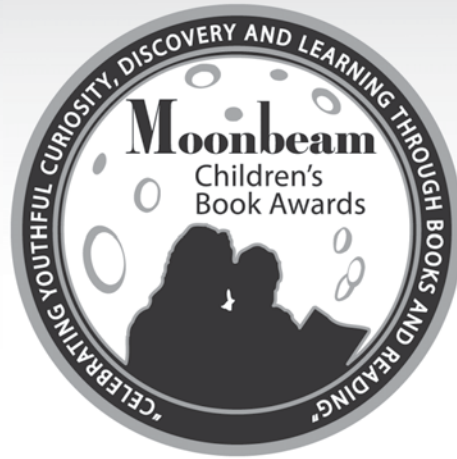


CELEBRATING YOUTHFUL CURIOSITY, DISCOVERY AND LEARNING THROUGH BOOKS AND READING.



2020  
**Moonbeam**  
Children's  
Book Awards

Presented by Jenkins Group and IndependentPublisher.com in conjunction with the Traverse City Children's Book Festival



# Welcome to the 2020 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards!

*Established in 2007, the Moonbeam Awards are designed to bring increased recognition to exemplary children's books and their creators, and help these special books get the attention of booksellers, librarians, parents, and young readers.*

*We all know about the importance of early childhood literacy, but what does it take to inspire a new generation of readers? It takes children falling in love with books—and it's up to us as parents, teachers, and publishers to make sure our kids do fall in love—by surrounding them with great books and helping them begin a lifelong love affair with reading.*

*The annual Moonbeam Children's Book Awards contest has this philosophy of "book love" at its core, and Jenkins Group is proud to announce this year's 153 medal-winners. We congratulate the authors, illustrators and publishers from 38 U.S. states, 4 Canadian provinces, and 7 countries overseas for their dedication to inspiring young people.*

*The Moonbeam Awards honor those who create the books that help kids fall in love with reading, and start them on a path of life-long reading enjoyment.*

*Congratulations to all the 2020 Moonbeam Award winners!*

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Front cover (gold), back cover (silver), and interior images (bronze) provided by the Best Illustrator category medalists.

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*front cover illustrations by* Caia Koopman  
reprinted with permission from *Umijoo: The Wondrous Tale of a Curious Girl and Her Journey Under the Sea*  
by Casson Trenor, *published by* Shark & Siren Press

# 2020 MOONBEAM AWARDS RESULTS

## MOONBEAM SPIRIT AWARDS

A handful of standout books are chosen each year for their dedication to children's literacy and for inspired writing, illustrating and publishing. This year we chose books in five different areas. All recipients will receive gold medals.

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### COMPASSION

*Sister Butterfly: An Illustrated Story with Songs about Inclusion, Belonging, and Compassion*, by Mike Mirabella; illustrated by Amy O'Hanlon (Mirabella Books)

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### PRESERVATION

*Omar, el jaguar*, written and illustrated by Andrea Olatunji (Self-Published)

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### EXPLORATION

*ABC Adventures with Fuzzlewump and Grizzlegrump*, by Sara Galm; illustrated by Brian Schmidt (Beaver's Pond Press)

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### ACTIVISM

*Young Kap: I Know My Rights*, by Kingsley Osei; illustrated by Elaine Davis (International Publications Media Group)

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### MINDFULNESS

*Finding Om*, by Rashmi Bismark; illustrated by Morgan Huff (Mango & Marigold Press)

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## MOONBEAM AWARD PRINT CATEGORIES

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### 1. BOARD BOOK / CLOTH BOOK

**GOLD:** *I Love You Bigger Than the Sky*, by Michelle Medlock Adams (Worthykids/Hachette Book Group)  
**SILVER:** *Baby Carrot*, by Terri Saville-Sewell (Xlibris)  
**BRONZE:** *Fingerpaintin'*, by Terry Jackson; illustrated by Jason Fowler (Terry Jackson)

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### 2. ALPHABET / COUNTING BOOK

**GOLD:** *Animals Are Everywhere*, by Mike Costa (Summit Studios Press)  
**SILVER:** *Pirates Stuck at "C"*, by Brooke Van Sickle; illustrated by Gabriela Dieppa (BiblioKid Publishing)  
**BRONZE:** *A-B-Skis: An Alphabet Book About the Magical World of Skiing*, by Libby Ludlow; Illustrated by Nathan Y Jarvis (Libby Ludlow, LLC)



illustration by Yuke Li

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Written and illustrated by Yuke Li, Self-Published

