



Washington Towner Book Award 2023 Nominees

March 28, 2022

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 2nd-6th 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 2022-2023 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 2023 Towner Book Award for Nonfiction Picture Books

Battle of the Butts: The Science Behind Animal Behinds

Written by Jocelyn Rish
Illustrated by David Creighton-Pester
Published by Running Press Kids

Brains! Not Just A Zombie Snack

Written by Stacy McAnulty
Illustrated by Matthew Rivera
Published by Henry Holt and Co.

Fourteen Monkeys: A Rain Forest Rhyme

Written by Melissa Stewart
Illustrated by Steve Jenkins
Published by Beach Lane Books

The Fearless Flights of Hazel Ying Lee

Written by Julie Leung
Illustrated by Julie Kwon
Published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

I Am Smoke

Written by Henry Herz
Illustrated by Mercè López
Published by Tilbury House Publishers

The Little Spacecraft That Could

Written by Joyce Lapin
Illustrated by Simona Ceccarelli
Published by Union Square Kids

The Magic of Sleep: A Fascinating Guide to the World of Slumber

Written and Illustrated by Vicki Woodgate
Published by DK Children

Scurry! The Truth About Spiders

Written by Annette Whipple
Pictures by Juanbjuan Oliver and Franco Rivolli
Published by Reycraft Books

The Water Lady: How Darlene Arviso Helps a Thirsty Navajo Nation

Written by Alice B. McGinty
Illustrated by Shonto Begay
Published by Schwartz & Wade

Zion Unmatched

Written by Zion Clark and James S. Hirsch
Illustrated by Juanbjuan Oliver and Franco Rivolli
Published by Candlewick