



Nebraska Golden Sower Award Nominee Titles 2014-2015

Sponsored by Nebraska Library Association's
School, Children's, and Young People's Section

The GSA nominee list is developed by selection committees of volunteer readers representing classroom teachers, media specialists, and librarians in Nebraska. Each list is created from nominated titles sent in by participating libraries and schools from across the state.

Local library or school officials are responsible for selecting books from these lists they feel are appropriate for the needs and interests of their patrons or students. Voting eligibility requires readers to have read or heard a minimum of **four** of the current nominees from the category in which they will be voting, Primary, Intermediate, or Young Adult.

2014-2015 Primary Nominees

Buzzeo, Toni. *One Cool Friend*.

Illustrated by David Small. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN 9780803734135

Elliot, a very proper young man, feels a kinship with the penguins at the aquarium and wants to take one home with him.

DiPucchio, Kelly. *Crafty Chloe*.

Illustrated by Heather Ross. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN 9781442421233

Chloe is very good at sewing and crafts. When her best friend's birthday approaches, she not only creates a fabulous gift, she also saves the day for a classmate who had been unkind to her.

Earnhardt, Donna W. *Being Frank*.

Illustrated by Andrea Castellani. Flashlight Press, 2012. ISBN 9781936261192

Frank struggles to learn the art of being tactful when he observes that his friend has freckles that resemble the Big Dipper, his teacher has breath that smells like onions, and his principal's toupee looks like a weasel.

Harley, Bill. *Lost and Found*.

Illustrated by Adam Gustavson. Peachtree Publishers, 2012. ISBN 9781561456284

Justin has lost the hat his grandmother made for him, and if he is to find it in time for her visit he will have to go talk to Mr. Rumkowsky, the gruff old school custodian in charge of the Lost and Found.

2014-2015 Primary Nominees (con't)

Kelly, Mark. *Mousetronaut*.

Illustrated by C.F. Payne. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN 9781442458246

A small but plucky mouse named Mike is sure that he can help the Space Shuttle astronauts, and ends up saving the whole mission.

Laminack, Lester L. *Three Hens and a Peacock*.

Illustrated by Henry Cole. Peachtree Publishers, 2011. ISBN 9781561455645

When life on the Tucker farm is disrupted by the arrival of a peacock, whose shrieking and strutting bring many welcome visitors, the hens complain that they are doing all of the work until the hound suggests a trade.

Reynolds, Aaron. *Creepy Carrots!*

Illustrated by Peter Brown. Simon & Shuster Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN 9781442402973

The carrots that grow in Crackenhopper Field are the fattest and crispiest around. Jasper Rabbit cannot resist pulling some to eat each time he passes by, until he begins hearing and seeing creepy carrots wherever he goes.

Reynolds, Peter H. *Sky Color*.

Illustrated by the author. Candlewick Press, 2012. ISBN 9780763623456

Marisol loves to paint and can't wait to help make a mural for the school library. But how can she make a sky without blue paint?

Van Dusen, Chris. *Randy Riley's Really Big Hit*.

Illustrated by the author. Candlewick Press, 2012. ISBN 9780763649463

Randy Riley, a science genius who loves baseball but is not very good at it, needs to use both his interests to save his town from a giant fireball that is heading their way.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Each Kindness*.

Illustrated by E.B. Lewis. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2012. ISBN 9780399246524

When Ms. Albert teaches a lesson on kindness, Chloe realizes that she and her friends have been wrong in making fun of new student Maya's shabby clothes and refusing to play with her.



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2014-2015 Intermediate Nominees

Beck, W.H. *Malcolm at Midnight.*

Illustrated by Brian Lies. Houghton Mifflin, 2012. ISBN 9780547681009

Malcolm, a smaller than average rat, loves life at McKenna School and the secret society of classroom pets that keep children out of trouble, but when Aggy the iguana disappears Malcolm must use all of his ratty persistence to prove his innocence and save her.

Fitzmaurice, Kathryn. *A Diamond in the Desert.*

Viking, 2012. ISBN 9780670012923 [paperback: Puffin, 2013. ISBN 9780142424377]

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, thirteen-year-old Tetsu and his family are sent to the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona where a fellow prisoner starts a baseball team, but when Tetsu's sister becomes ill and he feels responsible, he stops playing.

George, Jessica Day. *Tuesdays at the Castle.*

Bloomsbury, 2011. ISBN 9781599906447 [paperback: Bloomsbury, 2012. ISBN 9781599909172]

Eleven-year-old Princess Celie lives with her parents, the king and queen, and her brothers and sister at Castle Glower, which adds rooms or stairways or secret passageways most every Tuesday. When the king and queen are ambushed while travelling, it is up to Celie--the castle's favorite--with her secret knowledge of its never-ending twists and turns, to protect their home and save their kingdom.

2014-2015 Intermediate Nominees (con't)

Harkrader, Lisa. *The Adventures of Beanboy*.

