

All About Adolescent Literacy

all about
Adolescent Literacy
Resources for parents and educators of kids in grades 4-12



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AdLit.org is a national multimedia project offering information and resources to the parents and educators of struggling adolescent readers and writers. AdLit.org is an educational initiative of WETA, the flagship public television and radio station in the nation's capital, and is funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York and by the Ann B. and Thomas L. Friedman Family Foundation.



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Award-Winning Books for Tweens and Teens

Many organizations end the year with a "best of" list of young adult books. Here are links to those lists and other annual awards we like, including picks from The New York Times, the International Reading Association, and the Newbery Medal and Printz Award winners. View this year's winners below.

[See previous award winners ▾](#)

2016 Newbery Medal Winner

The Newbery Medal was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.



Last Stop on Market Street

Matt de la Peña

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2016 Printz Award Winner

The Michael L. Printz Award is an award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. It is named for a school librarian in Topeka, Kansas, who was a long-time active member of the Young Adult Library Services Association. The award is sponsored by *Booklist*, a publication of the American Library Association.



Bone Gap

By Laura Ruby

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2016 Odyssey Award Winner

This award is given jointly by ALA's children's and young adult divisions to the most distinguished audiobook for children or teens.



The War that Saved My Life

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

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2016 Sibert Award Winner

The Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award is awarded annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished informational book published in English during the preceding year. The award is named in honor of Robert F. Sibert, the long-time President of Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc. of Jacksonville, Illinois. ALSC administers the award.



Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras

By Duncan Tonatiuh

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2016 William C. Morris Award

The William C. Morris Award honors the accomplishments of a first-time author whose debut book has made an impact in young adult literature. This award was given for the first time in 2009.



The Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda

By Becky Albertalli



2016 Coretta Scott King Author Award

The Coretta Scott King Award was started by two school librarians whose chance meeting and shared love of children's literature turned into a desire to acknowledge distinguished African American authors and illustrators.



Gone Crazy in Alabama

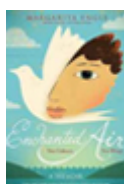
By Rita Williams-Garcia



[View more Coretta Scott King award-winners >>](#)

2016 Pura Belpré Award

The Pura Belpré Award is given to a Latino/Latina author and illustrator to recognize their literary or artistic talent and their efforts to portray the Latino culture. The award was named in honor of the first Latina librarian at the New York City Public Library, Pura Belpré.



Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir

By Margarita Engle



2015 National Book Award, Young People's Literature Winner

The National Book Award for Young People's Literature is given to the best book by an American citizen, published in the United States from December 1 of the previous year to November 30 of the current year. Books are nominated by their publishers, and selected by a 5-member jury.



Fortune Smiles: Stories

By Adam Johnson



Other notable awards:

Alex Awards

The Alex Awards are given to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18. The winning titles are selected from the previous year's publishing.

The Children's and Young Adult Bloggers' Literary Awards (The Cybils)

Cybils are awarded based merit and popularity. Awards are given in seven categories: Picture Books; Non-fiction Picture Books; Middle Grade fiction; Poetry; Young Adult fiction; Non-fiction (YA/MG); and Graphic Novels.

Best of lists:

Teens Top 10

Voted on by teens!

Best Books for Young Adults

The Best books published for teens ages 12-18.

Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults

Four thematic lists are created each year.

Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers

Books selected for teens from ages 12-18 who for whatever reason do not like to read.

Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults

The best spoken word releases of the last 2 years for teens ages 12-18.

Great Graphic Novels for Teens

A list of recommended graphic novels and illustrated nonfiction for those ages 12-18, prepared yearly by YALSA

Fabulous Films for Young Adults

This list recognizes productions for technical merit, content, and use with, and interest to young adults ages 12-18 and is presented annually.

Outstanding Books for the College Bound

This list is primarily intended for students in grades 9-12 who wish to 1) enrich and strengthen their knowledge of various subject areas in both classic and contemporary literature, 2) round out their reading before entering college; and 3) prepare for college entrance exams.

Capitol Choices

Selected by librarians and booksellers from the DC Metropolitan area

Tayshas Reading List

Selected by the Young Adult Round Table of the Texas Library Association

Visit our Books & Authors section for more great booklists, guided discussions, and author interviews!

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