SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS
OFFICIAL READING LIST — 2018
CALIFORNIA / HAWAII

PRE-K-K

BOARD BOOK

Los Angeles Is . . .
by Elisa Parhad, illustrated by Alexander Vidal
Book Description: From taco trucks to tar pits, this stylish board book will delight toddlers and travelers alike as the perfect primer on the City of Angels.
Author’s Residence: Pasadena, California
Publisher: Cameron + Company
Author’s Website: elisaparhad.com

Can You Hear a Coo, Coo?
by Jamie Kiffel-Alcheh, illustrated by Marc Lumer
Book Description: In this stylized board book, animal pairs use rhythm, rhyme, and repetition as they march to a surprise destination . . . Noah’s Ark! This book is a PJ Library selection.
Author’s Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Kar-Ben Publishing
Publication Date: March 1, 2018
Author’s Website: jamiekiffelalcheh.com

NONFICTION

Water Land: Land and Water Forms Around the World
by Christy Hale
Book Description: Brightly illustrated environments showcase land and water masses. With each turn of a die-cut page, a water form transforms into a land form. Back matter includes definitions and a fold-out map.
Author’s Residence: Palo Alto, California
Publisher: Neal Porter Books
Publication Date: May 22, 2018
Author’s Website: christyhale.com

PICTURE BOOK

Boats on the Bay
by Jeanne Walker Harvey, illustrated by Grady McFerrin
Book Description: Houseboats, ferries, fishing boats, sailboats . . . see boats parade on a busy bay buoyed by lyrical text. Inspired by San Francisco, but with universal appeal.
Author’s Residence: Sausalito, California
Publisher: Cameron + Company
Publication Date: August 21, 2018
Author’s Website: jeanneharvey.com

Do You Believe in Unicorns?
by Bethanie Murguia
Book Description: Is believing in magic the key to seeing a unicorn? If you keep your eyes open to wonder, the possibilities are endless.
Author’s Residence: Sausalito, California
Publisher: Candlewick Press
Publication Date: September 4, 2018
Author’s Website: aquapup.com

The Goodnight Train Rolls On
by June Sobel, illustrated by Laura Huliska-Beith
Book Description: A colorful companion to The Goodnight Train with new nighttime hi-jinks on a crazy, colorful trip to Dreamland!
Author’s Residence: Westlake Village, California
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Publication Date: September 4, 2018
Author’s Website: junesobel.com

Hedgehog
by Ashlyn Anstee
Book Description: Hedgehog is hogging the hedge and won’t let the other animals live there. In this humorous political allegory, he learns that it’s not a winning strategy.
Author’s Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Tundra
Publication Date: May 8, 2018
Author’s Website: ashlyna.com

Hello School!
by Priscilla Burris
Book Description: A delighted, diverse class of children are about to start school and experience all its wonders! Small and big moments are celebrated in this picture book.
Author’s Residence: Orange County, California
Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books
Publication Date: July 3, 2018
Author’s Website: priscillaburris.com

Jack B. Ninja
by Tim McCanna, illustrated by Stephen Savage
Description: In this imaginative ninja fantasy inspired by the classic nursery rhyme “Jack Be Nimble,” Jack goes on a secret mission to find hidden treasure.
Author’s Residence: San Jose, California
Publication Date: June 26, 2018
Author’s Website: timmccanna.com

Honu and Moa
by Edna Cabcabin Moran
Book Description: This humorous twist on a well-known Aesop tale features characters whose cultural significance continue to influence the Hawaiian islands today.
Author’s Residence: Alameda, California
Publisher: BeachHouse Publishing
Publication Date: October 2018
Author’s Website: kidlitedna.com
Mermaid School
by JoAnne Stewart Wetzel, illustrated by Julianna Swaney
Book Description: Molly and Squirt make new friends, sing the A-B-Seas, and ride the great kelp swing during their first day at this underwater school.
Author’s Residence: Palo Alto, California
Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf
Publication Date: July 17, 2018
Author’s Website: joannewetzel.com

