



**2024 RHODE ISLAND
CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD
NOMINATIONS Grades 3-5**

<http://www.olis.state.ri.us/youth/ricba/>



Amazing Landmarks: Discover the hidden stories behind 10 iconic structures by Rekha S. Rajan

Discover the history behind the inspiration, design, and construction of ten famous landmarks. Travel around the world as you learn about the challenges and triumphs of their design through stories, facts, and images. *Nonfiction*

The Button Box by Fawzia Gilani-Williams & Bridget Hodder

Fans of Annie and Jack should meet time traveling cousins Ava and Nadeem in this historical fiction. After asking how to address bullies at school who are targeting their respective Jewish and Muslim faiths, Granny sneakily introduces them to the heirloom button box telling a story about their family from 1000 years ago. Suddenly, they find themselves in the midst of a market in medieval Morocco with their ancestral cousin Esther, tasked with aiding the escape of an endangered Prince. *Magical Realism Chapter Book*

A Comb of Wishes by Lisa Stringfellow

Grades 4+

Living on the Caribbean island of St. Rita, grieving Kela loves to search the beach for sea glass, which she always was told was mermaid tears. One day, she finds a mermaid's comb that can grant her one wish, but comes with a price. Will she be able to see her mom again, or will the mermaid come for her? Told in two points of view, this chilling, Caribbean folklore inspired tale will keep you in her spell. *Magical Realism Chapter Book*

Expedition Backyard by Rosemary Mosco and Binglin Hu

Friends Mole and Vole go on an unexpected adventure to the city. Moving from the country to the city provides Mole and Vole the opportunity to explore a new home, and to create an adventures club with their new animal friends. *Early Graphic Novel*

Fighting for YES!: The Story of Disability Rights Activist Judith Heumann

by Maryann Cocca-Leffler & Vivien Mildenberger
Refusing to take "No" for an answer, Judy Heumann, who contracted polio as a child and used a wheelchair her entire life, spent her life tirelessly fighting for the rights of disabled individuals. She was instrumental in advocating for wheelchair accessibility and her work laid the groundwork for the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act. *Picture Book Biography*

Flipping Forward Twisting Backwards by Alma Fullerton

Claire is successful at gymnastics, but not at school. Embarrassed by this, she has cleverly hidden her learning disabilities, which have gone unnoticed until her teacher starts to think she is misbehaving. Her vice principal tries to intervene. Before getting any assistance, Claire must convince her Mom that she truly has difficulty reading. *Realistic Fiction Novel in Verse*

Forest Fighter: The Story of Chico Mendes by Anita Ganeri & Margaux Carpentier

Short vignettes of informational, narrative text accompany vibrant digital illustrations. Chico Mendes was born and raised deep in the Amazon Rainforest where his parents worked tapping rubber from giant trees. The working community he grew up in has been exploited by landowners as they witness the destruction of the rainforest. Chico worked with the community to speak up and take a stand to preserve the rainforest and defend those, human and not, who make their home there. *Picture Book Biography*

Going Places Victor Hugo Green and His Glorious Book by Tonya Bolden & Eric Velasquez

Read and learn how one man changed the way African Americans were able to travel around the USA beginning in 1936. Mr. Hugo Green created a guide that shared where Black folks could stay, eat, and travel without fear or prejudice. *Picture Book Biography*

Growing Pangs by Kathryn Ormsbee and Molly Brooks

In this graphic novel, Katie, who has been homeschooled her whole life, is approaching middle school. As she navigates the shifting landscape of friendship at sleepaway camp, she realizes that she must also get help with managing her anxiety and what she ultimately finds out is OCD. *Realistic Fiction Graphic Novel*

Keepunumuk: Weeâchumun's Thanksgiving Story by Danielle Hill, Alexis Bunten, & Anthony Perry Illustrated by Gary Meeches, Sr.

