

Carolyn W. Field Award

The Carolyn W. Field Award was established in 1983 by the Youth Services Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association to recognize each year the best book for young people by a Pennsylvanian author or illustrator. A Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania, Carolyn Wicker Field retired in 1983 from the Free Library of Philadelphia where she served as a Coordinator of Work with Children for thirty years.

“Walter de la Mare wrote, “Only the rarest kind of best in anything can be good enough for the young.” That has been my philosophy for service to children. I am honored to have my name connected to “the best” books by Pennsylvania authors and illustrators.”

~ Carolyn W. Field

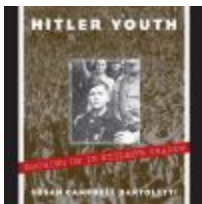
Award Recipients



2008- author Ruth White. *Way Down Deep*. In the West Virginia town of Way Down Deep in the 1950s, a foundling called Ruby June is happily living with Miss Arbutus at the local boarding house when suddenly, after the arrival of a family of outsiders, the mystery of Ruby’s past begins to unravel.



2007- author Gene Barretta. *Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin*. A clever introduction to the many contributions of this notable historical figure. His various occupations—writer, printer, diplomat, musician, humorist, postmaster, scientist, inventor, humanitarian—are written on the cobblestones beneath him. Next is a spread of a busy city street today, which challenges readers to guess which modern conveniences are owed to the subjects creativity.



2006- author Susan Campbell Bartoletti. *Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler’s Shadow*. The story of a generation of German young people who devoted all their energy to the Hitler Youth and the propaganda that gave Hitler his power, and the youths that resisted the Nazi movement.



2005- author Eileen Spinelli. *Do You Have a Hat?* Spinelli provides some great entertainment in this rhyming story that showcases the famous headgear of individuals such as Igor Stravinsky, Carmen Miranda, Abraham Lincoln, Nat Love, and Johnny Appleseed. Children will be enchanted and engaged and will certainly join in on the title refrain on each page.



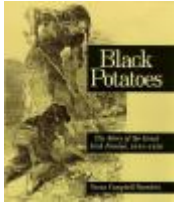
2004- author Jerry Spinelli. *Milkweed*. Holocaust survivor story for older children/teens. Spinelli's narrative is manic, fast, and scattered, authentically capturing the perspective of a young child who doesn't know if he's a Jew or a Gypsy; he has never known family or community, and witnessing brutal events. AND 2004 TIE Winner...



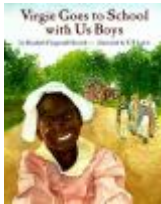
2004- author Elvira Woodruff. *The Ravenmaster's Secret*. The eleven-year-old son of the Ravenmaster at the Tower of London befriends a Jacobite rebel being held prisoner there in this exciting adventure during 18th century London. Author appends a glossary, bibliography, and five pages of notes on “The Tower through Time.”



2003- author & illustrator Judith Byron Schachner. *Yo, Vikings!* Emma fills her journals with drawings of stories and characters and when her school research on Erik the Red extends to her wishing for a Viking Ship for her birthday--dreams can come true!



2002- author Susan Campbell Bartoletti. *Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine, 1845-1850*. Illustrated with black-and-white engravings, this story is not just about the blighted potatoes or the deaths and migration of millions of people, it also tells of heroes and how they held on to hope.



2001- author Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard. *Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys*. In the post-Civil War south, a young African American girl is determined to prove that she can go to school just like her older brothers. A worthy choice for read-alouds and independent reading.



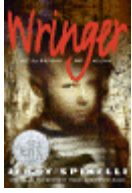
2000 – Two Winners. Author: Laurie Halse Anderson. *Speak*. A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school. This powerful novel deals with a difficult yet important topic-rape.



Author, Elvira Woodruff. *The Memory Coat*. In the early 1900s, two cousins leave their Russian shtetl to emigrate to America, hopeful they will pass the dreaded inspection at Ellis Island. A touching story showing the resiliency of those who underwent the transition, told with the fondness of a cherished memory.