Monster and Mouse Go Camping
by Deborah Underwood, illustrated by Jared Chapman
Book Description: Mouse promises Monster yummy food on their camping trip. But when Monster eats their tent and sleeping bags, what will the two friends do?
Author’s Residence: Northern California
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Publication Date: May 29, 2018
Author’s Website: DeborahUnderwoodBooks.com

Nature’s Lullaby Fills the Night
by Dee Leone, illustrated by Bali Engel
Book Description: From moths fluttering their powdery wings to willows shushing in the breeze, tender nature scenes sweep across land, sea, and sky to soothe little ones.
Author’s Residence: San Diego, California
Publisher: Sterling Children’s Books
Publication Date: February 6, 2018
Author’s Website: deeleone.com

Penguinaut!
by Marcie Colleen, illustrated by Emma Yarlett
Book Description: Penguinaut! is for every child who’s said, “I can do it myself!” and finds that the rewards are much richer when shared with friends.
Author’s Residence: San Diego, California
Publisher: Orchard Books
Publication Date: October 30, 2018
Author’s Website: thisismarciecolleen.com

Pilar’s Worries
by Victoria Sanchez, illustrated by Jess Golden
Book Description: Pilar worries. And when auditions for her favorite ballet are announced, her worries grow. Pilar must decide: will the worries win . . . or will Pilar’s dancing dream?
Author’s Residence: San Francisco, California
Publisher: Arthur Whitman and Company
Publication Date: October 1, 2018
Author’s Website: victoriamsanchez.com

Rock What Ya Got!
by Samantha Berger, illustrated by Kerascoët
Book Description: This book is about focusing on what you GOT, not on what’s NOT, and ROCKING IT! It’s about loving yourself as you are.
Author’s Residence: Santa Monica, California
Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
Publication Date: September 25, 2018
Author’s Website: samanthaberger.com

Springtime Babies
by Danna Smith, illustrated by Takako Fisher
Book Description: Join the barnyard parade as Pony and Gray Goose go in search of animal babies just born on the farm.
Author’s Residence: Lodi, California
Publisher: Little Golden Books
Publication Date: January 9, 2018
Author’s Website: dannasmithbooks.com

The Turtle Ship
by Helena Ku Rhee, illustrated by Colleen Kong-Savage
Book Description: Loosely based on Korean history, the tale is
about a poor boy who wins a national engineering challenge with inspiration from his pet turtle.

**Author’s Residence:** Los Angeles, California  
**Publisher:** Lee & Low  
**Publication Date:** June 5, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** helenakrhee.com

**Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Car**  
by Kate Dopirak, illustrated by Mary Peterson  
Book Description: Little red car beeps good night to all of his four-wheeled friends in this fresh take on the classic song “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.”  

**Illustrator’s Residence:** Los Angeles, California  
**Publisher:** Beach Lane Books  
**Publication Date:** February 16, 2018  
**Illustrator’s Website:** marypeterson.com

**What can You Do with a Toolbox?**  
by John Colaneri and Anthony Carrino, illustrated by Maple Lam  
Book Description: HGTV stars John Colaneri and Anthony Carrino introduce young readers to the tools in a toolbox and how to use them.  

**Illustrator’s Residence:** San Gabriel, California  
**Publisher:** Paula Wiseman Books  
**Publication Date:** August 28, 2018  
**Illustrator’s Website:** maplelam.com

**GRADES 1-2**

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Ruth Asawa: A Sculpting Life**  
by Joan Schoettler, illustrated by Traci Van Wagner  
Book Description: Ruth Asawa, artist, educator, and arts activist, believed in making the world better. She understood exposing children to art was one path toward that goal.  

**Author’s Residence:** Fresno, California  
**Publisher:** Pelican Publishing  
**Publication Date:** October 2018

**CHAPTER BOOK**

**Ellie May on Presidents’ Day**  
by Hillary Homzie, illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler  
Book Description: Quirky and funny Ellie May enjoys learning about presidents. In an attempt to become flag leader, she learns honesty is the best sort of leadership.

