

Caldecott Award Winners ^[1]



In 1938, the first Caldecott Medal donated by Frederic G. Melcher (1879-1963)

was awarded to the illustrator of the most distinguished American picture book for children published in the United States. Since then the Caldecott Medal has been awarded annually by The Association for Library Service to Children, a section of The American Library Association.

2014

Locomotive by Brian Floca

Here are the locomotives, the iron horses, the great machines, pulling their trains behind them.

2013

This Is Not My Hat ^[2] by Jon Klassen

A tiny minnow wearing a pale blue bowler hat has a thing or two up his fins in this underwater light-on-dark chase scene.

2012

A Ball for Daisy ^[3] by Chris Raschka

A wordless picture book showing the fun a dog has with her ball, and what happens when it is lost.

2011

A Sick Day for Amos McGee ^[4] by Philip Christian Stead

"Amos McGee, a friendly zookeeper, always made time to visit his good friends: the elephant, the tortoise, the penguin, the rhinoceros, and the owl. But one day--'Ah-choo!'--he woke with the sniffles and the sneezes. Though he didn't make it into the zoo that day, he did receive some unexpected guests." Dust Jacket.

2010

The Lion and the Mouse ^[5] by Jerry Pinkney

In this wordless retelling of an Aesop fable, an adventuresome mouse proves that even small creatures are capable of great deeds when he rescues the King of the Jungle.

2009

The House in the Night ^[6]by Susan Swanson

Illustrations and easy-to-read text explore the light that makes a house in the night a home filled with light.

2008

Invention of Hugo Cabret ^[7]by Brian Selznick

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

2007

Flotsam ^[8] by David Wiesner

The story of what happens when a camera becomes a piece of flotsam. Wordless story.

2006

Hello, Goodbye Window ^[9]by Norton Juster, illus. by Chris Raschka

A little girl describes the magic kitchen window in her grandparents' home.

2005

Kitten?s First Full Moon ^[10]by Kevin Henkes

When Kitten mistakes the full moon or a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet, and hungry trying to reach it.

2004

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers ^[11] by Mordicai Gerstein

A lyrical evocation of Philippe Petit's 1974 tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers.

2003

My Friend Rabbit ^[12]by Eric Rohmann

Something always seems to go wrong when Rabbit is around, but Mouse lets him play with his toy plane anyway because he is his good friend.

2002

The Three Pigs ^[13]by David Wiesner

The three pigs escape the wolf by going into another world where they meet the cat and the fiddle, the cow that jumped over the moon, and a dragon.

2001

So You Want To Be President ^[14] by Judith St. George

Presents an assortment of facts about the qualifications and characteristics of U.S. presidents, from George Washington to Bill Clinton.

2000

Joseph Had a Little Overcoat ^[15] by Simms Taback

A very old overcoat is recycled numerous times into a variety of garments.

1999

Snowflake Bentley ^[16] by Jacqueline Briggs Martin

A biography of a self-taught scientist who photographed thousands of individual snowflakes in order to study their unique formations.

1998

Rapunzel ^[17] by Paul O. Zelinsky

A retelling of a folktale in which a beautiful girl with long golden hair is kept imprisoned in a lonely tower by a sorceress. Includes a note on the origins of the story.

1997

Golem ^[18] by David Wisniewski

A saintly rabbi miraculously brings to life a clay giant who helps him watch over the Jews of sixteenth-century Prague.

1996

Officer Buckle and Gloria ^[19] by Peggy Rathmann

The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

1995

Smoky Night ^[20] by Eve Bunting, illus. by David Diaz

In a night of rioting, Daniel and his mother are forced to leave their apartment for the safety of a shelter.

1994

Grandfather's Journey ^[21] by Allen Say

A Japanese American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America, which he later also undertakes, and describes the feelings of being torn by a love for two different countries.

1993

Mirette on the High Wire ^[22] by Emily Arnold McCully

Mirette lives in a boarding house surrounded by actors, dancers, jugglers and mimes. Her life is filled with exciting stories and fascinating people. None as magical as the stranger Mirette discovers crossing the courtyard on air--a tightrope walker. Mirette becomes the stranger's pupil and learns to walk the wire.

1992

Tuesday ^[23] by David Wiesner

The unpredictable events of a particular Tuesday unroll before the reader with the precision and clarity of a silent movie.

