



The Coretta Scott King Book Narrative Awards 1970-2024



To commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to honor Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Awarded annually to recognize outstanding books for young adults and children by African American authors and illustrators that reflect the African American experience.

2024: **Nigeria Jones** written by Ibi Zoboi (YA FICTION Zoboi)

Honor Books

Big written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison (JE Harrison)

How Do You Spell Unfair?: MacNolia Cox and the National Spelling Bee written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by Frank Morrison

Kin: Rooted in Hope written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by Jeffery Boston Weatherford

2023: **Freewater** written by Amina Luqman-Dawson (J Luqman-Dawson)

Honor Books

Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler written by Ibi Zoboi (JB Butler)

The Talk written by Alicia D. Williams and illustrated by Briana Mukodiri Uchendu (JE Williams)

Victory. Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice written by Tommie Smith and Derrick Barnes and illustrated by Dawud Anyabwile (YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Smith)

2022: **Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre** written by Carole Boston Weatherford (J 976.6 Wea)

Honor Books

Home is not a Country written by Safia Elhillo (YA FICTION Elhillo)

Revolution in Our Time written by Kekla Magoon (YA 323.1196 Mag)

The People Remember written by Ibi Zoboi and illustrated by Loveis Wise

2021: **Before the Ever After** written by Jacqueline Woodson (J Woodson)

Honor Books

All the Days Past, All the Days to Come written by Mildred D. Taylor (YA FICTION Taylor)

King and the Dragonflies written by Kacen Callender (YA FICTION Callender)

Lifting as We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box written by Evette Dionne (J 323.34 Dio)

2020: **New Kid** written by Jerry Craft (J GN Craft)

Honor Books

The Stars and the Blackness Between Them written by Junauda Petrus

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky written by Kwame Mbalia (J Mbalia)

Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks written by Jason Reynolds (J Reynolds)

2019: **A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919** written by Claire Hartfield (YA 305.896 Har)

Honor Books

Finding Langston written by Lesa Cline-Ransome (J Cline-Ransome)

The Parker Inheritance written by Varian Johnson (J Johnson)

The Season of Styx Malone written by Kekla Magoon (J Magoon)

2018: **Piecing Me Together** written by Renée Watson (YA FICTION Watson)

Honor Books

Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut written by Derrick Barnes and illustrated by Gordon C. James (JE Barnes)

Long Way Down written by Jason Reynolds (YA FICTION Reynolds)

The Hate U Give written by Angie Thomas (YA FICTION Thomas)

Created by Youth Services (ED)

January 2024

- 2017: **March: Book Three** written by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin (YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Lewis)
Honor Books
As Brave as You written by Jason Reynolds (J Reynolds)
Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life by Ashley Bryan written and illustrated by Ashley Bryan (J 811.6 Bry)
- 2016: **Gone Crazy in Alabama** written by Rita Williams-Garcia (YA FICTION Williams-Garcia)
Honor Books
All-American Boys written by Jason Reynolds (YA FICTION Reynolds)
The Boy in the Black Suit written by Jason Reynolds (YA FICTION Reynolds)
X: A Novel written by Ilyasah Shabazz with Kekla Magoon (J Shabazz)
- 2015: **Brown Girl Dreaming** written by Jacqueline Woodson (JB Woodson)
Honor Books
The Crossover written by Kwame Alexander (YA FICTION Alexander)
How I Discovered Poetry written by Marilyn Nelson and illustrated by Hadley Hooper
How It Went Down written by Kekla Magoon
- 2014: **P.S. Be Eleven** written by Rita Williams-Garcia (YA FICTION Williams-Garcia)
Honor Books
March: Book One written by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin and illustrated by Nate Powell (YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Lewis)
Darius & Twig written by Walter Dean Myers
Words with Wings written by Nikki Grimes
- 2013: **Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America** written by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Honor Books
Each Kindness written by Jacqueline Woodson and illustrated by E.B. Lewis (JE Woodson)
No Crystal Stair: A Documentary Novel of the Life and Work of Lewis Michaux, Harlem Bookseller written by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
- 2012: **Heart and Soul: the Story of American and African Americans** written by Kadir Nelson (J 973.0496073 Nel)
Honor Books
The Great Migration: Journey to the North written by Eloise Greenfield and illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist (J 811.54 Gre)
Never Forgotten written by Patricia C. McKissack and illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon (JE Mckissack)
- 2011: **One Crazy Summer** written by Rita Williams-Garcia (YA FICTION Williams-Garcia)
Honor Books
Lockdown written by Walter Dean Myers (YA FICTION Myers)
Ninth Ward written by Jewell Parker Rhodes (J Rhodes)
Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty written by G. Neri (YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Neri)
- 2010: **Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshall** (JB Reeves)
 written by Vaundau Micheaux Nelson
Honor Books
Mare's War written by Tanita S. Davis
- 2009: **We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball** written by Kadir Nelson (J 796.357 Nel)
Honor Books
Keeping the Night Watch written by Hope Anita Smith
The Blacker the Berry written by Joyce Carol Thomas and illustrated by Floyd Cooper (J 811.54 Tho)
Becoming Billie Holiday written by Carol Boston Weatherford (YA FICTION Weatherford)