**Author’s Residence:** Napa, California  
**Publisher:** Charlesbridge  
**Publication Date:** December 18, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** hillaryhomzie.com

**Project Droid #5: Give a Bot a Bone**  
by Amanda Burwasser and Nancy Krulik, illustrated by Mike Moran  
Book Description: Robot kid Java and his human cousin Logan need money—fast! But it seems coming up with cash is really ruff business.

**Author’s Residence:** Forestville, California  
**Publisher:** Sky Pony Press  
**Publication Date:** March 6, 2018

**EARLY READER**

**Buster the Very Shy Dog: More Adventures with Phoebe**  
by Lizse Bechtold  
Book Description: It takes the special skills of both dogs to discover who the real Garbage Bandit is and save their buried bones from a mysterious machine.

**Author’s Residence:** Pasadena, California  
**Publisher:** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Green Light Readers  
**Publication Date:** April 10, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** liszebechtold.com

**NONFICTION PICTURE BOOK**

**The Power of a Dream: Maria Feliciana Arballo, Latina Pioneer**  
by Linda Covella, illustrated by Debbie Bolton  
Book Description: In 1775, Feliciana Arballo, on an arduous journey from Mexico to California, follows her dream of a life without prejudice for her children and descendants.

**Author’s Residence:** Santa Cruz, California  
**Publisher:** MacLaren-Cochrane Publishing  
**Publication Date:** October 20, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** lindacovella.com

**PICTURE BOOK**

**Alice’s Magic Garden**  
by Henry Herz, illustrated by Natalie Hoopes  
Book Description: Filled with literary allusions and nods to its classic roots, *Alice’s Magic Garden* is a delightful prequel beckoning an escape to the whimsy of Wonderland.

**Author’s Residence:** San Diego, California  
**Publisher:** Familius  
**Publication Date:** September 1, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** henryherz.com

**Bitter and Sweet**  
by Sandra V. Feder, illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker  
Book Description: When Hannah’s family moves she feels only bitterness, until a new friend’s gift reveals that sweetness can come from unexpected places. Some Jewish content.

**Author’s Residence:** Burlingame, California  
**Publisher:** Groundwood Books  
**Publication Date:** October 1, 2018  
**Author’s Website:** sandrafvfeder.com

**Bug Off**  
by Shawnie Clark, illustrated by Makarand Desai  
Book Description: On the first day of school, Peter has mixed emotions. The school bully comes on the scene. Peter’s life will never be the same due to one of the ugliest bugs and one act of kindness.
Cleo and Cornelius
by Elizabeth Nicholson, Janine Pibal, and Nick Geller; illustrated by Michelle Thies
Book Description: Two very different cat cousins explore two very unique ancient cultures as they embark on two very unexpected adventures.

Everything You Need for a Treehouse
by Carter Higgins, illustrated by Emily Hughes
Book Description: Treeshouses are for wonder. Treeshouses are for snacks. Treeshouses are for whispers and snickers and echoes. Treeshouses are for everyone.

Hanukkah Hamster
by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Andre Ceoiin
Book Description: A lonely immigrant cab driver celebrates Hanukkah with a hamster one of his fares left behind.

The Holy Ghost is Like a Blanket (Boy Version)
by Annalisa Hall, illustrated by Corey Egbert
Book Description: Meaningful analogies to help your little ones recognize the Holy Ghost as a positive influence in their lives.

If I Didn’t Have You
by Alan Katz, illustrated by Chris Robertson
Book Description: A father and son discuss the variety of outlandish items they might have if not for the other in this funny and heartfelt look at the appreciation we have for our families.

If Wendell had a Walrus
by Lori Mortensen, illustrated by Matt Phelan
Book Description: A boy named Wendell dreams of getting a pet walrus. But looking for a walrus becomes its own adventure with unexpected results.

Jack (Not Jackiel)
by Erica Silverman, illustrated by Holly Hatam
Book Description: A big sister realizes that her little sister, Jackie, doesn’t like dresses or fairies—she likes ties and bugs! Will she and her family be able to accept that Jackie identifies more as “Jack?”

Love is Love
by Michael Genhart, PhD, illustrated by Ken Min
Book Description: A sweet and straightforward story showing that gay families, straight families, and everything in between are all kinds of normal.

