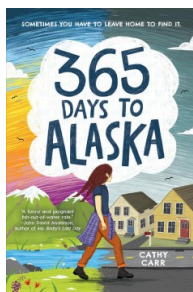


365 Days to Alaska,

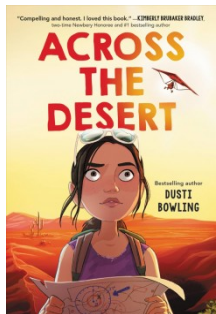
by Cathy Carr

When eleven-year-old Rigel Harman's parents divorce, she and her sisters must move from the Alaskan wilderness to suburban Connecticut. While she yearns to return in a year, she eventually realizes she must move forward.



Across the Desert, by Dusti Bowling

When her hero, a girl known as the Desert Aviator, crashes during her livestream, 12-year-old Jolene, armed with a hand-drawn map and a stolen cell phone, races against time across the treacherous Arizona desert to save her.



Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year,

by Nina Hamza

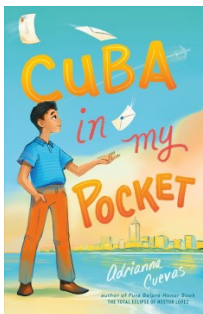
Moving from Hawaii to Minnesota, Ahmed Aziz is having the worst year until he deals with bullies, makes new friends and uncovers his family's past--all while finding himself in three books assigned for his English class



Cuba in My Pocket,

by Adriana Cuevas

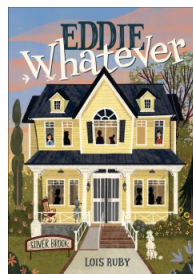
In 1961 Cuba, with the threat of military service for children looming, twelve-year-old Cumba's parents send him to Miami, where he lives with a new family and misses his homeland.



Eddie Whatever,

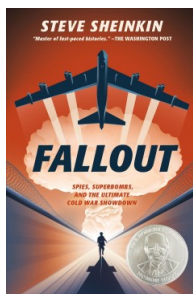
by Lois Ruby

Thirteen-year-old Eddie's Mitzvah Project takes him to Silver Brook retirement home, where his assumptions about the elderly are upended by a ghost, a thief, long-running disagreements, and unexpected romance.



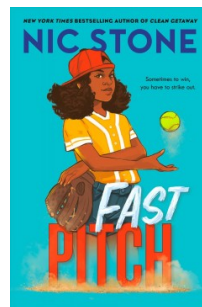
Fallout, by Steven Sheinkin

The Cold War game grows more precarious as weapons are pointed towards each other, with fingers literally on the trigger. The decades-long showdown culminates in the Cuban Missile Crisis, the world's close call with the third-and final-world war.



Fast Pitch, by Nic Stone

Shenice Lockwood dreams of leading the Fulton Firebirds to the U12 softball regional championship. But Shenice's focus gets shaken when her great-uncle Jack reveals that a career-ending-and family-name-ruining-crime may have been a setup. It's up to Shenice to discover the truth about her family's past-and fast-before secrets take the Firebirds out of the game forever.



Flight of the Puffin, by Ann Braden



Told in multiple voices, seventh-grader, Libby, sets off a chain of events that brings hope and encouragement to four different individuals across the country who are dealing with bullies, acceptance, homelessness, and grief.

2023 - 2024 South Carolina Junior Book Award Nominees



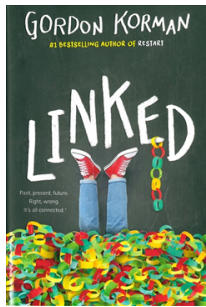
Students: To be eligible to vote for your favorite book, you must read at least three of the nominee titles. Voting takes place in February.

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.

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/>

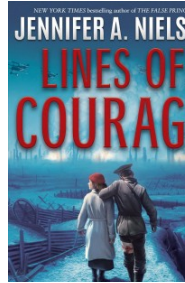


Linked, by Gordon Korman

When swastikas begin appearing all over town, Link, Michael and Dana, the only Jewish girl in town, must face crimes both past and present to find the truth.

