

Coretta Scott King Award Winners

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards are given annually to outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values. The award commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and honor his wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination to continue the work for peace and world brotherhood.

(A) = Author Award (I) = Illustrator Award

Year	Title & Author
2025	Twenty-four Seconds from Now... by Jason Reynolds (A)
	My Daddy Is a Cowboy by Stephanie Seales (il. C.G. Esperanza) (I)
2024	Nigeria Jones by Ibi Zoboi (A)
	An American Story by Kwame Alexander (il. Dare Coulter) (I)
2023	Freewater by Amina Luqman-Dawson (A)
	Standing in the Need of Prayer: A Modern Retelling of the Classic Spiritual by Carole Boston Weatherford (il. Frank Morrison) (I)
2022	Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre by Carole Boston Weatherford (il. Floyd Cooper) (A/I)
2021	Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson (A)
	R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin, The Queen of Soul by Carole Boston Weatherford (il. Frank Morrison) (I)
2020	New Kid by Jerry Craft (A)
	The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander (il. Kadir Nelson) (I)
2019	A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919 by Claire Hartfield (A)
	The Stuff of Stars by Marion Dane Bauer (il. Ekua Holmes) (I)
2018	Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson (A)
	Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets by Kwame Alexander (il. Ekua Holmes) (I)
2017	March: Book Three by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin (A)
	Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquait by Javaka Steptoe
2016	Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams-Garcia (A)
	Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews and Bill Taylor (il. Bryan Collier) (I)
2015	Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson (A)
	Firebird by Misty Copeland (il. Christopher Myers) (I)
2014	P.S. Be Eleven by Rita Williams-Garcia (A)
	Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me by Daniel Beaty (il. by Brian Collier) (I)
2013	Hand in Hand: Ten Black Men Who Changed America by Andrea Davis Pinkey (A)
	I, Too, Am America by Langston Hughes (il. by Bryan Collier) (I)
2012	Heart and Soul: the Story of America and African Americans by Kadir Nelson (A)
	Underground: Finding the Light to Freedom by Shane W. Evans (I)
2011	One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia (A)
	Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave by Ladan Carrick Hill (il. Bryan Collier) (I)
2010	Bad News for Outlaws by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson (A)
	My People by Langston Hughes (il. Charles R. Smith Jr.) (I)

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2009	We Are the Ship: the Story of Negro League Basketball by Kadir Nelson (A)
	The Blacker the Berry by Joyce Carol Thomas (I)
2008	Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis (A)
	Let it Shine by Ashley Bryan (I)
2007	Copper Sun by Sharon Draper (A)
	Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom by Carole Boston Weatherford (il. Kadir Nelson) (I)
2006	Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue by Julius Lester (A)
	Rosa by Nikki Giovanni (il. Bryan Collier) (I)
2005	Remember: The Journey to School Integration by Toni Morrison (A)
	Ellington Was Not a Street by Ntozake Shange (il. Kadir Nelson) (I)
2004	The First Part Last by Angela Johnson (A)
	Beautiful Blackbird by Ashley Bryan (I)
2003	Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes (A)
	Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman by Nikki Grimes (il. E.B. Lewis) (I)
2002	The Land by Mildred Taylor (A)
	Goin' Someplace Special by Patricia McKissack (il. Jerry Pinkney) (I)
2001	Miracle's Boys by Jacqueline Woodson (A)
	Uptown by Bryan Collier (I)
2000	Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis (A)
	In the Time of the Drums by Kim L. Siegelson (il. Brian Pinkney) (I)
1999	Heaven by Angela Johnson (A)
	i see the rhythm by Toyomi Igus (il. Michele Wood) (I)
1998	Forged by Fire by Sharon M. Draper (A)
	In Daddy's Arms I am Tall: African American Celebrating Fathers by Alan Schroeder (il. Javaka Steptoe) (I)
1997	Slam! by Walter Dean Myers (A)
	Minty: A Story of Young Harriet Tubman by Alan Schroeder (il. Jerry Pinkney) (I)
1996	Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales and True Tales by Virginia Hamilton (A)
	The Middle Passage: White Ships/Black Cargo by Tom Feelings (I)
1995	Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters by Patricia C. and Federick McKissack (A)
	The Creation by James Weldon Johnson (il. James Ransome) (I)
1994	Toning the Sweep by Angela Johnson (A)
	Soul Look Back in Wonder: Collection of African-American Poets edited by Phyllis Fogelman (il. Tom Feelings) (I)
1993	The Dark-Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural by Patricia C. McKissack (A)
	The Origin of Life on Earth: An African Creation Myth by David A. Anderson (il. Kathleen Atkins Wilson) (I)
1992	Now is Your Time! The African American Struggle for Freedom by Walter Dean Myers (A)

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	Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold (I)
1991	The Road to Memphis by Mildred D. Taylor (A)
	Aida by Leontyne Price (il. Leo and Diane Dillon) (I)
1990	A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter by Patricia C. and Frederick McKissack (A)
	Nathaniel Talking by Eloise Greenfield (il. Jan Spivey Gilchrist) (I)
1989	Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers (A)
	Mirandy and Brother Wind by Patricia C. McKissack (il. Jerry Pinkney) (I)
1988	The Friendship by Mildred D. Taylor (A)
	Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale by John Steptoe (I)
1987	Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World by Mildred Pitts Walter (A)
	Half a Moon and One Whole Star by Crescent Dragonwagon (il. Jerry Pinkney) (I)
1986	The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales by Virginia Hamilton (A)
	The Patchwork Quilt by Valerie Flourney (il. Jerry Pinkney) (I)
1985	Motown and Didi: A Love Story by Walter Dean Myers (A)
1984	Everett Anderson's Goodbye by Lucille Clifton (A)
	My Mama Needs Me by Mildred Pitts Walter (il. Pat Cummings) (I)
1983	Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush by Virginia Hamilton (A)
	Black Child by Peter Magubane (I)
1982	Let the Circle be Unbroken by Mildred D. Taylor (A)
	Mother Crocodile: An Uncle Amadou Tale from Senegal by Rosa Guy (il. John Steptoe) (I)
1981	This Life by Sidney Poitier (A)
	Beat the Story Drum, Pum-Pum by Ashley Bryan (I)
1980	The Young Landlords by Walter Dean Myers (A)
	Cornrows by Camille Yarborough (il. Carole Byard) (I)
1979	Escape to Freedom: A Play About Young Frederick Douglass by Ossie Davis (A)
	Something on My Mind by Nikki Grimes (il. Tom Feelings) (I)
1978	Africa Dream by Eloise Greenfield (A/I)
1977	The Story of Stevie Wonder by James Haskins (A)
1976	Duey's Tale by Pearl Bailey (A)
1975	The Legend of Africa by Dorothy Robinson (A)
1974	Ray Charles by Sharon Bell Mathis (A/I)
1973*	I Never Had It Made: The Autobiography of Jackie Robinson edited by Alfred Duckett
1972	Seventeen Black Artists by Elton C. Fax
1971	Black Troubadour: Langston Hughes by Charlemae Rollins
1970	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Man of Peace by Lillie Patterson

* Prior to 1974, the CSK Award was given to authors only.