1991

Black and White ^[24] by David Macaulay

Four stories are told simultaneously, with each double-page spread divided into quadrants. The stories do not necessarily take place at the same moment in time, but are they really one story?

1990

Lon Po Po: Red Riding Hood ^[25] by Ed Young

Award-winning artist Ed Young illustrates the ancient Chinese version of the favorite fairy tale "Little Red Riding Hood".

1989

Song and Dance Man ^[26] by Karen Ackerman, illus. by Stephen Gammell

Grandpa demonstrates for his visiting grandchildren some of the songs, dances, and jokes he performed when he was a vaudeville entertainer.

1988

Owl Moon ^[27] by Jane Yolen

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl.

1987

Hey, Al ^[28] by Arthur Yorinks, illus. by Richard Egielski

A city janitor and his treasured canine companion are transported by a large colorful bird to an island in the sky, where their comfortable paradise existence threatens to turn them into birds as well.

1986

The Polar Express ^[29] by Chris Van Allsburg

A magical train ride on Christmas Eve takes a boy to the North Pole to receive a special gift from Santa Claus.

1985

Saint George and the Dragon ^[30] by Margaret Hodges, illus. by Trina Schart Hyman
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

The Glorious Flight ^[31] by Alice and Martin Provensen
Biography of the man who produced the Bleriot XI, the first heavier than air machine to fly the English Channel.

1983

Shadow ^[32] by Blaise Cendrars, illus. by Marcia Brown
Free verse evocation of the eerie, shifting images of Shadow which represents the beliefs and ghosts of the past and is brought to life wherever there is light, fire, and a storyteller.

1982

Jumanji ^[33] by Chris Van Allsburg
Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game.

1981

Fables ^[34] by Arnold Lobel
Twenty original fables about an array of animal characters from crocodile to ostrich.

1980

Ox-Cart Man ^[35] by Donald Hall, illus. by Barbara Cooney
Describes the day-to-day life of an early nineteenth-century New England family throughout the changing seasons.

1979

The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses ^[36] by Paul Goble
Though she is fond of her people, a girl prefers to live among the wild horses where she is truly happy and free.

1978

Noah's Ark ^[37] by Peter Spier
Retells in pictures how a pair of every manner of creature climbed on board Noah's Ark and thereby survived the Flood.

1977

Ashanti to Zulu ^[38] by Margaret Musgrove, illus. by Leo & Diane Dillon

Explains some traditions and customs of 26 African tribes beginning with letters from A to Z.

1976

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears ^[39] by Verna Aardemia

Reveals the meaning of mosquito's buzz.

1975

Arrow to the Sun ^[40] by Gerald McDermott

Explains how the spirit of the Lord of the Sun was brought to the world of men.

1974

Duffy and the Devil ^[41] by Harve Zemach

A re-creation of a 19th century Cornish play which retains all the robust, ribald qualities of the original, a plot based on Rumpelstiltskin,

1973

The Funny Little Woman ^[42] by Arlene Mosel

While chasing a dumpling, a little lady is captured by wicked creatures from whom she escapes with the means of becoming the richest woman in Japan.

1972

One Fine Day ^[43] by Nonny Hogrogian

After the old woman cuts off his tail when he steals her milk, the fox must go through a long series of transactions before she will sew it back on again.

1971

A Story, A Story ^[44] by Gail E. Haley

Recounts how most African folk tales came to be called "Spider Stories".

1970

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble ^[45] by William Steig

In a moment of fright, Sylvester the donkey asks his magic pebble to turn him into a rock but then cannot hold the pebble to wish himself back to normal again.

1969

The Fool of the World ^[46] by Arthur Ransome, illus. by Uri Schulevitz

When the Czar proclaims that he will marry his daughter to the man who brings him a flying ship, the Fool of the World sets out to try his luck and meets some unusual companions on the way.

1968

Drummer Hoff ^[47] by Barbara Emberley, illus. by Ed Emberley

A cumulative folk song in which seven soldiers build a magnificent cannon, but Drummer Hoff

fires it off.

1967

Sam, Bangs, & Moonshine ^[48] by Evaline Ness

Relates the experiences of a little girl as she learns to tell the difference between make-believe and real life.

1966

Always Room for One More ^[49]by Sorche Nic Leodhas, illus. by Nonny Hogrogian

In this Scottish folk song, a generous family always has room for another person and invites in everyone who passes by.

