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

## **BEST MULTICULTURAL CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF 2018**

Compiled by Dr. Claudette Shackelford McLinn, Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, Lettycia Terrones, and Patricia Miranda

**ALL THE STARS DENIED**, by Guadalupe Garcia McCall, 322 pages, published by Tu Books, an imprint of Lee & Low Books Inc. ©2018, ISBN 978-1-62014-281-3, (Middle school/High school, historical fiction)

**AMAL UNBOUND**, by Aisha Saeed, 266 pages, published by Nancy Paulson Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-399-54468-2 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

ATTUCKS! OSCAR ROBERTSON AND THE BASKETBALL TEAM THAT AWAKENED A CITY, by Phillip Hoose, 212 pages, published by Farrar Straus Giroux ©2018, ISBN 978-0-378-30612-0 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction)

**BELOVED WORLD OF SONIA SOTOMAYOR, THE**, by Sonia Sotomayor, 343 pages, published by Delacorte Press., ©2018, ISBN 978-1-5247-7114-0 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction/autobiography)

**BETWEEN THE LINES: HOW ERNIE BARNES WENT FROM THE FOOTBALL FIELD TO THE ART GALLERY**, by Sandra Neil Wallace, illustrated by Bryan Collier, 230 pages, published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, A Paula Wiseman Book, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4814-4387-6 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**BETTY BEFORE X**, by Ilyasah Shabazz with Renée Watson, 248 pages, published by Farrar Straus Giroux ©2018, ISBN 978-0-374-30610-6 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**BIG MOONCAKE FOR LITTLE STAR, A**, written and illustrated by Grace Lin, 40 pages, published by Little Brown and Company, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-316-40448-8 (Preschool/Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

CARLOS SANTANA SOUNDS OF THE HEART, SONG OF THE WORLD, by Gary Golio, illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez, 40 pages, published by Christy Ottaviano Books, Henry Holt and Company, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-62779-512-8 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)



**CARMELA FULL OF WISHES**, by Matt De La Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson, 40 pages, published by G.P. Putman's Sons, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-399-54904-5 (Preschool/Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

COUNTING ON KATHERINE: HOW KATHERINE JOHNSON SAVED APOLLO 13, by Helaine Becker, illustrated by Dow Phumiruk, 40 pages, published by Henry Holt and Company, Christy Ottaviano Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-250-13752-4 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

CRESCENT MOONS AND POINTED MINARETS: A MUSLIM BOOK OF SHAPES, by Hena Khan, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini, 32 pages, published by Chronicle Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4521-5541-8 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**DAY YOU BEGIN, THE**, by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López, 32 pages, published by Nancy Paulson Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-399-24653-1 (Preschool/Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**DRAWN TOGETHER**, by Minh Lě, illustrated by Dan Santat, 40 pages, published by Disney-Hyperion, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4847-6760-3 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**DREAMERS**, written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales, 40 pages, published by Neal Porter Books, Holiday House, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-8234-4055-9 (Preschool/Elementary school, nonfiction/autobiography, picture book)

**FINDING LANGSTON**, by Lesa Cline-Ransome, 107 pages, published by Holiday House, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-8234-3960-7 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**5 O'CLOCK BAND, THE**, by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews with Bill Taylor, illustrated by Bryan Collier, 40 pages, published by Abrams Books for Young Readers, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4197-2836-5 (Elementary school, nonfiction/autobiography, picture book)

**FRANKIE FINDS THE BLUES**, by Joel Harper, illustrated by Gary Kelley, 40 pages, published by Freedom Three Publishing, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-9714254-7-7 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**FRONT DESK**, by Kelly Yang, 286 pages, published by Arthur A. Levine Books, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., ©2018, ISBN 978-1-338-157779-6 (Upper elementary/Middle school, fiction)



FRONTERA, LA: EL VIAJE CON PAPÁ - MY JOURNEY WITH PAPA, by Deborah Mills and Alfredo Alva, illustrated by Claudia Navarro, 48 pages, published by Barefoot Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-78285-388-6 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book, bilingual)

**GAME CHANGERS: THE STORY OF VENUS AND SERENA WILLIAMS**, written by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome, 48 pages, published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, A Paula Wiseman Book, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-78285-388-6 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**GHOST BOYS**, by Jewell Parker Rhodes, 313 pages, published by Little, Brown and Company, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-316-26228-6 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**GIFT FROM ABUELA, A**, written and illustrated by Cecilia Ruiz, 38 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-7636-9267-4 (Preschool/Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**GRANDMA'S PURSE**, written and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newman, 32 pages, published by Alfred A. Knopf, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-5247-1431-4 (Preschool/Kindergarten, fiction, picture book)

**HARBOR ME**, by Jacqueline Woodson, 176 pages, published by Nancy Paulson Books, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-399-25252-5 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**HOLI COLORS**, by Rina Singh, photos by various photographers, 24 pages, published by Orca Book Publishers, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4598-1849-1 (Preschool/Kindergarten, nonfiction, board book)