Marigold & Daisy
by Andrea Zuill
Book Description: Marigold is excited to meet her new snail sister, but quickly realizes that Daisy must be an evil genius, capable of mesmerizing everyone.

Mulan’s Lunar New Year
by Natasha Yim, illustrated by Sophie Li
Book Description: A young Mulan prepares to celebrate her favorite festival with her family—Chinese New Year! But everything Mulan does seems to turn out wrong . . .

Two Problems for Sophia
by Jim Averbeck, illustrated by Yasmeen Ismail
Book Description: A sequel to One Word from Sophia, this time Sophia tackles Design Process to solve two problems—a sleepless family and a snoring pet giraffe.
**Which Animal is Fastest?**
by Brian Rock, illustrated by Carolyn Le
Book Description: This story examines nature’s speediest animals on land, air, and sea, and will resonate with children taking standardized tests.
Illustrator’s Residence: Fountain Valley, California
Publisher: Arbordale Publishing
Publication Date: September 10, 2018
Illustrator’s Website: carolynle.com

**With Love, Grandma**
by Helen Foster James, illustrated by Petra Brown
Book Description: Grandma heads out on an adventure of her own and stays in touch with her grandchild through a series of sweet letters and memories.
Author’s Residence: San Diego, California
Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press
Publication Date: July 2018
Author’s Website: helenfosterjames.com

**POETRY**

**Fur, Feather, Fin—All of Us are Kin**
By Diane Lang, illustrated by Stephanie Laberis
Book Description: How animal classes and other animal groups are different, and pointing out some of the basic needs that we all share.
Author’s Residence: Alamo, California
Publisher: Beach Lane Books
Publication Date: May 1, 2018
Author’s Website: dianelang.net

**HUMOROUS FICTION**

**Making Friends and Horsing Around**
by DL Green, illustrated by Leandra La Rosa
Book Description: Shelby tries to fit in with the fashionistas, the burping boys, and other fourth graders. Finally, Shelby finds friends through her love of jokes and horses.
Author’s Residence: Aliso Viejo, California
Publisher: Capstone
Publication Date: August 1, 2018
Author’s Website: DebralGreen.com

**CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

**Unwritten**
by Tara Gilboy
Book Description: Storybook character Gracie lives in the real world, but longs to discover what happened in the story she’s from. The truth isn’t what she’s expecting.
Author’s Residence: San Diego, California
Publisher: Jolly Fish
Publication Date: October 16, 2018
Author’s Website: taragilboy.com

**MIDDLE GRADE FICTION**

**Annie B., Made for TV**
by Amy Dixon
Book Description: Inspired by As Seen on TV commercials, Annie...
likes to invent products and write clever sales pitches to go along with them.
Author's Residence: Clovis, California
Publisher: Running Press Kids
Publication Date: June 5, 2018
Author's Website: amydixonbooks.com

**Class Pets: Fuzzy's Great Escape**
by Bruce Hale
Book Description: When an adorable rabbit usurps Fuzzy's spot as Class Pets president, he decides to take the group on a field trip they'll never forget.
Author's Residence: Santa Barbara, California
Publisher: Scholastic
Publication Date: June 26, 2018
Author's Website: brucehale.com

**The Martin Luther King Mitzvah**
by Mathew Tekulsky
Book Description: A timeless story of two kids who defy the odds, unite a town, and make a brave stand against discrimination.
Author's Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Fitzroy Books
Publication Date: October 5, 2018
Author's Website: mathewtekulsky.com

**Stanley will Probably be Fine**
by Sally J. Pla, illustrated by Steve Wolfhard
Book Description: Stanley Fortinbras grapples with his anxiety—and learns what, exactly, it means to be brave—while on a suspenseful comic-trivia scavenger-hunt.
Author's Residence: San Diego, California
Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books
Publication Date: February 2018
Author's Website: sallyjpla.com

