



Press Release May 2, 2019

Washington Towner Book Award 2020 Nominees

This is a press release of the Towner Book Award, sponsored by Washington Library Association School Library Division (WLA), and focused on nonfiction picture books written for 2nd-6th grade students. The Towner Award is named after Bill Towner, a longtime Seattle librarian and mentor to dozens of teacher librarians. Bill shared his love of literature with thousands of students, and his passion exemplified how caring teachers and librarians can make a difference. The Towner Book Award was launched in his honor in 2013.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Washington State librarians and teachers will introduce and promote the nominated titles below. In the spring, all Washington State students in public and independent schools, from second through sixth grades, are invited to vote for their favorite book if they have listened to or read a minimum of two titles. Teachers and librarians may also submit a second vote for their favorite book with instructional value.

The Towner committee is made up of public and school librarians from across Washington State, and meets in April to select the 10 nonfiction picture book nominees. Eligible titles must have been published two years prior, or 2018. For more information, see <https://www.wla.org/towner-award>.

WE ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE

**2020 Towner Book Award for
Nonfiction Picture Books**

Thirty Minutes Over Oregon: A Japanese Pilot's World War II Story

Written by: Marc Tyler Nobleman

Illustrated by: Melissa Iwai

Published by: Clarion Books, Houghton Mifflin Books

Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13

Written by: Helaine Becker

Illustrated by: Dow Phumiruk

Publisher: Christy Ottaviano Books, Henry Holt and Company

The Bee Book

Written/Illustrated by: Charlotte Milner
Publisher: DK Penguin Random House

Highest Mountain Smallest Star: A Pictorial Compendium of Natural Wonders

Written by: Kate Baker
Illustrated by Page Tsou
Publisher: Big Picture Press

What's on Your Plate? Exploring the World of Food

Written by: Whitney Stewart
Illustrated by Christiane Engel
Publisher: Sterling Children's Books

What Do They Do with All That Poo?

Written by: Jane Jurtz
Illustrated by: Allison Black
Publisher: Beach Lane Books, Simon & Schuster

Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World

Written by: Susan Hood
Publisher: Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins *Publisher*

The Hen Who Sailed Around the World: A True Story by Guirec Soudée

Written by: Guriec Soudée
Publisher: Hachette Book Group

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star: I Know Exactly What You Are

Written by: Julie Kregenow
Illustrated: Carmen Saldaña
Publisher: Sourcebooks Jaberwocky

Avalanche Dog Heroes: Piper and Friends Learn to Search the Snow

Written by: Elizabeth Rusch
Publisher: Little Bigfoots, an imprint of Sasquatch Books