**ISLANDBORN**, by Junot Diaz, illustrated by Leo Espinosa, 48 pages, published by Dial Books for Young Readers, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-7352-2986-0 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**JAZZ OWLS: A NOVEL OF THE ZOOT SUIT RIOTS**, by Margarita Engle, art by Rudy Gutierrez, 179 pages, published by Atheneum, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-5344-0943-9 (Middle school/High School, historical fiction/novel in verse)

**JOURNEY OF LITTLE CHARLIE, THE**, by Christopher Paul Curtis, 234 pages, published by Scholastic Press, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-545-15666-0 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, historical fiction)



**JULIÁN IS A MERMAID**, written and illustrated by Jessica Love, 40 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-7636-9045-8 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**MARTIN RISING: REQUIEM FOR A KING**, by Andrea Davis Pinkney, paintings by Brian Pinkney, 127 pages, published by Scholastic Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-545-70253-9 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction/biography, poetry, picture book)

**ME, FRIDA, AND THE SECRET OF THE PEACOCK RING**, by Angela Cervantes, 220 pages, published by Scholastic Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-338-15931-8 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**MEMPHIS, MARTIN, AND THE MOUNTAINTOP: THE SANITATION STRIKE OF 1968**, by Alice Fay Duncan, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie, 40 pages, published by Calkins Creek, an imprint of Highlights, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-62979-718-2 (Upper elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**MERCI SUÁREZ CHANGES GEARS**, by Meg Medina, 355 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-7636-9049-6 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**NIGHT DIARY, THE**, by Veera Hiranandani, 264 pages, published by Dial Books for Young Readers, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-7352-2851-1 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**NO SMALL POTATOES: JUNIUS G. GROVES AND HIS KINGDOM IN KANASS**, by Tonya Bolden, illustrated by Don Tate, 40 pages, published by Alfred A. Knopf, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-385-75276-3 (Elementary school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**OCEAN MEETS SKY,** written and illustrated by Terry Fan and Eric Fan, 48 pages, published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4814-7037-7 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)

**PARKER INHERITANCE, THE**, by Varian Johnson, 331 pages, published by Arthur A. Levine Books, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., ©2018, ISBN 078-0-545-94617-9 (Upper elementary/Middle school, fiction)

**PATCHWORK BIKE, THE**, by Maxine Beneba Clarke, illustrated by Van Thanh Rudd, 40 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2018, ISBN 078-1-5362-0031-7 (Elementary school, fiction, picture book)



**PHOTOGRAPHIC: THE LIFE OF GRACIELA ITURBIDE**, by Isabel Quintero and Zeke Peña, 95 pages, published by The J. Paul Getty Museum, ©2018, ISBN 078-1-947440-00-5 (Middle school/High school, nonfiction/biography, graphic novel)

**POET X, THE**, by Elizabeth Acevedo, 361 pages, published by HarperTeen, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-06-266280-4 (/Middle school/High school, fiction/novel in verse)

**REBOUND**, by Kwame Alexander, 414 pages, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-544-86813-7 (Middle school/High school, fiction/novel in verse)

**SEASON OF STYX MALONE, THE**, by Kekla Magoon, 297 pages, published by Wendy Lamb Books, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-5247-1595-3 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**SERPENT'S SECRET, THE** [Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond series, Book One], by Sayantani Dasgupta, illustrated by Vivienne To, 338 pages, published by Scholastic Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-338-18570-6 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction)

**SO TALL WITHIN: SOJOURNER TRUTH'S LONG WALK TOWARD FREEDOM**, by Gary D. Schmidt, illustrated by Daniel Minter, 48 pages, published by Roaring Brook Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-62672-872-1 (Upper elementary school, middle school, nonfiction/biography, picture book)

**UNDOCUMENTED: A WORKER'S FIGHT**, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh, unpaged, published by Abrams Comicarts, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-4197-2854-9 (Upper elementary school/Middle school, fiction, graphic novel)

**WE ARE GRATEFUL: OTSALIHELIGA**, by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Frané Lessac, 32 pages, published by Charlesbridge, ©2018, ISBN 978-1-58089-772-3 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

WE RISE, WE RESIST, WE RAISE OUR VOICES, edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson, 87 pages, published by Crown Books for Young Readers, ©2018 ISBN 978-0-525-58042-3 (Elementary school/Middle school, nonfiction, poetry)

WELCOME TO COUNTRY: A TRADITIONAL ABORIGINAL CEREMONY, by Aunty Joy Murphy, illustrated by Lisa Kennedy, 32 pages, published by Candlewick Press, ©2018, ISBN 978-0-7636-9499-9 (Elementary school, nonfiction, picture book)

**WHAT IS LIGHT?** By Markette Sheppard, illustrated by Cathy Ann Johnson, 22 pages, published by Bolden, An Agate Imprint [A Denene Millner Book], ©2018, ISBN 978-1-5728-4247-2 (Preschool/Kindergarten, fiction, board book)

