The American Indian Library Association is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 American Indian Youth Literature Awards. The awards recognize excellence in books by American Indians. By identifying and honoring outstanding writing and illustrations in the field of children’s literature, the American Indian Library Association encourages authors, illustrators, editors, publishers, and tribal entities to create materials that “present Native Americans in the fullness of their humanity in the present and past contexts.”

American Indian Library Association Youth Literature Award Jury

Carlene Engstrom (Salish & Kootenai), Chair
Naomi Bishop (Akimel O’odham/Pima), Co-chair
Gabriella Kaye
Lisa A. Mitten (Mohawk)
Holly Ristau
Zora J. Sampson (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma)
Grace Slaughter (Cheyenne of Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma)
Jolena Tillequots (Yakama)
Melanie S. Toledo (Navajo Nation)
Linda Wynne, (Tlingit/Haida)

Previous AILYA Winners

Picture Book Award

2006 Beaver Steals Fire: A Salish Coyote Story by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribe; told by Johnny Arlee, illustrated by Sam Sandoval
2008 Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship & Freedom by Tim Tingle, illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridges
2010 A Coyote Solstice Tale by Thomas King, illustrated by Gary Clement
2012 My Christmas Coat: Memories of My Sioux Childhood by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, illustrated by Ellen Beier

Middle School Award

2006 The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
2008 Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond by Joseph Medicine Crow
2010 Meet Christopher: An Osage Indian Boy from Oklahoma by Genevieve Simmeyer
2012 Free Throw & Triple Threat by Jacqueline Guest

Young Adult Award

2006 Hidden Roots by Joseph Bruchac
2008 The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
2010 Between the Deep Blue Sea and Me by Lurline Wailana McGregor
2012 Pipestone: My Life in an Indian Boarding School by Adam Fortunate Eagle
2014 Picture Book Award Winner

Caribou Song
Atihko Nikamon
Ateek Oonagamoon
Tomson Highway, author
John Rombough, illustrator
Fifth House, 2012

2014 Middle School Award Winner

How I Became a Ghost: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story
Tim Tingle
The Roadrunner Press, 2013

2014 Young Adult Award Winner

Killer of Enemies
Joseph Bruchac
Tu Books, 2013

2014 Middle School Honor Book

Danny Blackgoat, Navajo Prisoner
Tim Tingle
7th Generation, 2013

2014 Young Adult Honor Book

If I Ever Get Out of Here
Eric Gansworth