2014 Magnolia Award Nominations

Grades K – 2

- Big Mean Mike – Michelle Knudsen
- Creepy Carrots – Aaron Reynolds & Peter Brown
- I Want My Hat Back – Jon Klassen
- Oh! No – Candace Fleming
- Nothing Like a Puffin – Sue Soltis
- Pete the Cat Rocking in My School Shoes – Eric Litwin
- Press Here – Herve Tullet
- The Princess and the Pig – Jonathan Emmett
- Rocket Writes a Story – Tad Hills
- Shoebox Sam – Mary Brigid Barrett

Grades 3 – 5

- About Average – Andrew Clements
- The Art of Miss Chew – Patricia Polacco
- The Book of Blood – H. P. Newquist
- Eight Keys – Suzanne LaFleur
- Ellray Jakes Walks the Plank – Sally Warner
- The Emerald Atlas – John Stephens
- Glory Be – Augusta Scattergood
- It’s a Dog’s Life – Susan E. Goodman
- Mousenet – Prudence Breitrose
- Pie – Sarah Weeks

Grades 6 – 8

- Divergent – Veronica Roth
- How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous – Georgia Bragg
- Liar & Spy – Rebecca Stead
- A Monster Calls – Patrick Ness
- Okay for Now – Gary Schmidt
- Saving Zasha – Randi Barrow
- Sean Griswold’s Head – Lindsey Leavitt
- Wonder – R. J. Palacio
What is the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award?
The Magnolia Children's Choice Award is an award to be given annually to the book voted by the children of Mississippi as their favorite.

What is the purpose of the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award?
The purpose of the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award is to introduce the children of Mississippi to current literature and to instill a love of reading.

How are selections for nominees for the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award made?
Suggestions can be made by any adult, but the title must have positive reviews in at least two children's literature review journals (SLJ, Horn Book, CBBC, etc.). Titles must have been published within the past 2 calendar years. The final list from which the children read and select will have 10-12 titles for the K-2 age category, 8-10 titles for the 3-5 category, 6-8 titles for the 6-8 category and 4-6 tiles for the newly added Grades 9-12 category!

What's new with the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award in 2015?
We are happy to announce that in 2015 there will be a 9 to 12 category for the award. With the inclusion of these grades, the Magnolia Children’s Choice Book Award will span grades K through 12. Please contact Venetia Ogelsby (venetia.ogelsby@lowndes.k12.ms.us) if you are interested in serving on the selection committee for this category.

How are the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award recipients chosen?
Children who vote must have been exposed to at least half, and preferably all, of the nominated titles. Exposure includes reading independently, having the book read to them, or listening to an audio production of the book. Voting is coordinated through schools, libraries, and other appropriate venues as approved by the executive committee. Voting will take place electronically each February with the winning titles announced at the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival in April.

Who can participate in choosing the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award?
Children in grades K-12 in Mississippi public, private, or homeschooled settings are eligible to vote.

When will the Magnolia Children's Choice Book Award be presented?
The winner will be recognized at the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival.

Who won the 2013 Magnolia Children’s Choice Book Awards?
1. Grades K-2 – Hot Rod Hamster by Cynthia Lord
2. Grades 3-5 – Charlie Joe Jackson’s Guide to NOT Reading – Tommy Greenwald
3. Grades 6-8 – Countdown – by Deborah Wiles
Magnolia Children’s Choice Award Timeline

For developing the upcoming 2015 nominations list:

- Suggestions for titles to consider for the 2015 award will be taken until September 30, 2013.
- The Committee President will finalize the list of perspective nominees by October 31, 2013.
- A list of perspective nominees will be sent to the selection committees to read through between November and December.
- The final list of nominees will be announced by January 15, 2014 on the webpage (http://www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/magnolia-award), MLA’s list serv, and other appropriate locations.
- The timeline spans two years to allow libraries and librarians to order the books and for teachers to consider the titles for summer reading lists.

For selecting the winners:

- Voting for the award will always take place in February.
- Winners are announced at the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival in April.
- A celebration of the winners is held at the Mississippi Children’s Museum in October.
Using the Magnolia Award in Your Classroom & Library

**CLASSROOM**

- Read Magnolia Award Nominees as a class then share thoughts as a group.
- Put students into small groups and have each group read a different nominee, then have students present to the class as a whole.
  - Presentations could include:
    - Book Talks
    - Prezi’s
    - Live action scenes
    - Book readings
    - Book Trailers
- Have students advocate for their favorite nominees with classroom debates.
- Utilize extension activities to present books and their themes to students.

**LIBRARY**

- Choose a grade category and host themed parties for each nominee.
- Collaborate with local teachers and host a book trailer competition.
- Keep a running graph posted at your library where children can come in and add their vote for everyone to see.
- Host a book trailer, movie night.
- Host a costume party for children to dress up as their favorite characters from their favorite nominees.
- Collaborate with teachers to host a wax museum, where specific students dress up as characters from nominated books and present monologues for class tours.
- For grades K-2, host afterschool story times based on each nominee.
- For grades 3-5 and 6-8, incorporate nominees into your book clubs.
Voting for the Magnolia Award

Voting for the Magnolia Award is done during the month of February. Votes are cast by children who have been exposed to at least half and preferably all of the titles in their category. Exposed means that they have read the book, have had the book read to them, or have listened to the book in audio format. Voting is done at schools, libraries, or other approved locations. Each location has one person responsible for votes from that location. Separate ballots are done for each category, so one site may have several categories. How votes are conducted is decided by each location. Teachers & librarians can set up voting for their site when the children have completed reading in their category. Voting results can be held until ballots open in February. Below are some possible scenarios:

- Students in Grades K-2 hear the books in their classroom, school library or public library. The librarian/teacher holds up all books to review then takes a vote by show of hands.
- Older students read books during free reading time in their school or by checking the books out from the public library. In February the library sets up ballot boxes and passes out ballots for the students to vote.
- Teacher/librarians pass out bookmarks and students circle their favorites.
- Voting schools and libraries will be entered to win a box of books (mixed age range) valued over $200.
Serve on a selection committee. To volunteer for a selection committee, email Venetia Oglesby (venetia.oglesby@lowndes.k12.ms.us) and let her know which grade level you prefer (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12)

Nominate excellent titles published in the past two calendar years (2012/2013). If you are interested in nominating a title for the Magnolia Award please email President Stacy Creel (stacy.creel@usm.edu).

Use nominated titles for book talks during class visits.

Feature nominated titles in story times and other programs.

Set up programs that include Skype visits with nominated authors.

Work with school librarians to promote the Magnolia Award to students & parents.

For more information about how you can get involved please visit the Magnolia Award website at http://www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/magnolia-award and like us on Facebook – MAGNOLIA AWARDS: Mississippi Children’s Choice Book Awards.
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