

## **Best New Books 2008-2009**

### **Bonnie Campbell Hill**

#### **BEST NEW PICTURE BOOKS**

*Zen Ties* by Jon Muth (2008)  
*Tupelo Rides the Rails* by Melissa Sweet (2008)  
*A Visitor for Bear* by Bonny Becker, ill y Kady MacDonald Denton (2008)  
*Little Hoot* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, ill. Jen Corace (2008)  
*The Retired Kid* by Jon Agee (2008)  
*A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever* by Marla Frazee (2008)  
*Twenty Heartbeats* by Dennis Hasleley, ill. By Ed Young (2008)  
*Yoko Writes Her Name* by Rosemary Wells (2008)  
*Born to Read* by Judy Sierra, ill by Marc Brown (2008)  
*The Cobbler's Holiday or Why Ants Don't Wear Shoes* by Musharraf Ali Farooqi, ill by Eugene Yelchin (2008)  
*That Book Woman* by Heather Henson, ill by David Small (2008)

#### **BEST FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION**

*Princess Ben* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (2008)  
*Test* by William Sleator (2008)  
*Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow* by Jessica Day George (2008)  
*The Sky Inside* by Clare Dunkle (2008)  
*The Diamond of Darkhold* by Jeanne DuPrau (2008)  
*Breaking Dawn* (2008) by Stephenie Meyer  
*Brisinger* by Christopher Paolini (2008)  
*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins (2008)  
*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman (2008) Newbery Winner  
*The Humming of Numbers* by Joni Sensel (2008)  
*Savvy* by Ingrid Law (2008)  
*Bloodhound* by Tamora Pierce (2009)

#### **BEST NONFICTION**

*Looking for Miza: The True Story of the Mountain Gorilla Family Who Rescued One of Their Own* by Juliana Hatkoff, Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff and Paula Kahumbu (2008)  
*Frogs* (2008) by Nic Bishop  
*Artist to Artist: 23 Major Illustrators Talk to Children about Their Art.* (2008)  
*Greater Estimations* by Bruce Goldstone (2008)  
*The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary* by Candace Fleming (2008)  
*The Houdini Box* by Brian Selznick (2008)  
*Knucklehead* by Jon Scieszka (2008)  
*Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg & Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson & Susan Roth (2009)

#### **BEST NEW FICTION (NOVELS)**

*Lost and Found* (2008) and *Extra Credit* (2009) by Andrew Clements, ill by Mark Elliot  
*Six Innings* by James Preller (2008)  
*Beanball* by Gene Fehler (2008)  
*The Mysterious Case of the Allbright Academy* by Diane Stanley (2008)  
*Bird Like Moon* by Kevin Henkes (2008)  
*Swindle* by Gordon Korman (2008)  
*Clementine's Letter* by Sara Pennypacker, ill by Marla Frazee (2008)

*The Underneath* by Kathi Applet, ill by David Smith (2008)  
*The Penderwicks on Gardam Street* by Jeanne Birdsall (2008)  
*Love That Cat* by Sharon Creech (2008)  
*3 Willows: The Sisterhood Grows* by Ann Brashares (2009)  
*Word Nerd* by Susin Nielsen (2008)  
*Write Before Your Eyes* by Lisa Williams Kline (2008)  
*The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman Philbrick (2009)  
*Peace, Locomotion* by Jacqueline Woodson (2009)  
*Love, Aubrey* by Suzanne LaFleur (2009)

### **BEST HISTORICAL FICTION AND BIOGRAPHIES (PICTURE BOOKS) (including contemporary issues in other countries)**

*My Heart Glow: Alice Cogswell, Thomas Gallaudet and the Birth of American Sign Language* by Emily Arnold McCully (2008)  
*We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball* by Kadir Nelson (2008)  
*Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai* by Claire A. Nivola (2008)  
*What To Do About Alice?* By Barbara Kerley, ill by Edwin Fotheringham (2008)  
*How I Learned Geography* by Uri Shulevitz (2008)  
*Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad* by James Rumford (2008)  
*Walking to School* by Eve Bunting (2008)  
*Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope* by Nikki Grimes, ill by Bryan Collier (2008)  
*Lincoln and Douglas* by Nikki Grimes, ill by Bryan Collier (2008)  
*Afghan Dreams: Young Voices of Afghanistan* by Tony O'Brien & Mike Sullivan (2008)  
*One Beetle Too Many: The Extraordinary Adventure of Charles Darwin* by Kathryn Lasky, ill by Matthew Trueman (2009)  
*Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln* by Doreen Rappoport, ill by Kadir Nelson (2008)  
*Manjiro: The Boy Who Risked His Life for Two Countries* by Emily Arnold McCully (2008)  
*Coretta Scott* by Ntozake Shange, ill by Kadir Nelson (2009)

