

# SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS OFFICIAL READING LIST — 2017

## CANADA

### PREK-K

#### Nonfiction Picture Book

##### ***What Noise Do I Make?***

by Brian McLachlan

Book Description: Cats meow and dogs woof, but what about animals beyond Old McDonald's farm? Find out in this funny and well-researched book that encourages kids' participation.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario

Publisher: OwlKids Books

#### Picture Book

##### ***Bringing the Outside In***

by Mary McKenna Siddals, illustrated by Patrice Barton

Book Description: Four kids and their dog frolic through the seasons, savoring the joys of outdoor play, the treasures collected along the way, and memories for keeps!

Author's Residence: Prince George, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers

Author's Website: [www.siddals.com](http://www.siddals.com)

##### ***Gabby: Wonder Girl***

by Joyce Grant, illustrated by Jan Dolby

Book Description: Gabby is asking questions and she wants answers! Who is in the mysterious photo? Where is Mrs. Oldham? Gabby and Roy discover just how wonderful question words can be!

Illustrator's Residence: Toronto, Ontario

Publisher: Fitzhenry & Whiteside

##### ***Giraffe Meets Bird***

by Rebecca Bender

Book Description: It's easy to make Giraffe cross. It's a cinch to make Bird angry. A comic adventure for preschoolers reveals the history of this squabbling pair.

Author's Residence: Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Pajama Press

##### ***I Love You Too, I Love You Three***

by Wendy Tugwood, illustrated by Sheila McGraw

Book Description: Through charming counting rhymes and gentle illustrations, this heartwarming book perfectly captures how the love between a mother and child transcends their separation.

Author's Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Publisher: Firefly Books

##### ***Leah's Mustache Party***

by Nadia Mike, illustrated by Charlene Chua

Book Description: Leah loves her Halloween pirate costume, especially the teal mustache accompanying it. When her birthday draws near, Leah decides to hold a mustache-themed party.

Illustrator's Residence: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Inhabit Media

##### ***Maggie McGillicuddy's Eye for Trouble***

by Susan Hughes, illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan

Book Description: Readers will have no trouble spotting the clever make-believe in this story about an unlikely intergenerational friendship between two neighbors rooted in playful imagination.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Kids Can Press

##### ***A Picnic at the Lighthouse***

by Rebecca North, illustrated by Nancy Keating

Book Description: A heartwarming story about a young boy and his father who have a picnic near a lighthouse and spend a fun-filled day together.

Author's Residence: Newfoundland, Canada

Publisher: Tuckamore Books

##### ***The Pocket Mommy***

by Rachel Eugster, illustrated by Tom Goldsmith

Book Description: Samuel wishes his mommy would fit into his pocket to keep him company at school. When it comes true, things don't go quite as expected!

Author's Residence: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Tundra Books

Author's Website: [www.racheleugster.com](http://www.racheleugster.com)

##### ***The Snow Knows***

by Jennifer McGrath, illustrated by Josée Bisailon

Book Description: A whimsical winter lullaby with hide-and-seek illustrations invites children to discover who's hiding in the winter woods.

Author's Residence: Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

Publisher: Nimbus Publishing

##### ***What Matters***

by Alison Hughes, illustrated by Holly Hatam

Book Description: What Matters gently explores nature's connections, from the minuscule to the monumental, and traces the ripple effects of one child's good deed.

Illustrator's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

### GRADES 1-2

#### Chapter Book

##### ***Book Uncle and Me***

by Uma Krishnaswami, illustrated by Julianna Swaney

Book Description: It's election time in India, but what can one kid do to change things when she can't even vote? Plenty, as it turns out.

Author's Residence: Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Groundwood Books

## Fantasy

### ***Le flocon de Noël***

by Louise Catherine Bergeron

Book Description: The recipe for a successful Christmas cookie recipe? A snowflake-shaped cookie cutter, a curious little boy, a generous babysitter, and mostly, a magic formula!