1999- author Nancy Springer. *I Am Mordred: A Tale from Camelot*. When Mordred learns the identity of his father, he struggles with feelings of hatred, but also fights the fate, which determines that he, kill the good and gracious king.



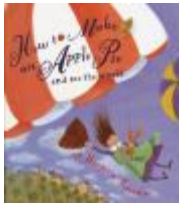
1998- author Jerry Spinelli. *Wringer*. As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a “wringer” at his town’s annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it. A moral drama sure to engage young readers and promote classroom discussion.



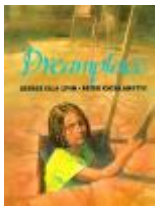
1997- author Susan Campbell Bartoletti. *Growing Up in Coal Country*. Zooming in on northeastern Pennsylvania in general, and the perspective of children in particular, author describes what life was like, especially for children, in coal mines and mining towns in the 19th and early 20th centuries.



1996- author Susan Wojciechowski. *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*. The widow McDowell and her seven-year-old son Thomas ask the gruff Jonathan Toomey, the best wood carver in the valley to carve the figures of the Christmas crèche.



1995- author & illustrator Marjorie Priceman. *How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World*. Since the market is closed, the reader is led around the world to gather the ingredients for making an apple pie; has a humorous ending! Includes a recipe.



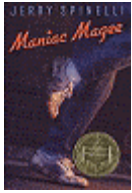
1994- illustrator Peter Catalanotto. *Dreamplace* by George Ella Lyon. Present-day visitors describe what they see when they visit the pueblos where the Anasazi lived long ago. Illustrations are rich with atmosphere, delicate with sensitivity, and dreamlike in its evocation of dual realities.



1993- author Megan McDonald. *The Great Pumpkin Switch*. An old man tells his grandchildren how he and a friend accidentally smashed the pumpkin his sister was growing and had to find a replacement.



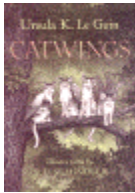
1992- author Sally M. Keehn. *I Am Regina*. In 1755, as the French and Indian War begins, ten-year-old Regina is kidnapped by Indians in Western Pennsylvania, and she must struggle to hold onto memories of her earlier life as she grows up under the name of Tskinnak and starts to become Indian herself.



1991- author Jerry Spinelli. *Maniac Magee*. After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.



1990- author William T. George, & illustrator Lindsey Barrett George. *Box Turtle at Long Pond*. On a busy day at Long Pond, Box Turtle searches for food, basks in the sun, and escapes a raccoon.



1989- illustrator Steven Schindler. *Catwings* by Ursula K. Le Guin. Four young cats with wings leave the city slums in search of a safe place to live, finally meeting two children with kind hands.



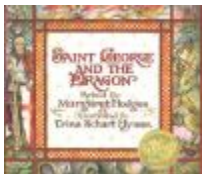
1988- illustrator Deborah Kogan Ray. *Little Tree* by E.E. Cummings. Inspired by a poem by E.E. Cummings, this is the story of a little tree that finds its own special place in the world as a much-loved Christmas tree.



1987- author Lloyd Alexander. *The Illyrian Adventure*. On a visit to a remote European kingdom in 1872, a fearless sixteen-year-old orphan and her guardian research an ancient legend and become enmeshed in a dangerous rebellion.



1986- author Fred Rogers. *The New Baby*. Explains the needs of toddlers faced with a new baby in the family and some of the changes and disruptions the baby can cause in the life of the older brother and sister.



1985- author Margaret Hodges. *Saint George and the Dragon*. Retells the segment from Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*, in which George, the Red Cross Knight, slays the dreadful dragon that has been terrorizing the countryside for years and brings peace and joy to the land.



1984- illustrator Karen Gundersheimer. *Some Things Go Together* by Charlotte Zolotow. Illustrations accompany couplets describing things that go together naturally, such as "Sand with sea" and especially "you and me."