



Garden State Children's Book Award

Fiction Nominations 2014

You can help choose the 2014 Garden State Children's Book Award Winner! Just read the books on the list below, and then let us know which one is your favorite. You have until December to vote, and the winners will be announced in January 2014. Get reading!

Dancing Home

Alma Flor Ada

When Margie's cousin Lupe comes from Mexico to live in California with Margie's family, Lupe must adapt to America, while Margie, who thought it would be fun to have her cousin there, finds that she's embarrassed by her in school and jealous of her at home



Darth Paper Strikes Back: An Origami Yoda Book

Tom Angleberger

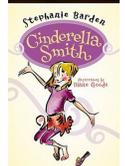
Harvey, upset when his Darth Paper finger puppet brings humiliation, gets Dwight suspended, but Origami Yoda asks Tommy and Kellan, now in seventh grade, to make a new casefile to persuade the School Board to reinstate Dwight.



Cinderella Smith

Stephanie Barden

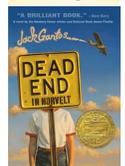
Cinderella and Erin are hard at work learning to spell real words, because whoever wins first place in the spelling bee gets to pick the theme of the class party!



Dead End in Norvelt

Jack Gantos

In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.



Zita the Space Girl

Ben Hatke

When young Zita discovers a device that opens a portal to another place, and her best friend is abducted, she is compelled to set out on a strange journey from star to star in order to get back home.



Lucky for Good

Susan Patron

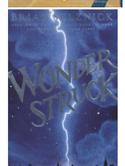
The residents of Hard Pan, California, come together to help Brigitte and Lucky when the County Health Department threatens to close down the café, and meantime Miles's life is complicated by his mother's return.



Wonderstruck

Brian Selznick

Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City, and meets there Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.



The Emerald Atlas

John Stephens

Kate, Michael, and Emma have passed from one orphanage to another in the ten years since their parents disappeared to protect them, but now they learn that they have special powers, a prophesied quest to find a magical book, and a fearsome enemy.

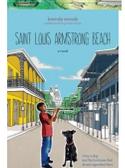


Saint Louis

Armstrong Beach

Brenda Woods

Saint Louis Armstrong Beach is enjoying life in New Orleans, playing clarinet for the tourists in his spare time, accompanied by Shadow, a local stray dog. When Hurricane Katrina approaches, Saint faces unexpected challenges in trying to rescue Shadow.



City of Orphans
Avi

The streets of 1893 New York are crowded and filthy. For thirteen-year-old newsboy Maks Geless, they are also dangerous. Bruno, leader of the awful Plug Ugly Gang, has set his sights on Maks and orders his boys to track him down. Suddenly Maks finds himself on the run, doing all he can to evade the gang.



Jacob Wonderbar and the Cosmic Space Kapow
Nathan Bransford

Sixth-grader Jacob Wonderbar is a master when it comes to disarming and annihilating substitute teachers. But when he and his best friends, Sarah and Dexter, swap a spaceship for a corn dog, they embark on an outer space adventure. Now, Jacob and his friends are in way over their heads.



True (...sort of)
Katherine Hannigan

True: Delly Pattison likes surprises (presents that are a surprise). The day the Boyds come to town, Delly's sure a special surprise is on its way.

True: Brud Kinney wants to play basketball like nothing anybody's ever seen. When the Boyds arrive, though, Brud meets someone who plays like nothing he's ever seen.

True: Ferris Boyd isn't like anyone Delly or Brud have ever met.



Till Death Do Us B Ark
Kate Klise

When a dog arrives at Spence Mansion, Seymour is overjoyed. His adoptive parents, are less enthusiastic—especially when the Secret, begins barking all night long. Is it possible he just misses his old companion, the late Noah Breth, whose children are fighting like cats and dogs over their father's money? Or does Secret have a secret that, in the end, will make the entire town of Ghastly howl with delight?



13 Gifts
Wendy Maas

When Tara steals the school mascot and gets caught, she gets herself in a heap of trouble. Her parents decide that instead of taking her on their summer trip she must go stay with her bratty cousin Emily St. Claire in Willow Falls. Tara thinks it's a good time to start over; she'll be turning 13 after all, so she might as well make the best of it. What Tara doesn't know is that this charmed town has something big in store for her on her 13th birthday.



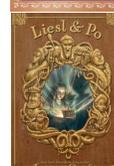
The Cats in the Doll Shop
Yona Zeldis McDonough

When Anna sees a family of stray cats behind her parents' doll shop, she knows she must rescue them. Meanwhile, Anna's cousin Tania is coming from Russia to stay with Anna's family. When Tania moves in, she's shy and nervous, and Anna's sisters don't seem to like Tania at all. Luckily, Anna finds a creative way to use her love of dolls and cats to bring everyone together.



Liesl and Po
Lauren Oliver

Liesl lives in a tiny attic bedroom, locked away by her cruel stepmother. Her only friends are the shadows and the mice—until one night a ghost named Po appears from the darkness. That same evening, an alchemist's apprentice named Will makes an innocent mistake that has tremendous consequences for Liesl and Po, and it draws the three of them together on an extraordinary journey.



Secrets at Sea
Richard Peck

The adorable tale of a family of mice stowaways on an adventurous ship's journey



Sidekicks
Dan Santat

Captain Amazing, superhero and savior of Metro City, is getting old. He's out all hours battling arch-villains, catching thieves, and helping little old ladies cross the street. He doesn't even have time for his house full of pets. He needs - a SIDEKICK! Captain Amazing's four pets agree. But each one of them thinks HE should get the sidekick spot - and a chance for one-on-one time with the Captain.



Pie
Sarah Weeks

When Alice's Aunt Polly, the Pie Queen of Ipswich, passes away, she leaves the recipe to her world famous pie-crust to her cat, Lardo. . . and then leaves Lardo in the care of Alice. Everyone wants to be the next big pie-contest winner, and it's making them pie-crazy. It's up to Alice and her friend Charlie to put the pieces together and discover the not-so-secret recipe for happiness.



The Hidden Gallery
Mayrose Wood

Fifteen-year-old Miss Penelope Lumley, a governess trained at the Swanburne Academy for Poor Bright Females, takes the three Incurrable Children of Ashton Place to London, England, and learns they are under a curse.



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