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### 3. BOOK ARTS / POP-UP / CUT-OUT

**GOLD:** *Flora: A Botanical Pop-Up Book, Paper Engineering* by Yoojin Kim; Illustration by Kathryn Selbert; text by Nicole Yen (Jumping Jack Press)  
**SILVER:** *The Easter Unicorn: A Magical Pop-Up Book, Paper Engineering* by Renee Jablow; Illustration by Rebecca Jones; text by Janet Lawler (Jumping Jack Press)  
**BRONZE:** *Language Adventures: A Funny Day at the Zoo*; by Michelle Glorieux; Illustrated by Kelsey Suan (TA-DA! Language Productions)

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### 4. ACTIVITY BOOK 1 – GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS, ETC.

**GOLD:** *Glacier National Park Educational Coloring Book*, by Becca Snyder (Glacier National Park Conservancy)  
**SILVER:** *Color Your World: A Walk in the Woods*, by Monica Wellington (Dover Publications)  
**BRONZE:** *Flutter, Bye*, by Krista Betcher (Beaver's Pond Press)

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### 5. ACTIVITY BOOK 2 – EDUCATIONAL, SCIENCE, HISTORY

**GOLD:** *Stamp Your Way Through the USA*, by Emily Matheny, Mary O'Hare, Rose Storey (Stamp Your Way)  
**SILVER:** *My First Book About Genetics*, by Donald M. Silver and Patricia J. Wynne (Dover Publications)  
**BRONZE:** *Spies, Code Breakers, and Secret Agents: A World War II Book for Kids*, by Carole P. Roman (Rock Ridge Press)

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### 6. BEST ILLUSTRATOR

**GOLD:** *Umijoo: The Wondrous Tale of a Curious Girl and Her Journey Under the Sea*, by Casson Trenor; illustrated by Caia Koopman (Shark & Siren Press)  
**SILVER (tie):** *The Big Old Rambutan Tree*, by Kathy Creamer (Little Pink Dog Books)  
*A Mystery in the Forest*, by Susanna Isern; illustrated by Daniel Montero Galán (Cuento de Luz)  
**BRONZE:** *The Tiger in My Yard*, Written and illustrated by Yuke Li (Self-Published)

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## 7. PICTURE BOOK – PRESCHOOL

**GOLD:** *Feeling Special*, by Jennifer Kurani; illustrated by Valentina Jaskina (Sky Pony Press)

**SILVER:** *Oh Brother, Little Brother*, by Candid Brandon; illustrated by Alexandra Tatu (Brandon Publishing)

**BRONZE:** *Good Night Baby, Baby*, by Cindy Similien; illustrated by Jeric Tan (CSJ Media Publishing)

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## 8. PICTURE BOOK – 4-8 YEAR OLD

**GOLD:** *Don't Let the Beasties Escape This Book!*, by Julie Berry; illustrated by April Lee (Getty Publications)

**SILVER (tie):** *Bob in a Box*, Written and illustrated by Joe Jamaldinian (JoeJ Productions)

*Fly, Fly Again*, by Katie Jaffe & Jennifer Lawson; illustrated by Tammie Lyon (Greenleaf Book Group Press)

**BRONZE:** *The Dirt Girl*, Written and illustrated by Jodie Dee (Jodi Dee Publishing)

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## 9. PICTURE BOOK – ALL AGES

**GOLD:** *Willa's House*, by David Booth; illustrated by Renia Metallinou (Plumleaf Press)

**SILVER:** *Millie and the Warm Wind*, by Jenna Winship; illustrated by Rachel Eleanor (Redemption Press)

**BRONZE (tie):** *To The Ends of the Earth*, by Sharon Thayer; illustrated by Reuben McHugh and Andrew Smith (Carousel Publishing)

*Ivan the Stupid and Ivania the Klutz*, by Pat Hall; illustrated by Rachael Balsaitis (Crow's Foot Books)

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## 10. JUVENILE FICTION – EARLY READER / FIRST CHAPTER BOOKS

**GOLD:** *Código 7: Descifrando el código para una vida épica (La edición en español y inglés); Code 7: Cracking the Code for an Epic Life (English-Spanish Bilingual Edition)*, by Bryan R. Johnson (Candy Wrapper)

