

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

MIDSOUTH

(Kansas / Louisiana / Arkansas / Tennessee / Kentucky / Missouri / Mississippi)

PRE-K-K

NONFICTION PICTURE BOOK

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga

by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Frané Lessac

Book Description: Otsaliheliga (oh-jah-LEE-hay-lee-gah) expresses gratitude in the Cherokee language. Beginning in fall with Cherokee New Year, follow a full year of celebrations and experiences.

Author's Residence: Olathe, Kansas

Publisher: Charlesbridge

Publication Date: September 4, 2018

Author's Website: tracisorell.com

PICTURE BOOK

Hello, Door

by Alastair Heim, illustrated by Alisa Coburn

Book Description: In *Hello, Door*, kids can follow a thieving fox as he greets everything he sees—and steals—in a home that isn't his.

Author's Residence: Kansas City, Missouri

Publisher: little bee books

Publication Date: January 2, 2018

Author's Website: alastairheim.com

It's Your First Day of School, Busy Bus!

by Jody Jensen Shaffer, illustrated by Claire Messer

Book Description: Busy Bus is excited for the first day of school, but he also has some first-day jitters. Will the children like him? What if he gets lost?! Luckily, bus driver Ben knows just what to do.

Author's Residence: Liberty, Missouri

Publisher: Beach Lane Books

Publication Date: July 3, 2018

Author's Website: jodyjensenshaffer.com

Play This Book

by Jessica Young, illustrated by Daniel Wiseman

Book Description: This book is full of instruments waiting to share their sounds. The only thing this band needs is *you!*

Author's Residence: Nashville, Tennessee

Publisher: Bloomsbury Children's Books

Publication Date: May 22, 2018

Author's Website: jessicayoungbooks.com

GRADES 1-2

EARLY CHAPTER BOOK

Bea Garcia: Tale of a Scaredy Dog

by Deborah Zemke

Book Description: When Bea Garcia's beloved dog, Sophie, runs away from the monster cat next door, Bea needs to use all of her artistic skills to bring Sophie home again.

Author's Residence: Columbia, Missouri

Publisher: Dial Books for Young Readers

Publication Date: July 2018

Author's Website: beagarciabooks.com

INFORMATIONAL

Toucan

by Susan Weaver Jones

Book Description: What is a toucan? What does it look like? What does it do? Read to find out!

Author's Residence: Knoxville, Tennessee

Publisher: Hameray Publishing Group, Inc.

Publication Date: 2018

Author's Website: susanweaverjones.com

INFORMATIONAL FICTION

Dear Komodo Dragon

by Nancy Kelly Allen, illustrated by Laurie Allen Klein

Book Description: Leslie and her pen pal, a wise-cracking Komodo dragon, exchange a series of letters chock full of accurate, interesting facts.

Author's Residence: Hazard, Kentucky

Publisher: Arbordale Publishing

Publication Date: February 10, 2018

Author's Website: nancykellyallen.com

PICTURE BOOK

David's Flamingos

by Pam Jones-Niill, illustrated by Jeanne Conway

Book Description: David is a young boy who finds a unique way to help his aging grandparents.

Illustrator's Residence: St. Louis, Missouri

Publisher: Clear Fork Publishing

Publication Date: May 2018

Illustrator's Website: jeanniespaintings.com

The Peace Dragon

by Linda Ragsdale, illustrated by Marco Furlotti

Book Description: From the award-winning Peace Dragon Collection, a heart-opening tale about inclusiveness, releasing judgment,

and choosing compassion over fear.
Author's Residence: Old Hickory, Tennessee
Publisher: FlowerPot Press
Publication Date: September 12, 2018
Author's Website: thepeacedragon.com

Hammering for Freedom

by **Rita Lorraine Hubbard**, illustrated by **John Holyfield**
Book Description: An enslaved blacksmith rents himself from his owner, settles in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and saves money to buy freedom for himself and his entire family.
Author's Residence: Chattanooga, Tennessee
Publisher: Lee & Low Books
Publication Date: September 4, 2018
Author's Website: ritahubbard.com