Author's Residence: Boisbriand, Québec, Canada

Publisher: Bayard Canada

Author's Website: [www.illustrationquebec.com/en/portfolios/oeuvres/artiste/louisebergeron](http://www.illustrationquebec.com/en/portfolios/oeuvres/artiste/louisebergeron)

Picture Book

### ***The Christmas Wind***

by Stephanie Simpson McLellan, illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan

Book Description: On a windy Christmas Eve, Jo, her sick mother, and her infant brother seek refuge in the barn of a grouchy old man named Franklin Murdock.

Author's Residence: Newmarket, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Author's Website: [www.TheChristmasWind.com](http://www.TheChristmasWind.com)

### ***Mae and the Moon***

by Jami Gigot

Book Description: When the moon disappears, Mae begins to worry. Determined to find her glowing friend, she sets off on a wonderful voyage through her imagination.

Author's Residence: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Ripple Grove Press

### ***Mouse Vacation***

by Philip Roy, illustrated by Andrea Torrey Balsara

Book Description: When Happy's vacation dreams include the Taj Mahal and New Zealand, but John offers the woods and river, how's a poor mouse to have any fun?

Author's Residence: Durham, Ontario, Canada

Illustrator's Residence: Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Ronsdale Press

### ***The Old Ways***

by Susan Margaret Chapman, illustrated by John Mantha

Book Description: Simon, an Inuit boy, is not interested in the old ways of his grandparents until they are trapped in a snowstorm on their snowmobile.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Fifth House Publishing/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

### ***Sizing Up Winter***

by Lizann Flatt, illustrated by Ashley Barron

Book Description: A winter wonderland, brought to life in colourful cut-paper collage, helps children grasp the various concepts of measurement.

Author's Residence: Muskoka, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: OwlKids Books

### ***Sloth the Lazy Dragon***

by Regan W. H. Macaulay, illustrated by Alex Zgud

Book Description: Through a sensible diet and plenty of exercise, a brave dwarf helps a heavy dragon named Sloth lose weight so he can fly again.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Guardian Angel Publishing

### ***Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey***

by Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Nizar Ali Badr

Book Description: A child and family flee from war in search of a safe place to live, illustrated in rocks by Syrian artist.

Author's Residence: Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

### ***Take Me Out to the Ice Rink***

by Stella Partheniou Grasso, illustrated by Chris Jones

Book Description: This rollicking read will catch everyone up in the energy of a game. Alongside learning basic hockey terms and lingo, young readers will be singing their way to reading fun.

Illustrator's Residence: Mississauga, Ontario

Publisher: Scholastic Canada

Illustrator's Website: [www.mrjonese.com](http://www.mrjonese.com)

### ***When the Rain Comes***

by Alma Fullerton, illustrated by Kim La Fave

Book Description: Trapped by a flash flood with an ox cart bearing her community's rice seedlings, Malini wants to run but knows she must save the seedlings.

Author's Residence: Midland, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Pajama Press

## Poetry

### ***Driftwood Dragons and Other Seaside Poems***

by Tyne Brown, illustrated by Tamara Thiebaut-Heikalo

Book Description: A collection of lyrical seaside poems celebrating the coastal region. From snails to whales, Driftwood Dragons captures the beauty, diversity, and joy of maritime beaches.

Author's Residence: Canada

Publisher: Nimbus Publishing

## GRADES 3-5

## Graphic Novel

### ***Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy***

by Doug Savage

Book Description: Improbable pals Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy use their powers—laser vision and an unrelenting sense of optimism—to fight the forces of evil.

Author's Residence: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Andrews McMeel

## Historical Fiction

### ***Heart of a Champion***

by Ellen Schwartz

Book Description: Set in 1942, Heart of a Champion tells the story of a famous baseball team and the internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II.

Author's Residence: Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Tundra Books

## Horror

### ***The Doll's Eye***

by Marina Cohen, illustrated by Nicoletta Ceccoli

Book Description: From the moment the glass eye rolls out from underneath the bed in her creepy new house, twelve-year-old Hadley's life begins to change. Forever.