**SILVER:** *Mystery in Bethlehem (Bell Tower Adventures #1)*, by Cole Blumer and Susanne Blumer (Bell Tower Bible)

**BRONZE:** *Surf Angel: Legend of the Pink Dolphin*, by Terry Kraszewski & Heather Dawn Kraszewski; illustrated by Bonnie Bright (Surf Angel Publications)

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## 11. PRE-TEEN FICTION – GENERAL

**GOLD:** *Joss*, by Erin Falligant (American Girl)

**SILVER (tie):** *The Fifth Favorite*, by Gale Sears (Crosslink) *Leo Gray and the Lunar Eclipse*, by K.J. Kruk (Greenleaf Book Group Press)

**BRONZE:** *Selah's Stolen Dream*, by Susan Count (Hastings Creations Group)

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## 12. PRE-TEEN FICTION – FANTASY

**GOLD (tie):** *The Words of the Wandering (The Crowns of Crowwald Book III)*, by D.E. Night (Stories Untold Press) *Unwritten*, by Tara Gilboy (North Star Editions)

**SILVER:** *Dwarf Story*, by Professor W. W. Marplot (Waxing Gibbous Books)

**BRONZE:** *Excerpts From An Unknown Guidebook Book 2: Cave in the Rock*, by Josef Bastian (Folkteller)

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## 13. PRE-TEEN FICTION – MYSTERY

**GOLD:** *Nutmeg Street: Egyptian Secrets*, by Sherrill Joseph (Acorn Publishing)

**SILVER:** *The Sea Turtle's Curse: A Delta & Jax Mystery*, by Susan Diamond Riley (KoehlerBooks)

**BRONZE (tie):** *Puppy Ciao*, by Annette O'Hare (Elk Lake Publishing, Inc.)

*The Mystery of the Painted Book: Pen & Quin:International Agents of Intrigue Book 1*, by KS Mitchell (Vinspire Publishing)

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## 14. PRE-TEEN FICTION – HISTORICAL / CULTURAL

**GOLD:** *Gidjie and the Wolves*, by Tashia Hart (Not Too Far Removed Press)

**SILVER:** *Beatrice On Her Own*, by Rosemary Zibart (Artemesia Publishing)

**BRONZE:** *Red Dove, Listen to the Wind*, by Sonia Antaki (Red Chair Press)

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## 15. PRE-TEEN FICTION – MATURE ISSUES

**GOLD:** *Fly Back, Agnes*, by Elizabeth Atkinson (Carolrhoda)

**SILVER:** *Swallowed by a Secret*, by Risa Nyman (Immortal Works)

**BRONZE:** *Corona Island*, by Johanna Sweet (Penobscot Books)

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## 16. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – GENERAL

**GOLD:** *Chasing the Sun*, by Melanie Hooyenga (Left-Handed Mitten Publications)

**SILVER (tie):** *The Best Week that Never Happened*, by Dallas Woodburn (Month9Books)

*When We Vanished*, by Alanna Peterson (Rootcity Press)

**BRONZE:** *Dare Accepted*, by D.A. Reed (Self-Published)

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## 17. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – FANTASY / SCI-FI

**GOLD (tie):** *The Return of the Dragon Queen*, by Farah Oomerbhoy (Wise Ink)

*Seeker*, by Kim Chance (Flux)

**SILVER:** *Fyrian's Fire*, by Emily H. Jeffries (Girl Friday)

**BRONZE (tie):** *Inside the Sun: Book Three in The 8th Island Trilogy*, by Alexis Marie Chute (Spark Press)

*Heartmender*, by V. Romas Burton (Monster Ivy Publishing)

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## 18. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – HORROR / MYSTERY / SUPERNATURAL

**GOLD:** *Shadow in the Dark*, by Antony Barone Kolenc (Loyola Press)

**SILVER:** *The Weight of a Soul*, by Elizabeth Tammi (Flux)

**BRONZE:** *The Red Labyrinth*, by Meredith Tate (Flux)

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## 19. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – HISTORICAL / CULTURAL

