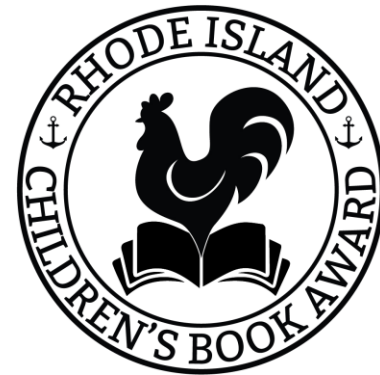


January 2021

Let's Vote!

The time has come for your students and patrons in grades 3-5 to vote for their favorite book among the RI Children's Book Award nominees for 2021! Now in its 30th year, the Rhode Island Children's Book Award has generated widespread enthusiasm for reading. Thank you to the many schools and libraries in Rhode Island that participate.



All voting and program evaluation will be completed online February 1 – March 15.

New voting information for 2021:

- Your school or library does not need to register to vote. Any school or library that would like to participate is encouraged to do so!
- Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 who have read and/or heard at least 3 books on the 2021 list of nominees are eligible to vote. Each student may only vote for ONE book.
- Two forms for collecting voting results are available this year. Please use the form that best fits your needs:
 - Schools and Libraries Form: https://olis-ri.libwizard.com/f/ricba2021_SchoolLibrary
 - This form is intended to collect the final voting results from your school or library. It is not meant to record individual student votes. Please complete ONE form per Rhode Island school or library building. If you work at multiple schools or libraries, please fill out a separate form for each building. You may choose to collect ballots using the traditional print ballots, the Google form template provided with PR materials, or your own method.
 - Students Form: https://olis-ri.libwizard.com/f/ricba2021_Students
 - This form may be shared directly with students and families and is intended to collect individual student votes. **Please do not use this form if you plan to collect and tally votes for your entire school or library.** After voting ends, teachers, school librarians, and public librarians will be notified how many of their students voted.
- Voting information and PR materials are available at <https://tinyurl.com/ybxhxr2>
 - Available materials include:
 - Print ballot
 - Google form template for collecting online ballots (please note that you will need to tally the results from this form and enter them into the Schools and Libraries Form)
 - Copy the Google form template by opening the form, clicking the three dots in the right-hand corner, and selecting "Make a copy" from the menu. Name the form and save the copy to your Google Drive folder. Once copied you may edit the form for your needs.
 - Social media graphics and flyer templates
 - When using PR materials, copy materials to your Google Drive *before* editing. Copy by opening the document, clicking "File," and selecting "Make a copy." Name the form and save the copy to your Google Drive folder.
 - Flowchart for deciding which ballot collecting/vote tallying procedure to use

If you have any questions or difficulties, please contact Youth Services Coordinator, Danielle Margarida (danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov, 401-400-3006) by 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 15. All votes must be entered by Monday, March 15, 2021.

The Rhode Island Children's Book Award aims to encourage reading and allows children to make critical choices about their reading. While we speak of one author as the "winner," we consider all books that engage children's interest to be winners. Please let your students know your school or library's "best loved" book, and then share with them the statewide results that are announced in March.

Thank you for voting and for participating in the RI Children's Book Award program.

Danielle Margarida
Youth Services Coordinator, RI Office of Library and Information Services
Advisor, Rhode Island Children's Book Award Committee