In the Time of Shimmer and Light

by **Paul Schexnayder**
Book Description: The happy island of the Hare and Gator family is almost ruined by a found object, but Queen Ida Peacock has a plan.
Author's Residence: New Iberia, Louisiana
Publisher: University of Louisiana-Lafayette Press
Publication Date: August 2018
Author's Website: schex.com

Let the Children March

by **Monica Clark-Robinson**, illustrated by **Frank Morrison**
Book Description: In 1963 Birmingham, Alabama, thousands of African American children marched against segregation. Facing fear, hate, and danger, they used their voices to change the world.
Author's Residence: Little Rock, Arkansas
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for Kids
Publication Date: January 2, 2018
Author's Website: monicaclark-robinson.com

Poppy's Best Babies

by **Susan Eaddy**, illustrated by **Rosalinde Bonnet**
Book Description: Poppy's thrilled! Her rockin' Grandma GeeGee has come to help with newborn babies. But the demanding twins become "Worst Babies" and GeeGee's dubbed "Worst Grandma."
Author's Residence: Nashville, Tennessee
Publisher: Charlesbridge
Publication Date: May 22, 2018
Author's Website: susaneaddy.com

Roof Octopus

by **Lucy Branam**, illustrated by **Rogério Coelho**
Book Description: Nora discovers an octopus on her apartment building. When they become friends, the octopus disappears. Will he reappear in time to come for show-and-tell?
Author's Residence: Jacksboro, Tennessee
Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press
Publication Date: March 1, 2018
Author's Website: lucybranam.com

Sophie and Little Star

by **Amber Hendricks**, illustrated by **Raissa Figueroa**
Book Description: When a little star falls from her home in the sky, she finds help from an unexpected friend.
Author's Residence: Marshall, Missouri

Publisher: Spork
Publication Date: October 9, 2018
Author's Website: thisjustread.wordpress.com

Stegothosaurus

by **Bridget Heos**, illustrated by **TL McBeth**
Book Description: Stegothosaurus is different from his stegosaurus brothers. He loves, cherishes, and adores words! But will he be too busy describing an allosaurus to run away?
Author's Residence: Kansas City, Missouri
Publisher: Macmillan
Publication Date: June 12, 2018
Author's Website: authorbridgetheos.com

Twelve Days of Christmas in Tennessee

by **Alice Faye Duncan**, illustrated by **Mary Uhles**
Book Description: Two cousins in ugly Christmas sweaters travel Tennessee in a clunking van to discover famous Tennessee history makers, land formations, and tourist sites.
Author's Residence: Memphis, Tennessee
Illustrator's Residence: Nashville, Tennessee
Publisher: Sterling Children's Books
Publication Date: September 4, 2018
Author's Website: alicefayeduncan.com
Illustrator's Website: maryuhles.com

POETRY

A Place to Start a Family: Poems About Creatures that Build

by **David L. Harrison**, illustrated by **Giles Laroche**
Book Description: Many animals build in order to find a mate, lay eggs, give birth, and protect their babies. The types of structures they create are extraordinary.
Author's Residence: Springfield, Missouri
Publisher: Charlesbridge
Publication Date: January 16, 2018
Author's Website: davidlharrison.com

GRADES 3-5

ACTIVITY

Mensa Fun Puzzle Challenges for Kids: Terrific Ways to Stretch Your Brain!

by **Evelyn B. Christensen**
Book Description: One hundred challenges for young puzzlers, including number puzzles, word puzzles, logic puzzles, and visual puzzles. Hints make puzzles flexible for a variety of skill ranges.
Author's Residence: Lexington, Kentucky
Publisher: Sky Pony Press
Publication Date: November 6, 2018
Author's Website: evelynchristensen.com

HISTORICAL FICTION

The Story Collector

by **Kristin O'Donnell Tubb**, illustrated by **Iacopo Bruno**
Book Description: *The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* meets *Harriet the Spy*. Inspired by the real life of Viviani Joffre Fedeler, born and raised in the New York Public Library.
Author's Residence: Nashville, Tennessee

Publisher: Henry Holt
 Publication Date: August 28, 2018
 Author's Website: kristintubb.com

NONFICTION

Mindful Me: Mindfulness and Meditation for Kids

by Whitney Stewart, illustrated by Stacy Peterson

Book Description: *Mindful Me* gives kids a toolkit of simple mindfulness exercises for handling stress and managing negative thoughts and emotions.