Native artists retell the Thanksgiving story from the Native perspective. This conscious revamp of the traditional tale centers on the Wampanoag Peoples and their relationship to the land. Join Maple and Quill as they learn the true story from their grandmother, the real story of Weeâchumun (corn). Lovingly illustrated in a style reminiscent of the Northeastern Indigenous Nations, celebrate a new Thanksgiving. *Picture Book*

Killer Underwear Invasion: How to spot fake news, disinformation & conspiracy theories by Elise Gravel

Grades 4+

Never be fooled by fake news again! Learn about what disinformation is and how to spot it in this hilarious and informative graphic novel. *Nonfiction*

Marya Khan and the Incredible Henna Party by Saadia Faruqi

Marya Khan is a third-grader who really wants a big party for her eighth birthday. Marya has told her classmates that she's having a henna party for her birthday. Now Marya just has to get her family to agree. *Realistic Fiction Early Chapter Book*

Miles Lewis: King of the Ice by Kelly Starling Lyons

Miles is a star at everything he tries, including science and so many sports. When a friend challenges Miles to be an excellent ice skater, it doesn't come as easily to him. Will Miles become the King of the Ice? *Early Chapter Book*

Nothing is Little by Carmella Van Vleet

Felix is an eleven year old with Growth Hormone Deficiency. He doesn't think much about being short until he discovers that his biological father was short as well. Armed with this one small fact, Felix embarks on a secret quest to find his dad. *Realistic Fiction Chapter Book*

A Rover's Story by Jasmine Wurga

Grades 4+

Told through alternating perspectives including the experiences and emotions of Resilience, a Mars rover, and letters from Sophie, *A Rover's Story* takes us on a journey to space and back to Earth. While on Mars, Res works with his friend Fly, a drone helicopter, and a satellite to complete his mission. *Science Fiction Chapter Book*

Singing with Elephants by Margarita Engle

Oriol moved from Cuba to Santa Barbara California in 1967 and is trying to find out where she fits in this new world. With two parent veterinarians, she is comfortable around animals, and curious about helping her family raise a pregnant elephant. Then, she meets a newcomer in town, Gabriela Mistral, the first Latin American Nobel Prize winner for Literature, she decides to try to express herself and her challenges in writing too. When the elephant family is threatened with being captured, can Oriol find her voice and speak up for what is right? *Novel in Verse*

Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas

Grades 4+

Dive into this middle grade graphic novel written and illustrated by award winning author Johnnie Christmas. Bree is just starting middle school and she needs to choose one more class, Swimming 101 is the only thing open. Will she sink or swim? She gains courage with the help of Etta, a neighbor and former swim champ herself, and jumps in, but how will she do? This heartwarming tale of empowerment and identity is a pure joy to read! *Graphic Novel*

The Whale Who Swam Through Time by Alex Boersma & Nick Pyenson

Uncover the secrets of the bowhead whale, whose life cycle can reach 200 years! Watch as each page teaches you how the ocean has changed during its lifetime. Discover new challenges the ocean faces with the rise of humans using the ocean and affecting those that live in it. Beautifully illustrated, this picture book is fascinating to read! *Nonfiction Picture Book*

When Winter Robeson Came by Brenda Woods

Grades 4+

In this historical fiction, a cousin's visit brings adventure, mystery, and music. Will Winter and Eden find answers while exploring a world that becomes dangerous? What music will tell the story? *Historical Fiction Novel in Verse*

Zia Erases the World by Bree Barton

Grades 4+

Zia calls the impending sadness and fear within her the *Shadoom*. She loves words and seeking out their meanings, yet can't find it to tell Mom how she is feeling. Her Greek Yaiyai is likewise struggling with words and memory and moving into their small apartment. As they pack up the relics of her home, Zia finds a mysterious heirloom dictionary with a blue eraser in the shape of the evil eye that holds a trepidatious power. Will she continue to try to erase her problems or find that true power comes in naming them? *Magical Realism Chapter Book*