**GOLD:** *Across A Broken Shore*, by Amy Trueblood (Flux)

**SILVER:** *A Wounded Deer Leaps Highest*, by C.P. Mangel (Eyewear Publishing)

**BRONZE:** *Teddy Roosevelt, Millie, and the Elegant Ride*, by Jean M. Flahive (Philip W. Morse)

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## 20. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – RELIGION / SPIRITUALITY

- GOLD:** *Blaze*, by Hope Bolinger (IlluminateYA)  
**SILVER:** *Shards of Light*, by Susan Miura (Vinspire Publishing)  
**BRONZE:** *Sticks and Stones*, by Dianne Beck (Acorn Publishing)

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## 21. YOUNG ADULT FICTION – MATURE ISSUES

- GOLD:** *The Quiet You Carry*, by Nikki Barthelmess (Flux)  
**SILVER:** *Tinfoil Crowns*, by Erin Jones (Flux)  
**BRONZE:** *Memorable*, by Laurisa White Reyes (Skyrocket Press)

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## 22. POETRY

- GOLD:** *One Trillion Bright Futures*, written and illustrated by Kellen Pierson (Pine Grove Media)  
**SILVER:** *Chuckles and Smiles*, by Raven Howell; illustrated by Jordan Wray (Warren Publishing)  
**BRONZE:** *Bathing Kitty and Other Mischievous Poems*, by L.W. Lewiss; illustrated by Marta Capdevila (Mascot Books)

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## 23. NON-FICTION – PICTURE BOOK

- GOLD:** *Beijing: A Symmetrical City*, written and illustrated by Dawu Yu; adapted by Yan Liu; translated by Crystal Tai (1 Plus Books)  
**SILVER:** *When Phillis Wheatley Was Young*, by Victoria Holder; illustrated by Eunae Jo (English EGG)  
**BRONZE:** *Willy and Lilly's Adventures with Weather*, by Jennifer Stanonis; illustrated by Bill Blenk (Crisscross Applesauce)

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## 24. NON-FICTION – CHAPTER BOOK

- GOLD:** *Stand Up! Be an Upstander and Make a Difference*, by Wendy L. Moss, PhD (Magination Press)  
**SILVER:** *Making a Difference: Using Your Talents and Passions to Change the World*, by Melissa Seymour; illustrated by Stevie Lewis (American Girl Publishing)  
**BRONZE:** *Hugh Armstrong Robinson: The Story of Flying Lucky 13*, by Billie Holladay Skelley; illustrated by Rachel Bowman (Goldminds Publishing)

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## 25. ANIMALS / PETS - FICTION

- GOLD:** *ME-NOW: The Adventures of Mickey The Mushing Cat*, by Leon Mensch (Relevant Publishers LLC)  
**SILVER:** *From Wild to Mild: A Dog in Two Worlds*, by Sunny Weber (Pups & Purrs Press)  
**BRONZE:** *Gus Finds His Way Home*, by Karen Nicksich; illustrated by Steph Bucci (Self-Published)

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## 26. ANIMALS/PETS NON-FICTION

- GOLD:** *Our Animal Neighbors: Compassion for Every Furry, Slimy, Prickly Creature on Earth*, by Matthieu Ricard and Jason Gruhl; illustration by Becca Hall (Shambhala Publications)  
**SILVER (tie):** *Please Love Me Like I Love You*, by Kip Fechner; illustrated by Janis Ullrich Dillon (Self-Published)  
*Ivy the Very Determined Dog*, by Chris & Maureen Harrington; illustrated by Charlotte Bruijn (Bromfield Press)  
**BRONZE:** *Fuzzy the Eagle: The True Story of an Eaglet's Journey to Freedom*, by Tracy L. Mikowski with Lisa Wamsley; illustrated by P.M. Richard (Talking Crow Publishing)

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## 27. MULTICULTURAL NON-FICTION

- GOLD:** *Be Bold! Be Brave!: 11 Latinas who made U.S. History*, by Naibe Renoso; Illustrated by Jone Leal (Con Todo Press)  
**SILVER:** *Passion and Purpose: Black Female Surgeons*, edited by Dr. Praise Matemavi (A2Z Press)  
**BRONZE:** *Learning Culture through Reciting and Singing Classic Poems*, by Dr. Xiaokang Zhou; Translated by Xiaokang Zhou and T. Gourdon (Peking University Press)