**Trail of the Ghost Bunny (Curious Cat Spy Club)**
by Linda Joy Singleton
Book Description: Is Kelsey's new historical home haunted with a ghost bunny? Kelsey, Becca, and Leo follow cryptic clues to solve a near-century-old ghost mystery.
Author's Residence: Burson, California
Publisher: Albert Whitman
Publication Date: September 1, 2018
Author's Website: LindaJoySingleton.com

**MYSTERY**

**The Long, Lost Home (The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place)**
by Maryrose Wood, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler
Book Description: Conclusion to the acclaimed Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place series. A plucky young governess solves the mystery of three children who were raised by wolves.
Author's Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Balzer+Bray
Publication Date: June 19, 2018
Author's Website: maryrosewood.com

**NONFICTION PICTURE BOOK**

**Stalebread Charlie and the Razzy Dazzy Spasm Band**
by Michael Mahin, illustrated by Don Tate
Book Description: Based on true events, this vibrant, inspirational story celebrates self-reliance and the power of creativity and music.
Author's Residence: Carlsbad, California
Publisher: Clarion
Publication Date: July 8, 2018
Author's Website: MichaelMahin.com

**What Makes a Blizzard?**
by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld, illustrated by Maddie Frost
Book Description: All blizzards are snowstorms, but not all snowstorms are blizzards! What is the difference? How much snow falls during a blizzard? How fast are the winds? Read and find out!
Author's Residence: Berkeley, California
Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books
Publication Date: January 2, 2018

**REALISTIC FICTION**

**Dewey Fairchild, Teacher Problem Solver**
by Lorri Horn
Book Description: Genius problem solver Dewey takes up the challenge of troublesome teachers after a client shows up desperate to pacify his teacher.
Author's Residence: Culver City, California
Publisher: Amberjack Publishing
Publication Date: September 18, 2018
Author's Website: deweyfairchild.com

**Snow Lane**
by Josephine Angelini
Book Description: Follow an ever-optimistic ten-year-old girl, the youngest of nine, as she struggles with dyslexia at school and hoarding and abuse at home.
Author's Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Feiwel and Friends
Publication Date: January 2, 2018
Author's Website: josephineangelini.com

**Undercover Chefs**
by Erin Fry
Book Description: When the promise of a cupcake contest lures them to the outskirts of campus, three unlikely friends join forces to win at all costs.
Author's Residence: Glendora, California
Publisher: 50/50 Press
Publication Date: February 25, 2018
Author's Website: erinmfry.com

**GRADES 6-8**

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

**Tanayia: Whisper Upon the Water**
by Connie Vines
Book Description: Her village destroyed, Tanayia is taken hostage. A daring escape on the edge of Cochise's stronghold saves her life,
but her ordeal is only beginning.
Author’s: Ontario, California
Publisher: Books We Love
Publication Date: January 4, 2018
Author’s Website: novelsbyconnievines.com

HISTORICAL FICTION-IN-VERSE

*Jazz Owls: a Novel of the Zoot Suit Riots*
by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez
Book Description: In multiple voices, this book shows Mexican-American family life in Los Angeles during WWII, when teenagers were attacked by racist sailors.
Author’s Residence: Clovis, California
Publisher: Atheneum
Publication Date: May 8, 2018
Author’s Website: margaritaengle.com

MIDDLE GRADE FICTION

*The Whistlebrass Clock People*
by Jack Keely and Briar Lee Mitchell, illustrated by Jack Keely
Book Description: When strange mechanical men kidnap adventurous teen Bobby Bamberger, his friends must unravel secrets hidden in the ancient Whistlebrass clock tower.
Author’s Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Permuted Press
Publication Date: April 24, 2018
Author’s Website: whistlebrass.com

MIDDLE GRADE SUPER HERO

*Bumblebee at Super Hero High*
by Lisa Yee
Book Description: When the world’s honey supply starts to drop and some of her tech is stolen, Bumblebee enlists Wonder Woman and Batgirl to help her find out why.
Author’s Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Random House
Publication Date: July 3, 2018
Author’s Website: lisayee.com

