



The Manifestor Prophecy
by Angie Thomas

When her dad, a great Manifestor, is imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit, twelve-year-old Nic Blake, along with her hellhound and two friends, hunts for a powerful magical tool that could save him.



A Royal Conundrum
by Lisa Yee

An elite group of underdogs trained to fight crime must save their unique school from shutting down.

2025 - 2026

South Carolina Children's Book Award Nominees



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.

All media specialists should review titles and add them to their collection only if the titles meet the criteria established by their district's board policies and library policies and procedures guidelines.

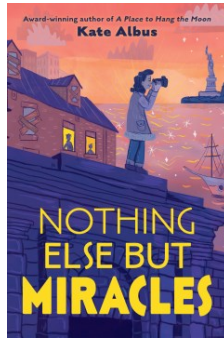
Book summaries and images courtesy of Novelist Plus database (www.scdiscus.org).

South Carolina Association of School Librarians,
PO Box 2442, Columbia, SC 29202

<http://scasl.net/awards/book-awards/>

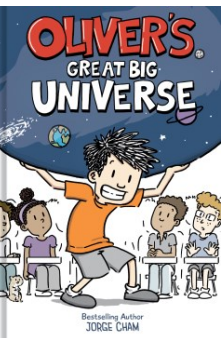
Nothing Else But Miracles
by Kate Albus

During WWII, 12-year-old Dory Byrne and her brothers are forced to hide out in an abandoned hotel when their new landlord turns them in for being on their own and discover that when things get tough, the neighborhood really will give you what you need -- even a miracle or two.



The Superteacher Project
by Gordon Korman

Determined to teach their new teacher who's boss, Oliver Zhan and his best friend Nathan realize that Mr. Aidact is not what they expected and, suspecting something is fishy, must get to the bottom of the mystery.



Oliver's Great Big Universe
by Jorge Cham

An aspiring astrophysicist, 11-year-old Oliver takes on the whole universe, explaining everything he learns, while starting his first year of middle school with new friends, new classes, new everything -- where the only thing that still makes sense is science.

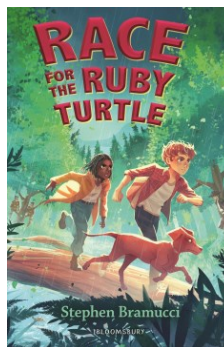


When Sea Becomes Sky
by Gillian McDunn

Bex and Davey set out to save their beloved marsh from developers only to learn that sometimes progress happens whether you're ready or not, in this heartfelt summer story of love, family, and holding on as well as letting go.

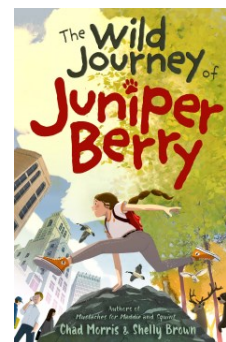
The Race for the Ruby Turtle
by Stephen Bramucci

When his parents send him to spend the summer with his great-aunt, Jake suddenly finds himself on a quest to change the way people see him and his ADHD, and to protect the wonders of nature.



The Wild Journey of Juniper Berry
by Chad Morris

Eleven-year-old Juniper Berry lives off the grid in the California woods with her family, but when her brother gets sick, they have to leave to get help.





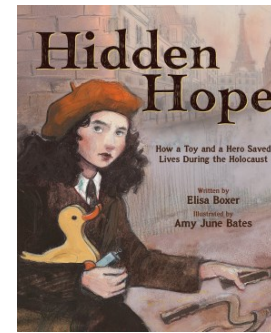
The Cursed Moon by Angela Cervantes

Rafa is really proud of his latest creation, until strange things start to happen around him. With a sinking feeling, Rafa realizes the Caretaker is real. Rafa has brought the ghost to life--and only he can stop him.



The Firefly Summer by Morgan Matson

For as long as Ryanna Stuart can remember, her summers have been spent with her father and his new wife. This summer, she's received a letter from her grandparents—grandparents neither she nor her dad have spoken to since her mom's death—inviting her to stay with them at an old summer camp in the Poconos.



Hidden Hope: How A Toy and A Hero Saved Lives During the Holocaust by Elisa Boxer

The remarkable true story of how a toy duck smuggled forged identity papers for Jewish refugees during WWII.

Dogtown by Katherine Applegate

When Chance, a real dog, and Metal Head, a robot dog, break out of the Dogtown shelter, they embark on an adventure to find their fur-ever homes, encountering both danger and unexpected kindness along the way.



Four Eyes by Rex Ogle

When Rex finds out he needs glasses, he's beyond miserable. Dealing with the bullies at school, his family being broke, and an embarrassing lack of friends, he has way too much on his plate already.



Iceberg by Jennier A. Nielsen

Traveling all alone aboard the Titanic, stowaway and aspiring journalist Hazel Rothbury secretly explores the opulent ship with the help of a porter and a sweet first-class passenger until disaster strikes, forcing Hazel to fight to save her friends and herself.



Farther Than The Moon by Lindsay Lackey

While attending the Junior Astronaut Recruitment Program, 13-year-old Houston Stewart struggles to meet the program's rigorous demands but is determined to honor the dream of his brother, who has cerebral palsy and epilepsy, even if it seems like an impossible mission.



Good Different by Meg Eden Kuyatt

Neurodivergent girl Selah, who always tries to keep her feelings in check — especially her anger — explodes at school one day, hitting a fellow student, and must figure out more about who she is in order to understand that different doesn't mean damaged.

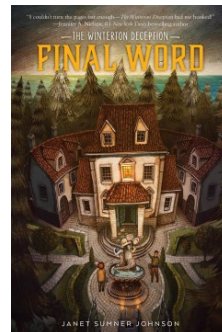


Jawbreaker by Christina Wyman

Forced to wear painful (and totally awkward) orthodontic headgear called "the jawbreaker," Max Plink finds following her dreams of entering the journalism competition complicated by a required video component, which means showing her face to her classmates and possibly the whole city.

Final Word by Janet Sumner Johnson

Thirteen-year-old twins Hope and Gordon enter a spelling bee in a last-ditch effort to save their family from financial ruin, only to find themselves in a cut-throat competition to uncover a fortune and dark secrets about the wealthy relations they have never known.



The Guardian Test by Christina Soontornvat

Accepted to the Guardian Academy on Lotus Island, a place where kids transform into magical creatures sworn to protect the natural world, young Plum finds herself struggling and might be forced to leave school if she cannot embrace her inner animal soon.



The Labors of Hercules Beal by Gary D. Schmidt

Seventh-grader Hercules Beal has to figure out how to fulfill his teacher's assignment of performing the Twelve Labors of Hercules in real life, and discovers important things about friendship, community, and himself along the way.