Author's Residence: Markham, Ontario

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press

Author's Website: [www.marinacohen.com](http://www.marinacohen.com)

## Humorous Fiction

### ***The Best Mistake Mystery***

by Sylvia McNicoll, illustrated by Tania Howell

Book Description: Dog walker Stephen Noble counts and analyzes mistakes, which, together with canine clients Ping and Pong and sidekick Renée Kobai, help him solve neighborhood mysteries.

Author's Residence: Burlington, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Dundurn Press

Author's Website: [www.sylviamcnicoll.com](http://www.sylviamcnicoll.com)

### ***Small Medium at Large***

by Joanne Levy

Book Description: After she's hit by lightning at a wedding, twelve-year-old Lilah Bloom develops a new talent: She hears dead people.

Author's Residence: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Bloomsbury Books for Young Readers

## Mystery

### ***It's a Mystery, Pig Face!***

by Wendy McLeod MacKnight

Book Description: A paper bag filled with money. An annoying little brother. Can Tracy and her best friend, Ralph, solve the mystery and still stay friends?

Author's Residence: Hanwell, New Brunswick, Canada

Publisher: Sky Pony Press

Author's Website: [www.wendymcleodmacknight.com](http://www.wendymcleodmacknight.com)

## Nonfiction

### ***Discover Forensic Science***

by L. E. Carmichael

Book Description: Discover how dogs, bugs, and DNA help scientists crack the case!

Author's Residence: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Publisher: Lerner

### ***The Elephant Keeper***

by Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Pedro

Book Description: How does an African boy from a poaching background become a skilled caregiver of orphaned baby elephants? Read this true story of release and hope.

Author's Residence: Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Kids Can Press

Author's Website: [www.margrietruurs.com](http://www.margrietruurs.com)

### ***Monster Science: Could Monsters Survive (and Thrive!) in the Real World?***

by Helaine Becker, illustrated by Phil McAndrew

Book Description: Put six eek!-inducing monsters, from Bigfoot to Frankenstein to zombies, under your microscope to expose the amazing proven scientific principles behind the legends.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Kids Can Press

### ***Survival Secrets of Turkey Vultures***

by Debra Toor

Book Description: Explore turkey vulture adaptations as you join mother vulture on a hunt to feed her chicks. Combines science, photographs, and learning activities.

Author's Residence: Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Guardian Angel Publishing

### ***What Makes a Monster? Discovering the World's Scariest Creatures***

by Jess Keating, illustrated by David DeGrand

Book Description: From the author of *Pink Is for Blobfish*, Animal Planet meets Godzilla in this nonfiction picture book that puts the "Ack!" into backyard science.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers

Author's Website: [www.jesskeating.com](http://www.jesskeating.com)

## Nonfiction Picture Book

### ***Big Blue Forever***

by Anita Miettunen

Book Description: The story of how a blue whale skeleton found on a remote beach in eastern Canada was reassembled for permanent museum display.

Author's Residence: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Author's Website: [www.anitamiettunen.com](http://www.anitamiettunen.com)

## Picture Book

### ***Hala's Window***

by Farida Mirza

Book Description: Curious Hala has many unanswered questions. Her village has no school. Her parents are uneducated. Then something happens, and Hala's joyful journey of learning begins.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Oxford University Press

## Realistic Fiction

### ***28 Tricks for a Fearless Grade 6***

by Catherine Austen

Book Description: Dave Davidson cures his classmates of all their phobias—but his harebrained therapy comes with unintended and hilarious consequences in this hi-lo episodic novel.

Author's Residence: Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

Publisher: Lorimer

### ***Everyday Hero***

by Kathleen Cherry

Book Description: Alice, a student with Asperger's, meets school

tough girl, Megan. The two become unlikely comrades and learn about courage, resilience, and friendship.

Author's Residence: British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

### ***Inside Hudson Pickle***

by Yolanda Ridge

Book Description: Hudson learns that his uncle has a rare respiratory illness to which he may also be genetically predisposed.