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## 28. COMIC/GRAPHIC NOVEL

- GOLD:** *Stonebreaker*, by Peter Wartman (Uncivilized Books)  
**SILVER:** *Once & Future: Finest Hour*, by Brian Donnelly; Art by Jean Pedroso and Ed Dukeshire (Mythographer's Workshop)  
**BRONZE:** *Galileo! Galileo!*, by Holly Trechter and Jane Donovan (Sky Candle Press)

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## 29. RELIGION

- GOLD:** *Everyone Belongs*, by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; illustrated by Kristin Sorra (Loyola Press)  
**SILVER:** *Good Night, Fireflies*, by Janet L. Christensen; illustrated by Francesca Pesci (Little Lamb Books)  
**BRONZE:** *When God Made Color*, by Sheri Carmon; illustrated by Silver Bluebird Studios (WhiteSpark Publishing)



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### 30. HOLIDAY

- GOLD:** *The Night of His Birth*, by Katherine Paterson; illustrated by Lisa Aisato (Flyaway Books)
- SILVER:** *'Twas the Night Before ChristMOOSE*, by Vicki Addesso Dodd; illustrated by Patrick Jankowski (Saratoga Springs Publishing)
- BRONZE:** *The Pumpkin Room*, by Mark Milbrath (Nightforest Press)

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### 31. BOOK WITH MERCHANDISE (PLUSH TOY, ETC.)

- GOLD:** *Wizard Pickles* (with plush King Pickle), written and illustrated by Chuck Whelan (Golden Bell's Polar Press)
- SILVER:** *Bella Sophia: A Mermaid's Tale* (with Jewelry Box, Necklace, and Lunch Bag), by Maxine Carlson; illustrated by Drew McSherry (Huckleberry Hill Adventure)
- BRONZE:** *Kitty and Kat: BatButts* (with Book Bag), by Robert Beals III; illustrated by Blueberry Illustrations (Self-Published)

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### 32. SPANISH LANGUAGE BOOK

- GOLD:** *El secreto de las piedras*, by Anya Damirón; illustrated by Pablo Pino (Anya)
- SILVER:** *Ricky Ricordi: Las aventuras de una iguana*, by Nelia Barletta; Illustrated by Juan Manuel Moreno (Fundación Ambar)
- BRONZE:** *Mei Ling en la Ciudad China: Divididas por la guerra*, unidas por toda una vida de cartas, by Icy Smith; Illustrated by Gayle Garner Roski (East West Discovery Press)

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### 33. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- GOLD:** *Pogo the Porpoise with a Purpose*, by Lorie Givens (Buck Stop Publishing)
- SILVER:** *See the Sea*, by Alese & Morton Pechter (Pechter Photo)
- BRONZE:** *The Krayon Kids: Going Green*, by Karen Marquez Morales (Mascot Books)

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### 34. HEALTH ISSUES

- GOLD:** *Your Body, Sick and Well: How Do You Know?*, by Steven Clark Cunningham, M.D.; illustrated by Susan Detwiler (Three Conditions Press)
- SILVER:** *Surgery on Sunday*, by Kat Harrison; illustrated by Shane Crampton (Warren Publishing)
- BRONZE:** *Little Miss Linda Speaks Out about Sickle Cell Disease*, by Dr. Linda J.M. Holloway; illustrated by Ryan Battle (Self-Published)

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### 35. MIND-BODY-SPIRIT/SELF-ESTEEM

- GOLD:** *Crushes: Dating, Rejection, and Other Stuff*, by Nancy Holyoke; illustrated by Elisa Chavarri (American Girl)
- SILVER:** *Spirit Child*, by Laura Thomas Vroman; illustrated by Jane Delaford Taylor (Seven Hills Publishing)
- BRONZE:** *What Do You See When You Look At Me?*, by Indigo Skye; illustrated by Jeanine Henning (Indigo Skye Books)

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### 36. BEST FIRST BOOK – PICTURE BOOK

- GOLD:** *Home: A Story of Resilience and Healing*, by Carrie Barnes; illustrated by Lyn Meredith (Roundtree Press)
- SILVER (tie):** *Eowyn, Your Song Is Your Story*, by Kam Walters; illustrated byJaimee Walters (TRANS(form)ed Press)
- Happy Love Sprinkles*, by Maria DiCostanzo and Kim Messina; illustrated by Aleksandra Szmidt (Moon Crumbs Publishing)
- BRONZE:** *My Moon Wish*, Written and illustrated by Jane Brown (Butler Books)