Lines of Courage, by Jennifer Nielsen

From the assassination that triggered World War I in 1914 to Armistice Day in 1918, the story follows the fates of young people on both sides of the conflict--each facing their portion of the war with courage, until the end of the war brings them together. Includes information on the history of the war.



The Lion of Mars, by Jennifer L. Holm

Bell has spent his whole life - all eleven years of it - on Mars. But he's still just a regular kid - he loves cats, any kind of cake, and is curious about the secrets the adults in the US colony are keeping. Like, why don't they have contact with anyone on the other Mars colonies? Why are they so isolated? When a virus

breaks out and the grown-ups all fall ill, Bell and the other children are the only ones who can help.

Maizy Chen's Last Chance, by Lisa Yee

In Last Chance, Minnesota, with her family, Maizy spends her time at the Golden Palace, the restaurant that's been in her family for generations, where she makes some discoveries requiring her to go on a search for answers.



Now You Say Yes, by Bill Harley

After their foster mother dies, 15-year-old Mari takes her on-the-spectrum 9-year-old stepbrother, Conor, on a journey to find their estranged grandmother, during which she learns about the inner workings of Conor's mind and about her connections to him and the world.



An Occasionally Happy Family, by Cliff Burke



"There are zero reasons for Theo Ripley to look forward to his family vacation. Not only are he, sister Laura, and nature-obsessed Dad going to Big Bend, the least popular National Park, but once there, the family will be camping. And Theo is an indoor animal. It doesn't help that this will be the first vacation they're taking since Mom passed away." Provided by publisher.

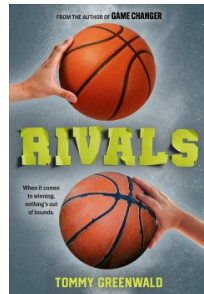
Playing the Cards You're Dealt, by Varian Johnson

Hoping to measure up to his father's expectations at the card table, 10-year-old Anthony Joplin keeps his strategy a secret until he discovers his father has been hiding one that could tear their family apart.



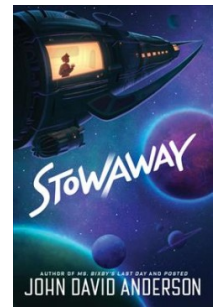
Rivals, by Tom Greenwald

In basketball-crazed Walthorne, rival middle school stars Austin Chambers and Carter Haswell are both feeling the pressure when school sports reporter Alfie Jenks reveals scandals that jeopardize the whole season. Told through flashbacks, newspaper reports, social media posts, and interviews.

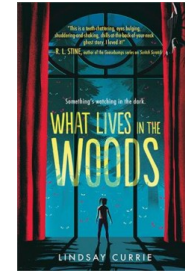


Stowaway, by John David Anderson

To save his father, a Coalition scientist protecting a precious resource, after their ship is attacked, Leo stows away on a strange ship of mercenary space pirates and must decide who to trust—human or alien—to stay alive.



What Lives in the Woods, by Lindsay Currie



Ginny is unhappy when her family moves from Chicago to upstate Michigan for the summer; her father has a job restoring a 1930s mansion, but there are rumors about Woodmoor and the forest next to it: rumors about strange mutant creatures; Ginny, an aspiring mystery writer, is soon half convinced that the rumors are true.

Wild River, by Rodman Philbrick

When a dam fails and rushing waters sweep away their adult supervisors, five middle schoolers on a white-water rafting adventure are left alone with few supplies and the opportunity to forge powerful bonds as well as develop dangerous disagreements.



Worst-Case Collin, by Rebecca Caprara

"In the two years since his mother was killed in an automobile crash, Colin has been anticipating further disasters, writing down what to do in the event of an avalanche or mentally practicing the Heimlich maneuver just in case..." Provided by the publisher.