NONFICTION

*101 Small Ways to Change the World*
by Aubre Andrus
Book Description: Learn how to help out family, friends, yourself, and the planet—and show how you’re never too young to make a big difference.
Author’s Residence: Santa Monica, California
Publisher: Lonely Planet Kids
Publication Date: October 16, 2018
Author’s Website: aubreandrus.com

*The Virginia-class Submarines*
by Earle Rice Jr.
Book Description: The new *Virginia*-class attack submarines are designed to keep the US Navy’s edge in undersea warfighting and meet any new undersea challenges from potential adversaries.
Author’s Residence: Julian, California
Publisher: Mitchell Lane Publishers
Publication Date: February 2018

*The Women’s Rights Movement: Then and Now*
by Rebecca Langston-George
Book Description: Discusses the main concerns of the 1960s women’s movement and how things have evolved since then.
Author’s Residence: Bakersfield, California
Publisher: Capstone
Pub Date: January 1, 2018
Author’s Website: rebeccalangston-george.com

CONTEMPORARY FICTION

*Between the Lines*
by Nikki Grimes
Book Description: Through preparations for a poetry slam, a diverse group of high school students bond as they discover their commonalities and learn that poetry is not only a powerful tool of self-expression, but also a catalyst for shaping community.
Author’s Residence: Corona, California
Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books
Publication Date: February 2018
Author’s Website: nikkigrimes.com

*First Break*
by Jamie Weil
Book Description: A chilling ride about what it’s like to come of age in the midst of a psychotic break and come out on the other side.
Author’s Residence: Cottonwood, California
Publisher: All Things That Matter Press
Publication Date: December 2018
Author’s Website: jamieweil.net

*Secrets in Translation*
by Margo Sorenson
Book Description: On a trip to Italy, Alessandra must risk everything to protect herself and those she loves when an organized crime plot threatens to destroy them all.
Author’s Residence: Rancho Mission Viejo, California
Publisher: Fitzroy Books
Publication Date: October 2018
Author’s Website: margosorenson.com
**HISTORICAL FICTION**

*When the Crickets Stopped Singing*
by Marilyn Cram Donahue
Book Description: In the summer of 1939, Angie finds the courage to defy social norms and struggle for justice when a dangerous man threatens a friend.
Author's Residence: Highland, California
Publisher: Calkins Creek
Publication Date: March 20, 2018
Author's Website: marilyncramdonahue.com

**NONFICTION**

*Animals Go to War: From Dogs to Dolphins*
by Connie Goldsmith
Book Description: What do dogs, camels, horses, elephants, and dolphins have in common? For centuries people used animals in war, often with dire consequences for the animals.
Author's Residence: Carmichael, California
Publisher: Twenty-First Century Books
Publication Date: August 1, 2018
Author's Website: conniegoldsmith.com

*A Career in Biomedical Engineering*
by Melissa Abramovitz
Book Description: Biomedical engineering is one of the most exciting and rapidly growing engineering fields. This book provides information and insider feedback about career opportunities.
Author's Residence: Roseville, California
Publisher: ReferencePoint Press
Publication Date: August 2018
Author's Website: melissaabramovitz.com

**NOVEL-IN-VERSE**

*The Opposite of Innocent*
by Sonya Sones
Book Description: When fourteen-year-old Lily finds herself trapped in an abusive relationship with a man twice her age, she must find a way out. A gripping #metoo conversation starter.
Author's Residence: Santa Monica, California
Publisher: HarperCollins
Publication Date: September 4, 2018
Author's Website: sonyasones.com

**REALISTIC FICTION**

*Art Boss*
by Kayla Cagan
Book Description: Companion book to *Piper Perish* follows art student Piper to Manhattan, where she and Grace, a budding activist, wonder if art can change the world.
Author's Residence: Los Angeles, California
Publisher: Chronicle Books
Publication Date: October 2, 2018
Author's Website: kaylacagan.com

**STEAMPUNK**

*Ozland*
by Wendy Spinale
Book Description: In the Everland series final installment, Gale will risk everything to locate the German crown's rightful heir, but it may cost her more than she bargained for.
Author's Residence: Pleasanton, California
Publisher: Scholastic
Publication Date: April 2018
Author's Website: wendyspinale.com