1965

May I Bring a Friend? ^[50]by Beatrice Schenk deRegners

A well-mannered little boy, frequently invited to visit the king and queen, always asks to bring a friend--and the friends are always wild animals--and always well-behaved.

1964

Where the Wild Things Are ^[51]by Maurice Sendak

Max sails to the land of the wild things, where he becomes their king.

1963

The Snowy Day ^[52]by Ezra Jack Keats

The adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

1962

Once a Mouse ^[53] by Marcia Brown

As it changes from mouse, to cat, to dog, to tiger, a hermit's pet also becomes increasingly vain.

1961

Baboushka and the Three Kings ^[54]by Ruth Robbins

An old woman who was too busy to travel with the Wise Men to find the Child now searches endlessly for him each Christmas season.

1960

Nine Days to Christmas ^[55]by Marie Hall Ets

Ceci's first Christmas posada party and pinata have made her Mexican town come alive for generations of readers.

1959

Chanticleer and the Fox ^[56]by Barbara Cooney

A sly fox tries to outwit a proud rooster through the use of flattery.

1958

Time of Wonder ^[57]by Robert McCloskey

Follows the activities of two children spending their summer vacation on an island off the coast of Maine.

1957

A Tree is Nice ^[58]by Janice Udry

Briefly describes the value of a tree.

1956

Frog Went A-Courtin? ^[59]by John Langstaff

Illustrates the well-known American folk song about the courtship and marriage of the frog and the mouse.

1955

Cinderella ^[60] by Charles Perrault

With the help of her fairy godmother, a beautiful young woman mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters attends the palace ball where she meets the prince whom she marries.

1954

Madeline's Rescue ^[61]by Ludwig Bemelmans

A hound rescues a schoolgirl from the Seine, becomes a beloved school pet, is chased away by the trustees, and returns with a surprise.

1953

The Biggest Bear ^[62]by Lynd Ward

Johnny Orchard brings home a playful bear cub that soon becomes huge and a nuisance to the neighbors.

1952

Finders Keepers ^[63]by Will Lipkind

Two dogs find one bone and have difficulty deciding which of them owns it.

1951

The Egg Tree ^[64] by Katherine Milhous

Katy's Easter morning discovery renews the tradition of the Easter egg tree.

1950

Song of the Swallows [65] by Leo Politi

Sad when the swallows leave for the winter, young Juan prepares to welcome them back to the old California Mission at Capistrano on St. Joseph's Day the next spring.

1949

The Big Snow [66] by Bertha and Elmer Hader

Winter comes to the woodland as the busy animals make their preparations.

1948

White Snow, Bright Snow [67] by Alvin Tresselt

When it begins to look, feel, and smell like snow, everyone prepares for a winter blizzard.

1947

The Little Island [68] by Golden MacDonald

Depicts the changes that occur on a small island as the seasons come and go, as day changes to night, and as a storm approaches.

1946

The Rooster Crows [69] by Maud Fuller Petersham

A collection of well-known nursery rhymes, counting-out games, skipping-rope songs, finger games, and other jingles beloved by American children for generations.

1945

Prayer for a Child [70] by Rachel Field

An illustrated bedtime prayer which gives thanks for the many aspects of a child's world.

1944

Many Moons [71] by James Thurber

Though many try, only the court jester is able to fulfill Princess Lenore's wish for the moon.

1943

The Little House [72] by Virginia Lee Burton

A country house is unhappy when the city, with all its buildings and traffic, grows up around her.

1942

Make Way for Ducklings [73] by Robert McCloskey

Story about a mallard family who make their home near a pond in the Public Garden in Boston.

1941

They Were Strong and Good [74] by Robert Lawson

Relates the story of the author's grandparents and parents, who, though not famous, helped

build the United States.

1940

Abraham Lincoln [75] by Edgar & Ingri D'Aulaire

Text and illustrations present the life of the boy born on the Kentucky frontier who became the sixteenth president of the United States.

1939

Mei Li [76] by Thomas Handforth

After spending an eventful day at the fair held on New Year's Eve, Mei Li arrives home just in time to greet the Kitchen God.

1938

Animals of the Bible [77] by Dorothy P. Lathrop

Stories about animals from the King James Bible are retold and illustrated .

Topic Guide:

- Kids

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