Houghton Mifflin, 2012. ISBN 9780547550787

Wheaton, Kansas, seventh-grader Tucker MacBean loves comic books, so when his favorite comic has a contest to create a sidekick, he is hopeful that he can win, thereby fixing his struggling family.

LaFleur, Suzanne. *Eight Keys*.

Wendy Lamb Books, 2011. ISBN 9780385740302 [paperback: Yearling, 2012. ISBN 9780375872136]

When twelve-year-old Elise, orphaned since age three, becomes disheartened by middle school, with its bullies, changing relationships, and higher expectations, keys to long-locked rooms and messages from her late father help her cope.

Lupica, Mike. *The Underdogs*.

Philomel, 2011. ISBN 9780399250019 [paperback: Puffin, 2012. ISBN 9780142421390]

Small but fast twelve-year-old Will Tyler, an avid football player in the down-and-out town of Forbes, Pennsylvania, takes matters into his own hands to try and finance the city's football team, giving the whole community hope in the process.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Kindred Souls*.

Katherine Tegen Books, 2012. ISBN 9780060522971 [paperback: Katherine Tegen Books, 2013. ISBN 9780060522995]

Ten-year-old Jake shares a special bond with his grandfather, Billy, but when Billy asks Jake to build him a sod house, Jake is not sure he wants to do it.

Nielsen, Jennifer A. *The False Prince*.

Scholastic, 2012. ISBN 9780545284134 [paperback: Scholastic, 2013. ISBN 9780545284141]

In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Jake and Lily*.

Balzer + Bray, 2012. ISBN 9780060281359 [paperback: Balzer + Bray, 2013. ISBN 9780064471985]

Jake and Lily are twins and have always felt the same--like two halves of one person--but the year they turn eleven and Jake begins hanging out with Bump Stubbins, everything changes.

Turnage, Sheila. *Three Times Lucky*.

Dial Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN 9780803736702

Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder.



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2014-2015 Young Adult Nominees

Bodeen, S.A. *The Raft*.

Feiwel & Friends. 2012. ISBN 9780312650100 [paperback: Square Fish, 2013. ISBN 9781250027399]

Robbie's last-minute flight to the Midway Atoll proves to be a nightmare when the plane goes down in shark-infested waters. Fighting for her life, the co-pilot Max pulls her onto the raft, and that's when the real terror begins.

Fleming, Candace. *On the Day I Died: Stories from the Grave*.

Schwartz & Wade, 2012. ISBN 9780375867811

In a lonely Illinois cemetery one cold October night, teen ghosts recount the stories of their deaths in different time periods, from 1870 to the present, to sixteen-year-old Mike, who unknowingly picked up a phantom hitchhiker.

Gratz, Alan. *Prisoner B-3087*.

Scholastic. 2013. ISBN 9780545459013

Based on the life of Jack Gruener, this book relates his story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Krakow, when he was eleven, through a succession of concentration camps, to the final liberation of Dachau.

Korman, Gordan. *Ungifted*.

Balzer + Bray, 2012. ISBN 9780061742668 [paperback: Balzer + Bray, 2014. ISBN 9780061742675]

Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school.

2014-2015 Young Adult Nominees (con't)

Mackall, Dandi Daley. *The Silence of Murder*.

Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN 9780375868962 [paperback: Ember, 2012. ISBN 9780375872938]

Sixteen-year-old Hope must defend her developmentally disabled older brother (who has not spoken a word since he was nine) when he is accused of murdering a beloved high school baseball coach.

Meyer, Marissa. *Cinder*.

Feiwel & Friends, 2012. ISBN 9780312641894 [paperback: Square Fish, 2013. ISBN 9781250007209]

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, is blamed by her stepmother for her stepsister's illness. Cinder becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story.

Price, Lissa. *Starters*.

Delacorte Press, 2012. ISBN 9780385742375 [paperback: Ember, 2013. ISBN 9780385742481]

To support herself and her younger brother in a future Beverly Hills, sixteen-year-old Callie hires her body out to seniors who want to experience being young again, and she lives a fairy-tale life until she learns that her body will commit murder unless her mind can stop it.

Sheehan, Anna. *A Long, Long Sleep*.

Candlewick, 2011. ISBN 9780763652609 [paperback: Candlewick, 2013. ISBN 9780763663469]

Sixteen-year-old Rosalinda Fitzroy, heir to the multiplanetary corporation UniCorp, is awakened after sixty years in stasis to find that everyone she knew has died and as she tries to make a new life for herself, learns she is the target of a robot assassin.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip*.

Scholastic, 2012. ISBN 9780545320696

After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear.

Wells, Robison. *Variant*.

HarperTeen, 2011. ISBN 9780062026088 [paperback: HarperTeen, 2012. ISBN 9780062026095]

After years in foster homes, seventeen-year-old Benson Fisher applies to New Mexico's Maxfield Academy in hopes of securing a brighter future, but instead he finds that the school is a prison and no one is what he or she seems.