Tolerance

<http://bit.ly/cal-ouw>

*First awarded:* 1996

*Focus:* books that deal with issues of tolerance, diversity, and social justice.

**Rainbow Book List**

ALA

<http://bit.ly/cal-rbl>

*First released:* 2008

*Focus:* books with significant and authentic GLBTQ content.

**Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award**

Texas State University

<http://bit.ly/cal-trba>

*First awarded:* 1996

*Focus:* literature that depicts the Mexican American experience.

**Schneider Family Book Award**

ALA

<http://bit.ly/cal-sfba>

*First awarded:* 2004

*Focus:* books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience.

**Skipping Stones Honor Awards**

Skipping Stones Magazine

<http://bit.ly/cal-ssha>

*First released:* 1994

*Focus:* multicultural and nature books.

**Stonewall Book Awards**

ALA

<http://bit.ly/cal-sba>

*First awarded:* 1971

*Focus:* books relating to the GLBT experience.

**Sydney Taylor Book Award**

Association of Jewish Libraries

<http://bit.ly/cal-stba>

*First awarded:* 1968

*Focus:* books that authentically portray the Jewish experience.

**Carter G. Woodson Book Awards**

National Council for the Social Studies

<http://bit.ly/cal-cwba>

*First awarded:* 1974

*Focus:* social studies-related books that depict ethnicity and race relations sensitively and accurately.