



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact:

Chelsea Mooser
Manager of Outreach
323-782-1010
chelseamooser@scbwi.org

**THE SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF THE
2012 CRYSTAL KITE MEMBER CHOICE AWARDS**

Tuesday, May 1, 2012, LOS ANGELES—The SCBWI is pleased to announce the winners of the 2012 Crystal Kite Member Choice Awards for our 15 regional divisions:

- Africa:** **FINDING AUNT JOAN**
By Jenny Hatton and Joan Rankin
(Jacana Media Ltd.)
- Australia:** **THE LAST VIKING**
By Norman Jorgensen
(Fremantle Press)
- California/Hawaii:** **WON TON - A CAT TALE TOLD IN HAIKU**
By Lee Wardlaw illustrated by Eugene Yelchin
(Henry Holt)
- Florida/GA:** **CLEOPATRA'S MOON**
By Vicky Alvear Shecter
(Arthur A. Levine Books)
- Kansas/LA:** **BETWEEN SHADES OF GRAY**
By Ruta Sepetys
(Philomel Books)
- Middle East/Asia:** **ORCHARDS**
By Holly Thompson
(Delacorte Dell-Random House)
- Minnesota/Iowa:** **BLUEFISH**
By Pat Schmatz
(Candlewick Press)
- Nevada:** **BLACK & WHITE: THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN REVEREND FRED L.
SHUTTLESWORTH AND EUGENE "BULL" CONNOR**
By Larry Brimmer
(Boyd's Mills Press)
- New England:** **PEARL**
By Jo Knowles
(Henry Holt Books)
- New York:** **THELONIOUS MOUSE**
By Orel Protopopescu
(Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc.)
- PA/DE/NJ:** **THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF MIKE**
By Kathryn Erskine

(Philomel Books)

- Texas/OK:** **MINE!**
By Patrice Barton
(Random House Children's Books)
- Americas:** **WITCHLANDERS**
By Lena Coakley
(Atheneum)
- UK/Europe:** **DARK PARTIES**
By Sara Grant
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- Washington:** **THE FRIENDSHIP DOLL**
By Kirby Larson
(Delacorte Dell)

About the Crystal Kite Awards

The SCBWI Crystal Kite Awards recognize great books from the 70 SCBWI regions around the world. Each regional chapter was assigned to one of 15 divisions and the membership in each division voted for their favorite book published by an SCBWI member that year.

The Crystal Kite Awards are a regional complement of the annual SCBWI Golden Kite Award which given in 4 categories for excellence in children's literature. Both awards are unique as they are chosen by other writers and illustrators, making them the only peer-given awards in publishing for young readers.

About SCBWI

Founded in 1971, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators is one of the largest writers' and illustrators' organizations, with over 22,000 members worldwide. It is the only organization specifically for those working in the fields of children's literature, magazines, film, television, and multimedia. The organization was founded by Stephen Mooser (President) and Lin Oliver (Executive Director), both of whom are well-published children's book authors and leaders in the world of children's literature. For more information about the SCBWI and the Crystal Kite Award, please visit www.scbwi.org, and click "Awards & Grants."

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