

2016 Américas Award Children's and Young Adult Literature

Rationale

To encourage and commend authors, illustrators and publishers who produce quality children's and young adult books that portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States, and to provide teachers with recommendations for classroom use, the national Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) offers up to two annual book awards, together with a commended list of titles.

Criteria

Up to two awards (for primary and secondary reading levels) are given in recognition of U.S. published works of fiction, poetry, folklore, or selected non-fiction (from picture books to works for young adults) that authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States. By linking the Americas, the intent is to reach beyond geographic borders, as well as multicultural-international boundaries, focusing instead upon cultural heritages within the hemisphere.

Books will be judged for: 1) distinctive literary quality; 2) cultural contextualization; 3) exceptional integration of text, illustration and design; and 4) potential for classroom use.

Process

To nominate a **2015** copyright title, publishers are invited to submit review copies to the committee members listed on the reverse of this sheet by **January 4, 2016**. There is no entry fee. The award/commended list will be announced in the early spring of 2016, recognizing works published in 2015; the formal award presentation will be held during Hispanic Heritage Month 2016 at The Library of Congress.

Recent Winners

Separate is Never Equal by Duncan Tonatiuh (Abrams, 2014)

Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal by Margarita Engle (HMH Books, 2014)

Parrots Over Puerto Rico by Susan Roth and Cindy Trumbore, (Lee & Low Books, 2013)

The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano by Sonia Manzano. (Scholastic, 2012)

Hurricane Dancers: The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck by Margarita Engle. (Henry Holt and Company, 2011)

Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People by Monica Brown; Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. (Henry Holt and Company, 2011)

Clemente! by Willie Perdomo; illustrated by Bryan Collier (Holt, 2010)

The Dreamer by Pam Muñoz Ryan; illustrated by Peter Sís (Scholastic, 2010)

Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez (Knopf, 2009)

What Can You Do With a Paleta? / ¿Qué puedes hacer con una paleta? by Carmen Tafolla; illustrated by Magaly Morales (Tricycle Press, 2009)

Just in Case: A Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book by Yuyi Morales (Roaring Brook Press, 2008)

The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom by Margarita Engle (Holt, 2008)

See reverse for submission directions/addresses.

Publishers: Please send **eight copies of the nominated book** (one each) to Américas Review Committee Members (including the ex-officio member) and the Award Coordinators. Thank you.

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Children's and Young Adult Literature**

Review Committee Members

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