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### 37. BEST FIRST BOOK – CHAPTER BOOK

- GOLD:** *Simone Lafray and the Chocolatiers' Ball*, by S.P. O'Farrell (Brandylane Publishers)
- SILVER:** *Ever Alice*, by HJ Ramsay (Red Rogue Press)
- BRONZE:** *Mia, Ripples in the Water*, by D. A. Jennings (Self-Published)

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### 38. BEST BOOK BY YOUTH AUTHOR (UNDER 18)

- GOLD:** *The Wishner's Curse*, by Camille S. Campbell (Time Together Publishing)
- SILVER:** *Where Is My Teacher?*, by Dalal Ghanim Al-Rumaihi; Illustrated by Nikos Yanopoulos (Hamad Bin Khalifa University Press)
- BRONZE:** *Quacky Smacky & Tacky*, by John Browne; illustrated by Alan Tollefson (Browne+Browne Books)

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### 39. BEST BOOK SERIES – PICTURE BOOK

- GOLD:** *EQ Explorers Little Adventures*, by Kim Linette; illustrated by James Loram (Kapalua Cove)
- SILVER:** *Live Big Series*, by Kat Kronenberg (Greenleaf Book Group Press)
- BRONZE:** *Jazz Fly 1, 2 & 3*, written and performed by Matthew Gollub; illustrated by Karen Hanke (Tortuga Press)

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### 40. BEST BOOK SERIES – CHAPTER BOOK

- GOLD:** *Witches of Orkney Series*, by Alane Adams (SparkPress)
- SILVER:** *The Bald Princess Series*, by Rachel Rose Gray and Tricia O'Neill Politte; illustrated byKim Sponaugle (Halo Publishing International)
- BRONZE (tie):** *Guinevere Trilogy*, by Cheryl Carpinello (Beyond Today Educator)
- Helper Hounds Series*, by Caryn Rivadeneira; illustrated by Priscilla Alpaugh (Red Chair Press)

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### 41. BEST BOOK SERIES – NON-FICTION

- GOLD:** *Gold Medal Games*, by Aaron Derr; Illustrated by Thomas Sperling (Red Chair Press)
- SILVER:** *Iceland: The Puffin Explorer Series*, text and photography by RA Anderson (My Favorite Books Publishing Company)
- BRONZE:** *K.C. & Kayla's Science Corner*, by Carol Basdeo; illustrated by Romualdo Mena Jr. (Lauco Press)



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## EBOOK CATEGORIES

### E1. CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK

**GOLD:** *Theodore and The Bear from London*, by Cory Q Tan  
(The Luminous Cat)

**SILVER:** *Lundi the Lost Puffin*, by Eric Newman (Iceland  
With Kids)

**BRONZE:** *The Last Christmas Tree*, by Deborah Hoffman  
(Mascot Books)

### E2. PICTURE BOOK – ENHANCED & APPS

**GOLD:** *Language Adventures: A Funny Day at the Zoo*,  
by Michelle Glorieux (Ta-Da! Language Productions)

**SILVER:** *G is for Gael*, by Shelayne Hanson; illustrated by Etta  
Moffat (Bradán Press)

**BRONZE:** *But the Sparrow Stayed*, by Norman Whaler  
(Beneath Another Sky Books)

### E3. PRE-TEEN FICTION

**GOLD:** *Frankie and the Gift of Fantasy*, by Ruthy Ballard  
(WhipSmart Books)

**SILVER:** *The Trebors*, by Caroline C. Barney (TouchPoint  
Press)

**BRONZE:** *The Weaver's Daughter*, by Sylvia Patience (Self-  
Published)

### E4. YOUNG ADULT FICTION

**GOLD:** *Dragonfly Maid*, by DD Croix (Self-Published)

**SILVER:** *How the Deer Moon Hungers*, by Susan Wingate  
(Susan Wingate Writing)

**BRONZE (tie):** *Spirit Sight*, by Marie Powell (Wood Dragon  
Books)

*The Heart Changer: Only He Could Set a Captive Free*, by  
Jarm Del Boccio (Ambassador International)

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*All the Moonbeam award winning titles are available from major suppliers, or by contacting Jim Barnes, Awards Director*

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