Author's Residence: New Orleans, Louisiana
 Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company
 Publication Date: April 3, 2018
 Author's Website: whitneystewart.com

Northern Lights

by Ben McClanahan

Book Description: Explains what causes the Northern Lights. Beautiful photos, fact-filled text, and helpful infographics help readers learn all about the science behind this phenomenon.

Author's Residence: Kansas City, Missouri
 Publisher: Focus Readers
 Publication Date: August 2018
 Author's Website: benmcclanahan.com

PICTURE BOOK

Memphis, Martin and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968

by Alice Faye Duncan, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie

Book Description: Here is a historical fiction that explores Dr. King's last stand for justice and the Memphis labor strike that led to his assassination.

Author's Residence: Memphis, Tennessee
 Publisher: Boyds Mills Press
 Publication Date: August 2018
 Author's Website: alicefayeduncan.com

POETRY

Bayou Song: Creative Explorations of the Louisiana Landscape

by Margaret Simon, illustrated by Anna Cantrell

Book Description: *Bayou Song* is a journey through poetry, art, and photography along Louisiana's bayou habitat. Readers explore plants and animals that live along the bayou.

Author's Residence: New Iberia, Louisiana
 Publisher: UL Press
 Publication Date: June 18, 2018
 Author's Website: reflectionsontheteche.com

GRADES 6-8

FANTASY

Marabel and the Book of Fate

by Tracy Barrett

Book Description: Free-spirited Marabel must defy expectations to rescue her brother—and their kingdom—in this action-packed

magical story perfect for fans of *Ella Enchanted*.

Author's Residence: Nashville, Tennessee
 Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
 Publication Date: February 6, 2018
 Author's Website: tracybarrett.com

MYSTERY

Until Proven Innocent

by Laura Stewart Schmidt

Book Description: How many secrets can an abandoned house hold after fifty years? Fifteen-year-old Alison has just two weeks to find out.

Author's Residence: St. Louis, Missouri
 Publisher: Black Rose Writing
 Publication Date: October 11, 2018
 Author's Website: laurastewartschmidt.com

GRADES 9-12

CONTEMPORARY SUSPENSE

The Windfall App

by Teresa Richards

Book Description: Marina wins the lottery, only to learn that the game was tampered with and she is now the pawn in someone else's twisted game.

Author's Residence: La Grange, Kentucky
 Publisher: Evernight Teen
 Publication Date: July 27, 2018
 Author's Website: authorteresarichards.com

FANTASY

Dragon Bonded

by Kath Boyd Marsh

Book Description: To save her brother, Dr'gon Hazel must trust Wizard Gaelyn, despite discovering her best friend Gaelyn is an old Dr'gon enemy, a Fae.

Author's Residence: Richmond, Kentucky
 Publisher: CBAYBooks
 Publication Date: November 1, 2018
 Author's Website: kathboydmarshauthor.com

MYSTERY

It Should Have Been You

by Lynn Slaughter

Description: Ghostwriting her school newspaper's advice column is the one thing that makes Clara feel normal after her twin's murder—until she starts getting threatening emails.

Author's Residence: Louisville, Kentucky
 Publisher: Page Street Publishing Company
 Publication Date: January 30, 2018
 Author's Website: lynnslaughter.com

NONFICTION

The Dakota Access Pipeline

by Sue Bradford Edwards

Description: Follows the controversial building of the pipeline at the

Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota and associated protests. Includes glossary, selected bibliography, websites, and index.

Author's Residence: Florissant, Missouri

Publisher: Abdo Publishing

Publication Date: January 2018

Author's Website: suebradfordedwards.com