- 2008: **Elijah of Buxton** written by Christopher Paul Curtis (J Curtis)
Honor Books
November Blues written by Sharon M. Draper (YA FICTION Draper)
Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali written by Charles R. Smith Jr. and illustrated by Bryan Collier
- 2007: **Copper Sun** written by Sharon M. Draper (YA FICTION Draper)
Honor Books
The Road to Paris written by Nikki Grimes (J Grimes)
- 2006: **Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue** written by Julius Lester (YA FICTION Lester)
Honor Books
Maritcha: A Nineteenth-Century American Girl written by Tonya Bolden (J 974.71 Bol)
Dark Sons written by Nikki Grimes
A Wreath for Emmett Till written by Marilyn Nelson and illustrated by Philippe Lardy (YA 811.54 Nel)
- 2005: **Remember: The Journey to School Integration** written by Toni Morrison (J 379.2 Mor)
Honor Books
The Legend of Buddy Bush written by Sheila P. Moses (YA FICTION Moses)
Fortune's Bones: The Manumission Requiem written by Marilyn Nelson
Who Am I without Him?: Short Stories about Girls and the Boys in Their Lives written by Sharon G. Flake (YA FICTION Flake)
- 2004: **The First Part Last** written by Angela Johnson (YA FICTION Johnson)
Honor Books
Days of Jubilee: The End of Slavery in the United States written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (J 973.7 Mck)
Locomotion written by Jacqueline Woodson (YA 811.54 Woo)
The Battle of Jericho written by Sharon Draper (YA FICTION Draper)
- 2003: **Bronx Masquerade** written by Nikki Grimes (YA FICTION Grimes)
Honor Books
The Red Rose Box written by Brenda Woods (J Woods)
Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman written by Nikki Grimes and illustrated by E.B. Lewis (JB Coleman)
- 2002: **The Land** written by Mildred D. Taylor (J Taylor)
Honor Books
Money-Hungry written by Sharon G. Flake (YA FICTION Flake)
Carver: A Life in Poems written by Marilyn Nelson (YA 811.54 Nel)
- 2001: **Miracle's Boys** written by Jacqueline Woodson (J Woodson)
Honor Books
Let It Shine! Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters written by Andrea Davis Pinkney and illustrated by Stephen Alcorn (J 323.092 Pin)
- 2000: **Bud, Not Buddy** written by Christopher Paul Curtis (J Curtis)
Honor Books
Francie written by Karen English (J English)
Black Hands, White Sails: The Story of African-American Whalers written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (J 639.2 Mck)
Monster written by Walter Dean Myers (YA FICTION Myers)

- 1999: **Heaven** written by Angela Johnson
Honor Books
Jazmin's Notebook written by Nikki Grimes
Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence: The Story of New York's African Burial Ground written by Joyce Hansen and Gary McGowan
The Other Side: Shorter Poems written by Angela Johnson (J 811 Joh)
- 1998: **Forged by Fire** written by Sharon M. Draper (J Draper)
Honor Books
Bayard Rustin: Behind the Scenes of the Civil Rights Movement written by James Haskins
I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl written by Joyce Hansen (J Hansen)
- 1997: **Slam!** written by Walter Dean Myers
Honor Books
Rebels Against Slavery: American Slave Revolts written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (J 970 Mck)
- 1996: **Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales** written by Virginia Hamilton (J 398.2 Ham)
Honor Books
The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963 written by Christopher Paul Curtis (J Curtis)
Like Sisters on the Homefront written by Rita Williams-Garcia (YA FICTION Williams-Garcia)
From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun written by Jacqueline Woodson
- 1995: **Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters** written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (J 975.03 Mck)
Honor Books
The Captive written by Joyce Hansen (J Hansen)
I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This written by Jacqueline Woodson (J Woodson)
Black Diamond: Story of the Negro Baseball League written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (J 796.357 Mck)
- 1994: **Toning the Sweep** written by Angela Johnson
Honor Books
Brown Honey in Broomwheat Tea written by Joyce Carol Thomas (J 811.54 Tho)
Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary written by Walter Dean Myers (YA B Malcolm x)
- 1993: **The Dark-Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural** written by Patricia McKissack and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (J Mckissack)
Honor Books
Mississippi Challenge written by Mildred Pitts Walter (J 305.896 Wal)
Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman? written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (JB Truth)
Somewhere in the Darkness written by Walter Dean Myers
- 1992: **Now Is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom** written by Walter Dean Myers (J 973.049 Mye)
Honor Books
Night on Neighborhood Street written by Eloise Greenfield
- 1991: **The Road to Memphis** written by Mildred D. Taylor (J Taylor)
Honor Books
Black Dance in America written by James Haskins
When I Am Old with You written by Angela Johnson

1990: **A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter** written by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack

Honor Books

Nathaniel Talking written by Eloise Greenfield and illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist

The Bells of Christmas written by Virginia Hamilton and illustrated by Lambert Davis (J Hamilton)

