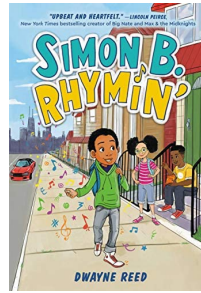




The Marvellers,
by Dhonielle Clayton

Eleven-year-old Ella is the first Conjuror to attend the ATI, Arcanum Training Institute for Marvelous and Uncanny Endeavors. Can she prove herself while solving the mystery of her missing mentor? Can Ella and her friend catch the most famous criminal in Arcanium history?



Simon B. Rhyming,
by Dwayne Reed

Simon Barnes is a fifth grader who dreams of becoming a famous rapper, aka Notorious D.O.G. Small, with stage fright, Simon must find his voice when his new teacher assigns the class an oral presentation about something that affects his community.

2023 - 2024
South Carolina
Children's Book
Award Nominees



Sofia Acosta Makes a Scene,
by Emma Otheguy



Sofia Acosta, a fifth grader trying to fit into her ballet-obsessed Cuban American family and her affluent suburban New York community, learns to speak up for herself and others when she mistakenly reveals a visiting dancer's plan to defect to the U.S.

Students: To be eligible to vote for your favorite book, you must read at least five of the nominee titles. Voting takes place in February.

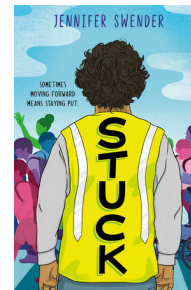


Stella, by McCall Hoyle

A failed bomb-sniffing dog, beagle Stella must fight her anxiety to become a companion to Cloe, a young girl with epilepsy. Can Stella learn to warn Cloe's family of the smell that comes before the girl's seizures?

All media specialists should review all titles and add them to their collection only if the titles meet the criteria established by District Board Policy and Library Media Center Policy & Procedure guidelines.

Stuck, by Jennifer Swender



Austin doesn't like standing out. He's always the new kid, and there's no hiding his size. Plus, Austin has a secret: he struggles to read. When Austin meets Bertie, her enthusiasm may finally teach him how to make his mark!

Book summaries and images courtesy of Novelist Plus database:
www.scdiscus.org unless otherwise noted.

South Carolina Association of School Librarians, PO Box 2442, Columbia, SC 29202
<http://scasl.net/awards/book-awards/>

Maya and the Robot,
by Eve Ewing



Fifth grade is starting with a flop for science-loving Maya. Separated from her best friends and shoved into the mean teacher's class, Maya's only hope for both a friend and a science project might be her new robot pal, Ralph.

Ophe's Ghosts,
by Justina Ireland

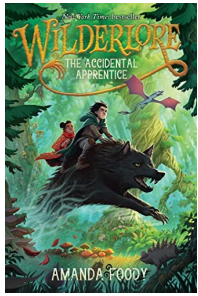


Ophe discovers her ability to see ghosts when a cruel act ends her father's life. Beginning anew in 1920s Pittsburgh, Ophe forges a helpful bond with a spirit and is determined to solve the mystery of her death.

Shine On, Luz Veliz,
by Rebecca Balcarcel

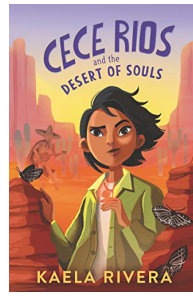


Sidelined by an injury, soccer star Luz discovers she has a knack for coding and works hard to impress everyone, including her dad who has been treating her differently, but life throws her a curveball when an unexpected guest arrives.



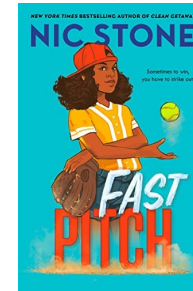
The Accidental Apprentice,
by Amanda Foody

Unadventurous Barclay Thorne interrupts the spell of Lore-Keeper Viola and her dragon, Mitzi and accidentally bonds with a magical Beast himself. Now he must set off on a quest in the mysterious Woods.



Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls, by Kaela Rivera

Cecelia Rios challenges her community's superstitions about dangerous powerful spirits in their Devil's Alley home. She experiments with the forbidden art of brujeria to rescue her kidnapped sister.



Fast Pitch, by Nic Stone

Bouncing between softball and sleuthing, Shenice Lockwood must stay focused on captaining the Fulton Firebirds while trying to solve the mystery of who set up her Great Grampy and ruined his baseball career.

Allergic,

by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Hoping to adopt a pet to find a sense of belonging in her busy family, Maggie is disappointed to discover she is severely allergic to anything with fur and tries to find a pet to love anyway.



Dog Squad,

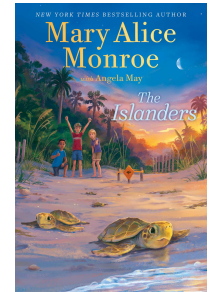
by Chris Grabenstein

Fred, a scrappy and lovable dog, gets cast as a stand-in for the lead role in Dog Squad, a show about crime-fighting dogs, and he soon finds out the action doesn't always stop on screen.



The Islanders, by Mary Alice Monroe with Angela May

Spending the summer with his grandmother on South Carolina's Dewees Island, eleven-year-old Jake finds two friends who are also struggling with family issues and together they try to save a sea turtle nest from predators.



Elephant in the Room,

by Holly Sloan Goldberg

Separated from her mother for almost a year, Sila and her father are barely coping. They meet a kind but lonely man, who uses his lottery winnings to make a home for a circus elephant, and befriend an unusual classmate, Mateo.



This misbegotten group discovers that hope comes from unlikely places.



Last Gate of the Emperor,

by Kwame Mbalia & Prince Joel Makonnen

Yared Heywat is a star player of the underground augmented reality game, The Hunt for Kaleb's Obelisk. When city-razing monsters attack Addis Prime, he and his chief rival, The Ibis, find themselves in the middle of intergalactic war.

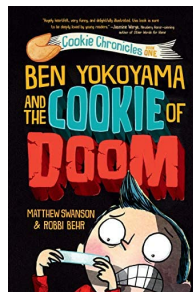


Bartali's Bicycle,
by Megan Hoyt

This is the true story of Gino Bartali, an Italian Tour de France-winning cyclist who helped the Nazi Resistance effort during World War II.

Ben Yokoyama and the Cookie of Doom, by Matthew Swanson & Robbi Behr

Eight-year-old Ben receives a fortune cookie at a Chinese restaurant. The message inside the cookie leads him to believe that today will be his last day on Earth.



Falling Short,

by Ernesto Cisneros

Best friends Isaac and Marco are starting middle school. Can the power of friendship and teamwork help them overcome their weaknesses and keep them from "falling short" of family expectations?



Many Meanings of Meilan,
by Andrea Wang

A family feud before the start of seventh grade propels Meilan from Boston's Chinatown to rural Ohio. Can Meilan find her inner strength to make a place for her family in this new town?