### **BEST UNTOLD TALES (PICTURE BOOKS) OR OTHER VIEWPOINTS**

*Owney, the Mail-Pouch Pooch* by Mona Kerby, ill by Lynne Barasch (2008)  
*Manjiro* by Emily Arnold McCully (2008)  
*Sparrow Girl* by Sara Pennypacker, ill by Yoko Tanaka (2009)  
*Independent Dames* by Laurie Halse Anderson, ill by matt Faulkner (2008)

### **BEST UNTOLD TALES OR OTHER VIEWPOINTS (NOVELS)**

*The Smile* by Donna Jo Napoli (2008)

### **BEST HISTORICAL FICTION (NOVELS) (including contemporary issues in other countries)**

*Roots and Wings* by Many Ly (2008)  
*Snow Falling in Spring* by Moying Li (2008)  
*Ringside 1925: Views from the Scopes Trial* by Jen Bryant (2008)  
*Chandra's Wars* by Allan Stratton (2008)  
*Keeping Score* by Linda Sue Park (2008)  
*Child of Dandelions* by Shenaaz Nanji (2008)  
*Mao's Last Dancer* by Li Cunxin (2008)  
*The Disappeared* by Gloria Whelan (2008)  
*All the Broken Pieces* by Ann Burg (2009)  
*Chains* (2008) and *Forge* (2009 forthcoming) by Laurie Halse Anderson

## **BEST POETRY**

*Why War is Never a Good Idea* by Alice Walker, ill by Stefano Vitale (2008)  
*On the Farm* by David Elliott, ill. Holly Meade (2008)  
*Oh, Theodore! Guinea Pig Poems* by Susan Kitz, illustrated by Stacey Schuett (2008)  
*Wabi Sabi* by Mark Reibstein, art by Ed Young (2008)  
*Honeybee* by Naomi Shihab Nye (2008)  
*Well Defined: Vocabulary in Rhyme* by Michael Salinger, ill by Sam Henderson (2009)  
*More Than Friends: Poems from Him and Her* by Sara Holbrook and Allan Wolf (2008)

## **BEST YOUNG ADULT NOVELS**

*The Fortunes of Indigo Skye* (2008) by Deb Caletti  
*The Juvie Three* (2008) by Gordon Korman  
*Wintergirls* (2009) by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Shift* by Jennifer Bradbury (2008)  
*Sweethearts* by Sara Zarr (2008)  
*Ghost of Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson (2008)  
*The Opposite of Invisible* by Liz Gallagher (2008)  
*How to Build a House* by Dana Reinhardt (2008)  
*Greetings from Nowhere* by Barbara O'Connor (2008)  
*Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Myers (2008)  
*The Adoration of Jenna Fox* by Mary E. Pearson (2008)  
*House of Dance* by Beth Kephart (2008)  
*House of Djinn* by Suzanne Fisher Staples (2008)  
*Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli (2008)  
*Trouble* by Gary Schmidt (2008)  
*Slam* by Nick Hornby (2008)  
*Paper Towns* by John Green (2008)  
*Jerk, California* by Jonathan Friesen (2008)  
*Itch* by Michelle Kwasney (2008)  
*Artichoke's Heart* by Suzanne Supplee (2008)  
*The Kind of Friends We Used to Be* by Frances O'Roark Dowell (2009)  
*The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks* by E. Lockhart (2008)  
*Willow* by Julia Hoban (2009)  
*Brutal* by Michael Harmon (2009)  
*King of the Screwups* by K. L. Going (2009)  
*Just Another Hero* by Sharon Draper (2009)  
*Sprout* by Dale Peck (2009)  
*Marcelo in the Real World* by Francisco X. Stork (2009)  
*The Secret Life of Prince Charming* by Deb Caletti (2009)  
*Something, Maybe* by Elizabeth Scott (2009)  
*Front and Center* by Catherine Gilbert Murdock (2009)  
*Along for the Ride* by Sarah Dessen (2009)

## **BEST ADULT BOOKS**

*The Middle Place* by Kelly Corrigan (2008)  
*The Other* by David Guterson (2008)  
*The Host* by Stephenie Meyer (2008)  
*Beautiful Boy* by David Sheff (2008)  
*Firefly Lane* by Kristin Hannah (2008)

*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (2008)  
*The School of Essential Ingredients* by Erica Bauermeister (2009)  
*Three Little Words: A Memoir* by Ashley Rhodes-Courter (2009)  
*Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese (2009)  
*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett (2009)

Compiled by Bonnie Campbell Hill September, 2009