Martin Luther King Jr. and the Freedom Movement written by Lillie Patterson

1989: **Fallen Angels** written by Walter Dean Myers

Honor Books

A Thief in the Village and Other Stories written by James Berry

Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave written by Virginia Hamilton (YA B Burns)

1988: **The Friendship** written by Mildred D. Taylor (J Taylor)

Honor Books

An Enchanted Hair Tale written by Alexis De Veaux

The Tales of Uncle Remus: The Adventure of Brer Rabbit written by Julius Lester (J 398.2 Les)

1987: **Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World** written by Mildred Pitts Walter and illustrated by Catherine Stock

Honor Books

Lion and the Ostrich Chicks and Other African Folk Tales written and illustrated by Ashley Bryan

Which Way Freedom written by Joyce Hansen

1986: **The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales** written by Virginia Hamilton and illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon (J 398.2 Ham)

Honor Books

Junius Over Far written by Virginia Hamilton

Trouble's Child written by Mildred Pitts Walter

1985: **Motown and Didi** written by Walter Dean Myers

Honor Books

Circle of Gold written by Candy Dawson Boyd

A Little Love written by Virginia Hamilton

1984: **Everett Anderson's Goodbye** written by Lucille Clifton and illustrated by Ann Grifalconi

Honor Books

The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl written by Virginia Hamilton

Lena Horne written by James Haskins

Bright Shadow written by Joyce Carol Thomas

Because We Are written by Mildred Pitts Walter

1983: **Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush** written by Virginia Hamilton (J Hamilton)

Honor Books

This Strange New Feeling written by Julius Lester

1982: **Let the Circle Be Unbroken** written by Mildred D. Taylor

Honor Books

Rainbow Jordan written by Alice Childress

Lou in the Limelight written by Kristin Hunter

Mary: An Autobiography written by Mary E. Mebane

1981: **This Life** written by Sidney Poitier

Honor Books

Don't Explain: A Song of Billie Holiday written by Alexis De Veaux

1980: **The Young Landlords** written by Walter Dean Myers

Honor Books

Movin' Up written by Berry Gordy

Childtimes: A Three Generation Memoir written by Eloise Greenfield and Lessie Jones Little

Andrew Young: Young Man with a Mission written by James Haskins

James Van Der Zee: The Picture Takin' Man written by James Haskins

Let the Lion Eat Straw written by Ellese Southerland

1979: **Escape to Freedom: A Play About Young Frederick Douglass** written by Ossie Davis

Honor Books

Benjamin Banneker written by Lillie Patterson

I Have a Sister, My Sister is Deaf written by Jeanne W. Peterson

Justice and Her Brothers written by Virginia Hamilton

Skates of Uncle Richard written by Carol Fenner

1978: **Africa Dream** written by Eloise Greenfield and illustrated by Carole Byard

Honor Books

The Days When Animals Talked Back: Black Folk Tales and How They Came to Be written by William J. Faulkner

Marvin and Tige written by Frankcina Glass

Mary McCleod Bethune written by Eloise Greenfield

Barbara Jordan written by James Haskins

Coretta Scott King written by Lillie Patterson

Portia: The Life of Portia Washington Pittman, the Daughter of Booker T. Washington written by Ruth Ann Stewart

1977: **The Story of Stevie Wonder** written by James Haskins

Honor Books

Everett Anderson's Friend written by Lucille Clifton

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry written by Mildred D. Taylor (J Taylor)

Quick Book on Black America written by Clarence N. Blake and Donald F. Martin

1976: **Duey's Tale** written by Pearl Bailey

Honor Books

Julius K. Nyerere: Teacher of Africa written by Shirley Graham

Paul Robeson written by Eloise Greenfield

Fast Sam, Cool Clyde and Stuff written by Walter Dean Myers

Song of the Trees written by Mildred D. Taylor (J Taylor)

1975: **The Legend of Africana** written by Dorothy Robinson

1974: **Ray Charles** written by Sharon Bell Mathis and illustrated by George Ford (JB Charles)

Honor Books

A Hero Ain't Nothing but a Sandwich written by Alice Childress

Do You Remember? written by Lucille Clifton

Ms Africa: Profiles of Modern African Women written by Louise Crane

Guest in the Promise Land written by Kristin Hunter

Mukasa written by John Nagenda

1973: **I Never Had It Made: The Autobiography of Jackie Robinson** written by Jackie Robinson and Alfred Duckett

1972: **Seventeen Black Artists** written by Elton C. Fax

1971: **Black Troubador: Langston Hughes** written by Charlemae Rollins

Honor Books

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings written by Maya Angelou (Paperback Classics Angelou)

Unbought and Unbossed written by Shirley Chisholm

I Am a Black Woman written by Mari Evans

Every Man Heart Lay Down written by Lorenz Graham

The Voice of the Children written by June Jordan and Terri Bush

Black Means written by Gladys Groom and Bonnie Grossman

Ebony Book of Black Achievement written by Margaret W. Peters

Mary Jo's Grandmother written by Janice May Udry

1970: **Martin Luther King Jr.: Man of Peace** written by Lillie Patterson