Author's Residence: Rossland, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Kids Can Press

Author's Website: [www.yolandaridge.com](http://www.yolandaridge.com)

### ***Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess***

by Shari Green

Book Description: Struggling to accept the upcoming changes in her life, a deaf sixth-grade girl finds comfort and courage through an unlikely friendship with her elderly neighbor.

Author's Residence: Campbell River, BC, Canada

Publisher: Pajama Press

Author's Website: [www.sharigreen.com](http://www.sharigreen.com)

### ***The Things Owen Wrote***

by Jessica Scott Kerrin

Book Description: Owen must get back a notebook his granddad accidentally sent to the Iceland archive. He can't let anyone read the things he wrote in it!

Author's: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Publisher: Groundwood Books

Author's Website: [www.jessicascottkerrin.com](http://www.jessicascottkerrin.com)

## **Theater Arts**

### ***The Incredible Adventures of Mary Jane Mosquito***

by Tomson Highway, illustrated by Sue Todd

Book Description: The story of a wingless little mosquito from Manitoba, this musical cabaret explores the ageless theme of a misfit who finds her voice through song.

Illustrator's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Fifth House Publishing/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

## **GRADES 6-8**

### **Fantasy**

#### ***The Adventurer's Guide to Successful Escapes***

by Wade Albert White, illustrated by Mariano Epelbaum

Book Description: In a magical world of floating tiers, mischievous dragons, and endless bureaucracy, Anne and her friends embark on a quest to become the Rightful Heir.

Author's Residence: Kentville, Nova Scotia Canada

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

### **Historical Fiction**

#### ***Cherry Blossom Baseball***

by Jennifer Maruno

Book Description: *Cherry Blossom Baseball* isn't just about a fire-cracker female pitcher. All of Michiko's family have Japanese faces, making the government suspicious and their lives fearful.

Author's Residence: Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Dundurn Press

## **Humorous Fiction**

### ***Mine!***

by Natalie Hyde

Book Description: A wild ride to reclaim a gold mine with moose, muffins, and mayhem!

Author's Residence: Cambridge, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Scholastic

Author's Website: [www.nataliehyde.com](http://www.nataliehyde.com)

## **Magical Realism**

### ***Fox Magic***

by Beverley Brenna, illustrated by Miriam Körner

Book Description: Chance's two best friends have taken their own lives as part of a suicide pact, and Chance is struggling with loss and guilt. How can she go on without them?

Author's Residence: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Author's Website: [www.beverleybrenna.com](http://www.beverleybrenna.com)

## **Narrative Nonfiction**

### ***The Ship to Nowhere: On Board the Exodus***

by Rona Arato

Book Description: Holocaust survivors endure hardship and danger, seeking a home where they can live safely as Jews. Their story parallels today's Syrian refugee crisis.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Second Story Press

## **Nonfiction**

### ***Dark Matters: Nature's Reaction to Light Pollution***

by Joan Marie Galat

Book Description: Told through the eyes of thirteen-year-old Joan who loves the outdoors, *Dark Matters* introduces the fragile animals impacted by our increasingly threatened nighttime skies.

Author's Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Author's Website: [www.joangalat.com](http://www.joangalat.com)

### ***Safety Stars: Players Who Fought to Make the Hard-Hitting Game of Professional Hockey Safer***

by Sue Irwin

Book Description: The story of hockey's safety heroes, the opposition they faced, and how they persisted and ultimately succeeded in their campaigns.

Author's Residence: Canada

Publisher: Lorimer

## **Realistic Fiction**

### ***Ice Dogs***

by Terry Lynn Johnson

Book Description: When an injured boy and a storm both catch Victoria and her dog team by surprise, a routine trip becomes a life-or-death struggle.

Author's Residence: Whitefish Falls, Ontario, Canada  
 Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

### **The Kayak**

by **Debbie Spring**

Book Description: In her wheelchair, Teresa feels helpless and trapped. When out kayaking, she saves a windsurfer in trouble, which changes her life forever.

