

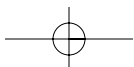
ETHNIC BOOK AWARDS:

A DIRECTORY OF MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE FOR YOUNG READERS

SHERRY YORK



Professional Development Resources for K-12
Library Media and Technology Specialists



Dedication

This book is dedicated to the memory of Gloria Anzaldúa (1942-2004) and of Dr. Abelardo Baeza (1944-2004), two Tejanos whose teaching, writing, and dedication to literature and justice influenced me profoundly.

Acknowledgments

Thanks again to Donna Miller, fellow librarian and friend; to Marlene Woo-Lun; and to my husband, Donnie, my life's companion and dearest friend.

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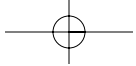
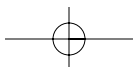
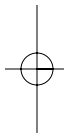
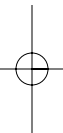
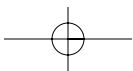
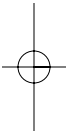
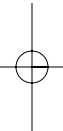
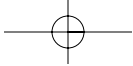


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Introduction

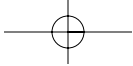
Since 1968 several culturally-specific awards have been developed to recognize excellence in children's and young adult books. These awards identify high-quality books about Jewish, African-American, Latino, Caribbean, and Asian-American cultures. The Sydney Taylor, Coretta Scott King, Carter G. Woodson, Américas, Tomás Rivera, Pura Belpré, and Asian Pacific American Awards publicize books with outstanding content that reflects the existence and value of ethnic and cultural diversity in our contemporary society.

Librarians and educators who realize the importance of conveying the message that all ethnic groups in our society have value and who understand that children's book authors and illustrators who are members of minority ethnic groups have much to offer will find this index a useful resource. Part I provides background information about ethnic book awards. Part II is an alphabetical listing of books that are award winners and are honor or commended titles. Publication information and brief summaries are provided for the titles in Part II. A subject index and an index of authors, editors, illustrators, and translators provide several points of access.

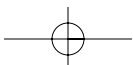
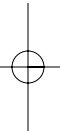
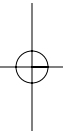
Librarians and library media specialists can use this book as a tool for selection and acquisition of high-quality books to increase diversity in library collections. Although information about each of the awards is available on the Internet, searching for, obtaining, and compiling that information is a time-consuming process.

Classroom teachers can use this index to locate worthy books to supplement classroom instruction. Educators may wish to browse and compile personal reading lists to learn more about various cultural groups. As our society grows increasingly multicultural, it is vitally important that educators recognize and celebrate cultural differences and similarities as we educate and inspire our students.

Students of children's literature should find this book a useful resource for learning about multicultural children's and young adult literature. By using *Newbery & Caldecott Awards: A Subject Index* (Linworth, 2003) and *Capturing Readers with Children's Choice Book Awards: A Directory of State Programs* (Linworth 2004), and this book, students will be able to quickly and easily access information about hundreds of award-winning books!

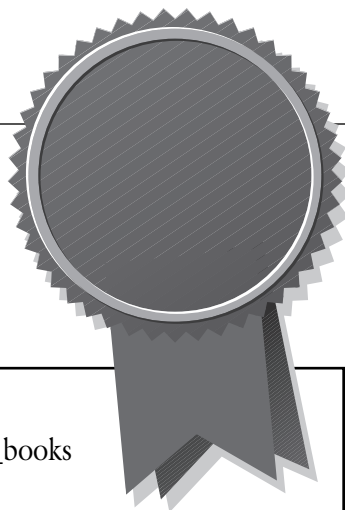


I hope that librarians in all types of libraries and educators in many settings will use this index as a tool with which to reach out to ethnic patrons and students and show respect for their cultures. I also hope that educators and librarians will use this book to increase and showcase diversity in children's and young adult literature for all pupils and patrons, regardless of ethnicity.



PART I:

THE AWARDS



1968 Sydney Taylor Book Award

<www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/awards/st_books.htm>

1970 Coretta Scott King Award

<www.ala.org/ala/emiert/corettascottkingbookawards/corettascott.htm>

1974 Carter G. Woodson Award

<www.socialstudies.org/awards/writing/>

1993 Américas Award

<www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLACS/outreach/americas.html>

1995 Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Literature Award

<www.education.txstate.edu/subpages/tomasrivera/>

1996 Pura Belpré Award

<www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/belpremedal/belprmedal.htm>

2001 Asian Pacific American Award for Literature (APAAL)

<www.apalaweb.org/awards/awards.htm>

The **Sydney Taylor Book Award** was established in 1968 in honor of the author of the *All-of-a-Kind Family* book series published between 1951 and 1978 about the life of an Orthodox Jewish family. The award encourages publication of outstanding books of positive Jewish content for children. Awards are selected by a committee of the Association of Jewish Libraries and recognize “distinguished contributions to Jewish children’s literature.” Two awards are given each year, for younger readers and for older readers. Honor books are also recognized.

The **Coretta Scott King Award** established in 1970 commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and honors his widow, Coretta Scott King. The annual award is presented by the Coretta Scott King Task Force, part of the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association. According to the Web site, the awards hope to “promote, recognize, and celebrate the continued publication of quality literature by African-American children’s authors and illustrators.” Winners and honor books are recognized.

The **Carter G. Woodson** multicultural award was established in 1973 by the National Council for the Social Studies, Racism and Social Justice Committee. In honor of an African-American historian, educator, and writer, this award recognizes exemplary books written for children and young people that “respect ethnic and racial differences.” Awards are conveyed annually for elementary, middle level, and secondary grade levels.

The **Américas** award began in 1993 and recognizes U.S. works of fiction, poetry, folklore, or nonfiction, in English or Spanish, that “authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States.” Sponsored by the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, this annual award recognizes a winner, honorable mention, and commended titles. Titles are selected for “distinctive literary quality; cultural contextualization; exceptional integration of text, illustration and design; and potential for classroom use.”

The **Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children’s Literature Award** was established in 1995 in honor of educator Tomás Rivera, author of the bilingual novel, *y no se lo tragó la tierra/And the Earth Did Not Part* (Quinto Sol, 1971). This annual award recognizes authors and illustrators who “authentically reflect the lives of Mexican-American children and young adults in the Southwestern region of the United States.” Books which may be fiction or nonfiction, written for children or young adults, should accurately portray Mexican Americans without stereotyping, and must be of highest quality.

The **Pura Belpré** award established in 1996 is named for the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library. A Puerto Rican by birth, Belpré was an author, storyteller, and librarian. This award is co-sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a

division of the American Library Association, and by REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking. Awarded biennially, the award recognizes a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator, “whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.”

The **Asian Pacific American Award for Literature (APAAL)**, sponsored by the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, was presented in 2001 and 2004. It recognizes meritorious books “by or about” Asian Pacific Americans and is sponsored by the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association.

A few other ethnic-based awards are in the developmental stages. If “ethnic” authors continue to publish outstanding books for young readers, perhaps the American Indian Library Association and other cultural groups will also establish book awards to recognize diversity in the United States, our complex multicultural country.