



**Press Release August 14, 2020**

**Washington Towner Book Award  
2021 Nominees**

This is a press release of the Towner Book Award, sponsored by Washington Library Association School Library Division (WLA), and focused on nonfiction picture books written for 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The Towner Award is named after Bill Towner, a longtime Seattle librarian and mentor to dozens of teacher librarians. Bill shared his love of literature with thousands of students, and his passion exemplified how caring teachers and librarians can make a difference. The Towner Book Award was launched in his honor in 2013.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Washington State librarians and teachers will introduce and promote the nominated titles below. In the spring, all Washington State students in public and independent schools, from second through sixth grades, are invited to vote for their favorite book if they have listened to or read a minimum of two titles. Teachers and librarians may also vote for their favorite book with instructional value.

The Towner committee is made up of public and school librarians from across Washington State, and meets each spring to select the 10 nonfiction picture book nominees. Eligible titles must have been published two years prior. For more information, see <http://www.wla.org/towner-award>.

**WE ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE  
2021 Towner Book Award for  
Nonfiction Picture Books**

***Comics: Easy as ABC - The Essential Guide to Comics for Kids***

Written and illustrated by: Ivan Brunetti

Published by: TOON Graphics

***Evelyn the Adventurous Entomologist: The True Story of a World-Traveling Bug Hunter***

Written by: Christine Evans

Illustrated by: Yasmin Imamura

Published by: The Innovation Press

***Gross as a Snot Otter: Discovering the World's Most Disgusting Animals***

Written by: Jess Keating

Illustrated by: David DeGrand

Published by: Knopf Books for Young Readers

***The Important Thing About Margaret Wise Brown***

Written by: Mac Barnett

Illustrated by: Sarah Jacoby

Published by: Balzer + Bray

***Nic Bishop Big Cats***

Written and illustrated by: Nic Bishop

Published by: Scholastic Press

***The Roots of Rap: 16 Bars on the 4 Pillars of Hip-Hop***

Written by: Carole Boston Weatherford

Illustrated by: Frank Morrison

Published by: Little Bee Books

***Summer Green to Autumn Gold: Uncovering Leaves' Hidden Colors***

Written and illustrated by: Mia Posada

Published by: Millbrook Press TM

***What a Waste: Trash, Recycling, and Protecting our Planet***

Written by: Jess French

Published by: DK Children

***The Wonders of Nature***

Written by: Ben Hoare

Illustrated by: Angela Rizza and Daniel Long

Published by: DK Children

***Your Amazing Digestion from Mouth through Intestine***

Written by: Joanne Settel

Illustrated by: Steve Björkman

Published by: Atheneum Books for Young Readers