Author's Residence: Canada

Publisher: Thistledown Press

### **No More Dragons**

by **Rie Charles**

Book Description: Bullied at home and at school, thirteen-year-old Alex finds the courage and confidence to confront it and even thrive.

Author's Residence: Summerland, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Dundurn Press

### **Shatterproof**

by **Jocelyn Shipley**

Book Description: Nate is running a scam because he looks like a teen TV star, but then he meets a girl he doesn't want to lie to.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

### **Tagged Out**

by **Joyce Grant**

Book Description: The Blues find out their new all-star player is gay. Will they challenge their prejudices—and stick up for their teammate?

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Lorimer

## **GRADES 9-12**

### **Contemporary Fiction**

#### **Cutting to the Chase**

by **Rose Phillips**

Book Description: A young adult novel about self-harm that explores issues of anxiety, family turmoil, friendship, and first love.

Author's Residence: Cobble Hill, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: Evernight Teen

Author's Website: [www.rosephillipsya.blogspot.ca](http://www.rosephillipsya.blogspot.ca)

#### **Hit the Ground Running**

by **Alison Hughes**

Book Description: A Children's Services investigation has siblings Dee (16) and Eddie (7) fleeing down the interstates in a decrepit car. What could possibly go wrong?

Author's Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

Author's Website: [www.alisonhughesbooks.com](http://www.alisonhughesbooks.com)

#### **Punch Like a Girl**

by **Karen Krossing**

Book Description: Teen girl with a hero complex tries to rescue others, whether they want it or not, in order to avoid facing her fear of assault.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Orca Books

### **Saving Grad**

by **Karen Spafford-Fitz**

Book Description: When her abusive stepfather comes for her at her graduation party, Vienna must save her friends, her mother, and herself. Inclusive to reluctant readers.

Author's Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Publisher: Lorimer

Author's Website: [www.karensafford-fitz.com](http://www.karensafford-fitz.com)

### **Historical Fiction**

#### **The Pact**

by **Amanda West Lewis**

Book Description: Inspired by a true story, The Pact sheds light on indoctrination, propaganda, racism, and a child's developing sense of morality in Nazi Germany.

Author's Residence: Perth, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside  
 Author's Website: [www.amandawestlewis.com](http://www.amandawestlewis.com)

### **Nonfiction**

#### **Fun with Frosting: A Beginner's Guide to Decorating Creative Fondant-Free Cakes**

by **K. Callard**

Book Description: Aimed at beginner bakers of all ages, this intro-to-cake decorating book provides baking basics and step-by-step instructions for over forty designs.

Author's Residence: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Sky Horse Publishing

### **Psychological Thriller**

#### **The Hanging Girl**

by **Eileen Cook**

Book Description: Skye's fake tarot card readings have always been fun, but now there's a missing girl and a prank that has turned very dark.

Author's Residence: British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

Author's Website: [www.eileencook.com](http://www.eileencook.com)

### **Realistic Fiction**

#### **Girl Mans Up**

by **M-E Girard**

Book Description: Old-world parents, disintegrating friendships, and strong feelings for other girls drive Pen to see that in order to be herself, she'll have to man up.

Author's Residence: Durham Region, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: HarperTeen

#### **Speed of Life**

by **J. M. Kelly**

Book Description: Crystal and her twin make a pact to raise their baby together, but when an opportunity arises to attend college, she faces a difficult choice.

Author's Residence: Gabriola Island, British Columbia, Canada

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

***Stepping into Traffic***

by K. J. Rankin

Book Description: After being bounced from one foster home to another, sixteen-year-old Sebastian is losing his sense of self. He wants to behave in his next home, but will his bad choices stop him?

Author's Residence: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Publisher: ThistleDown Press

**Science Fiction**

***Transferral***

by Kate Blair

Book Description: In an alternate London, criminals are given diseases removed from the innocent. A chilling look at a world gone wrong while trying to do right.

Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Publisher: Dancing Cat Books