

# 2016 Nutmeg Book Award Elementary Nominees



## **Bowling Alley Bandit by Laurie Keller**

The normally talented bowler Mr. Bing rolls gutter balls during the bowling tournament. From karaoke singing and pink sprinkles to a kidnapping situation, follow his friend, Arnie, the Doughnut, on the scene to solve the mystery in this zany graphic novel.

## **Dare the Wind: The Record-Breaking Voyage of Eleanor Prentiss and the Flying Cloud by Tracey Fern**

She may know how to navigate a ship, unlike most women of her time, but will her skills be enough to overcome the obstacles she and her husband face as they attempt to be the first to get their passengers from New York to the California Gold Rush?

## **Digby O'Day: In the Fast Lane by Shirley Hughes**

The friendly dog Digby O'Day and his flashy neighbor the human Lou Ella play out their rivalry in the local auto race. Does Digby have time to stop mid-race to help a family in need and still beat his glitzy neighbor?

## **The Flying Beaver Brothers and the Evil Penguin Plan by Maxwell Eaton II**

Ace and Bub, the flying Beaver Brothers, love extreme sports. Can they use their skills to stop evil penguins from turning their tropical home into an arctic resort?

## **Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman**

What do you get when you combine time travel, dinosaurs, wumpires, piranhas, pirates, aliens...and some very important breakfast cereal milk? A fantastic tale the likes of which only author Neil Gaiman can share, combined with imaginative illustrations from award-winning cartoonist and writer Skottie Young.

## **Gone Fishing: A Novel in Verse by Tamera Will Wissinger**

Sam can't wait to go fishing with his dad until he discovers his annoying little sister Lucy will be joining them.

## **Jedi Academy by Jeffrey Brown**

When Roan is accepted into the Jedi Academy, he's not sure it will live up to the experience of his older brother and father at Pilot Academy Middle School. This graphic novel/chapter book hybrid will leave you laughing as pilot "wannabe" Roan faces typical issues of starting a new school in the fantasy Star Wars realm.

## **King for a Day by Rukhsana Khan**

During the celebration of Basant, Malik, a young Pakistani boy, faces the bully next door as he attempts to capture the most kites at the annual spring kite festival.

## **Marty McGuire by Kate Messner**

Tomboy Marty, who loves climbing trees and catching crayfish, has no desire to play the princess in their class production of the Frog Prince. Her enemy, Veronica Grace, has not only just stolen her best friend but also aspires to be the princess. Can Marty and her friend Rupert come up with a plan to make the play a success?

## **On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein by Jennifer Berne**

Albert Einstein's curiosity and perseverance inspire one and all as his ideas colorfully radiate off each page telling the story of Einstein's extraordinary ability to recognize the endless possibilities in the world around him.

## **Pigsticks and Harold and the Incredible Journey by Alex Milway**

Follow Pigsticks, a pig from a long line of explorers, and his hamster assistant, Harold, on their treacherous yet humorous journey through jungles, deserts and mountains. Will they reach the Ends of the Earth and return alive?

## **Play Ball, Jackie! by Stephen Krensky**

Join Matt Romano and his father as they watch the Brooklyn Dodgers season opener, during which Jackie Robinson debuts as the first black man to play major league baseball. Hear the cries of hecklers, see the African-American World War II soldiers cheer, taste the excitement as the battle to beat prejudice takes the ball field.

## **The Secret Chicken Society by Judy Cox**

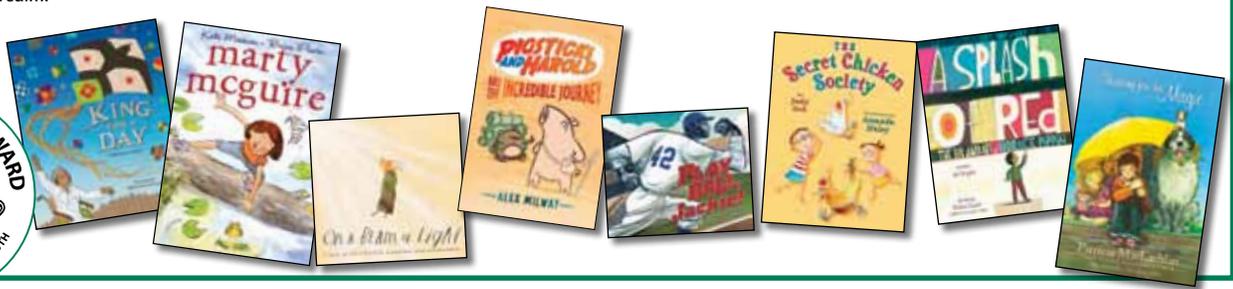
When Daniel's class hatches eggs for a science project, he hopes to bring one home. The summer's off to a good start, but will Daniel and the other members of the Secret Chicken Society be able to save the chicks from cats, grumpy neighbors and the local police department?

## **A Splash of Red by Jennifer Bryant**

As a child, Horace Pippin loved to draw and paint. However, when his father left home, he was forced to quit school and support the family while later he was seriously wounded during WWI. Hear the true story of how this humble man overcame his war injuries to let his talent shine.

## **Waiting for the Magic by Patricia MacLachlan**

William's father leaves and his mother discovers she's pregnant. Even though his sister can magically talk to their four new dogs and cat from an animal shelter, William's not sure if that's enough to help his family.



**Confidentiality Statement:** This list of 2016 Nutmeg Nominees is confidential information provided to school media specialists and librarians only. We ask that you respect the Nutmeg Book Award's confidentiality policy until the nominees are made public on May 1, 2015.

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