

## Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature

### BEST MULTICULTURAL CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF 2016

Compiled by Dr. Claudette Shackelford McLinn, Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada,  
Dr. Sujin B.E. Huggins, and Ana-Elba Pavon

**ADA'S VIOLIN: THE STORY OF THE RECYCLED ORCHESTRA OF PARAGUAY**, by Susan Hood, illustrated by Sally Wren Comport, 40 pages, published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**AS BRAVE AS YOU**, by Jason Reynolds, 410 pages, published by A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**BOOKED**, by Kwame Alexander, 314 pages, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction/novel in verse)

**CITY SHAPES**, by Diana Murray, illustrated by Bryan Collier, 40 pages, published by Little, Brown and Company, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**FIRST STEP, THE: HOW ONE GIRL PUT SEGREGATION ON TRIAL**, by Susan E. Goodman, illustrated by E.B. Lewis, 40 pages, published by Bloomsbury, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**FRAZZLED: EVERYDAY DISASTERS AND IMPENDING DOOM**, written and illustrated by Booki Vivat, 225 pages, published by Harper, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**FREEDOM IN CONGO SQUARE**, by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, 40 pages, published by Little Bee Books, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**FREEDOM OVER ME: ELEVEN SLAVES, THEIR LIVES AND DREAMS BROUGHT TO LIFE**, written and illustrated by Ashley Bryan, 56 pages, published by A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, historical fiction, picture book)

**GARVEY'S CHOICE**, by Nikki Grimes, 108 pages, published by WordSong, an imprint of Highlights, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction/novel in verse)



**GHOST** [Track series, Book 1], by Jason Reynolds, 181 pages, published by A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**HEAD OF THE SAINT, THE**, by Socorro Acioli, translation by Daniel Hahn, 181 pages, published by Delacorte Press, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**IN PLAIN SIGHT**, by Richard Jackson, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney, 40 pages, published by Roaring Brook Press, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**IT AIN'T SO AWFUL, FALAFEL**, by Firoozeh Dumas, 378 pages, published by Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt., ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**JAZZ DAY: THE MAKING OF A FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPH**, by Roxane Orgill, illustrated by Francis Vallejo, 55 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2016 (Elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction, poetry, picture book)

**LIFE WITHOUT NICO**, by Andrea Maturana, illustrated by Francisco Javier Olea, 36 pages, published by Kids Can Press., ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**LION ISLAND: CUBA'S WARRIOR OF WORDS**, by Margarita Engle, 163 pages, published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, historical fiction/novel in verse)

**LUCY AND LINH** by Alice Pung, 340 pages, published by Alfred A. Knopf, ©2016 (Middle school/High school, fiction)

**MAMÁ THE ALIEN / MAMÁ LA EXTRATERRESTRE**, by Rene Colato Lainez, illustrated by Laura Lacámara, 32 pages, published by Children's Book Press, an imprint of Lee & Low Books Inc., ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**MARCH: BOOK THREE**, written by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, illustrated by Nate Powell, 246 pages, published by Top Shelf Productions, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school/High school, graphic novel-memoir)

**MAYBE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL: HOW ART TRANSFORMED A NEIGHBORHOOD**, by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, illustrated by Rafael López, 40 pages each, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)



**NIGHT GARDENER, THE**, written and illustrated by The Fan Brothers, 48 pages, published by Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**PIECE OF HOME, A**, by Jeri Watts, illustrated by Hyewon Yum, 32 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**POEM FOR PETER, A: THE STORY OF EZRA JACK KEATS AND THE CREATION OF THE SNOWY DAY**, by Andrea Davis Pinkney, pictures by Lou Fancher and Steve Johnson, 60 pages, published by Viking, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, poetry, picture book)

**PREACHING TO THE CHICKENS: THE STORY OF YOUNG JOHN LEWIS**, by Jabari Asim, illustrated by E.B. Lewis, 32 pages, published by Nancy Paulsen Books, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**PRINCESS AND THE WARRIOR, THE: A TALE OF TWO VOLCANOES**, by Duncan Tonatiuh, 40 pages, published by Abrams Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Preschool/Elementary school, folklore, picture book)

**RADIANT CHILD: THE STORY OF YOUNG ARTIST JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT**, Written and illustrated by Javaka Steptoe, 40 pages, published by Little, Brown and Company, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**REAL SISTERS PRETEND**, by Megan Dowd Lambert, illustrated by Nicole Tadgell, 32 pages, published by Tilbury House Publishers, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**RUDAS: NIÑO'S HORRENDOUS HERMANITAS**, written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales, 40 pages, published by Roaring Brook Press / A Neal Porter Book, ©2016 (Preschool/Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**SACHIKO: A NAGASAKI BOMB SURVIVOR'S STORY**, by Caren Stelson, 144 pages, published by Carolrhoda Books, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school/High school, nonfiction/biography, memoir)

**SAVE ME A SEAT**, by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan, 216 pages, published by Scholastic Press, ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**SOMOS COMO LAS NUBES / WE ARE LIKE THE CLOUDS**, by Jorge Argueta, translated by Elisa Amado, illustrated by Alfonso Ruano, 36 pages, published by Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press., ©2016 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, poetry, picture book)



**STEAMBOAT SCHOOL: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, 1847**, by Deborah Hopkinson, illustrated by Ron Husband, 40 pages, published by Disney Hyperion, ©2016 (Elementary school, historical fiction, picture book)

**STORYTELLER, THE**, written and illustrated by Evan Turk, 48 pages, published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers, ©2016 (Elementary school, folklore, picture book)

**SUN IS ALSO A STAR, THE** by Nicola Yoon, 348 pages, published by Delacorte Press, ©2016 (Middle school/High school, fiction)

**THEIR GREAT GIFT: COURAGE, SACRIFICE, AND HOPE IN A NEW LAND**, by John Coy, photographs by Wing Young Huie, 32 pages, published by Carolrhoda Books, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**THUNDER BOY JR.**, by Sherman Alexie, illustrated by Yuyi Morales, 40 pages, published by Little, Brown and Company, ©2016 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**WHEN THE SEA TURNED TO SILVER**, by Grace Lin, 370 pages, published by Little, Brown and Company, ©2016 (Elementary school/Middle school, folklore,)

**WHOOSH! LONNIE JOHNSON'S SUPER-SOAKING STREAM OF INVENTIONS**, by Chris Barton, illustrated by Don Tate, 32 pages, published by Charlesbridge, ©2016 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

