**2019-2020 LYRC 6-8th Grade**

**Narrowed Consideration List**

33 Titles

*\*\*Note: The following books were strongly considered but were not included on the final list of 12 nominated titles.*

1. **14 Hollow Road** by Jenn Bishop. 9781101938751. 288 pp., 2017. Knopf Books for Young Readers. IL: MG - BL: 3.9 - AR Pts: 8.0 [female protagonist, friendship, family life, tornados]
2. **Almost Paradise** by Corabel Shofner, 9780374303785, 304 pgs., 2017. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, IL: MG - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 8.0. AR Quiz No. 190293. [Booklist starred review, cancer, armed robbery, mothers and daughters, aunts, historical fiction, heartfelt, nuns, Texas, younger side of middle school audience ]
3. **Ashes to Asheville** by Sarah Dooley, 9780399165047, 256 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group, IL: MG - BL: 4.9 - AR Pts: 7.0. AR Quiz No. 1883. [booklist starred review, female-protagonists, sisters, have two moms, death of mother, run away to spread ashes of deceased mom, heartwarming, family reconciliation] (According the committee the LGBT topic is handled tactfully, at the meeting one of the school librarians noted that should would not be able to put the book on the shelf there]
4. **Better off Undead** by James Preller, 9781250066480, 288 pgs., 2017. Feiwel & Friends, IL: MG - BL: 4.7 - AR Pts: 6.0 [Booklist starred review, male-protagonist, zombie, African American, environmental issues, paranormal phenomena]
5. **Blooming at the Texas Sunrise Motel** by Kimberly Willis Holt, 9781627793247, 336 pgs., 2017. Henry Holt and Co. IL:MG – BL:4.2 – AR Pts:8.0. AR Quiz No. 187733. [13 year old 8th grader female protagonist, tragedy, foster family, multigenerational family relationships, coming of age]
6. **Bone Jack** by Sara Crowe, 9780399176517, 256 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group, IL: MG - BL: 4.2 - AR Pts: 8.0, AR Quiz No. 187752 [Set in England, 15 yr old male protagonist, ancient tradition Stag Chase, folktale elements in modern tale, Medieval myths ]
7. **Bra(ed** by Alyson Gerber, 978054902144, 304 pgs., 2017. Scholastic. IL: **MG** - BL: **4.1** - AR Pts: **9.0.** AR Quiz No. 188067. [2 starred reviews, Junior Library Guild Selection, 12 yr old female protagonist is a soccer star but is battling scoliosis and is forced to wear a large uncomfortable back brace, physical disabilities, friendship, bullies, sports]
8. **Chasing Augustus** by Kimberly Newton Fusco, 9780385754019, 336 pgs., 2017. Random House Children’s Books. IL: MG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 8.0. AR Quiz No. 190604. [female-protagonist, family issues, lost dog, sweet, relatable]
9. **Click’d** by Tamara Ireland Stone, 9781484784976, 304 pp., Disney Hyperion. IL: MG - BL: 4.8 - AR Pts: 8.0 [application software, computer games, coding, female protagonist, digital privacy, friendship, middle school, competition]
10. **A Crack in the Sea** by H.M. Bowman, 9780399545191, 368 pgs. Penguin Young Readers Group. IL:MG – IL:5.1 – AR Pts:11.0. AR Quiz No. 188257. *The plot contains violence.* [multicultural, Vietnamese and African characters, combo fantasy and historical fiction, Zong slave ship in 1781, time travel, family, intertwining stories, siblings]
11. **An Eagle in the Snow** by Michael Morpurgo, 9781250105158, 133 pgs. 2017. Feiwel and Friends, IL: MG - BL: 5.2 - AR Pts: 3.0. AR Quiz No. 188311. [World War II, Kirkus starred review, train gets attacked, Nazi Germany, male protagonist, life and death, Hitler Youth , soldiers, military life]
12. **The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora** by Pablo Cartaya, 9781101997239, 256 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group. IL: MG - BL: 5.0 - AR Pts: 7.0. AR Quiz No. 190668 [Booklist starred review, Cuban-American 13 year old male-protagonist, Miami, community against gentrification, multi-cultural, family traditions, fighting to save your community against developers, A 2018 Pura Belpré Author Honor Book and on 10 best book lists]
13. **Exit Strategy** by Lauren Allbright, 9781481479127, 166 pgs. Aladdin. IL: MG –BL:4.3 – AR Pts:5.0. AR Quiz No. 189948 [When his grandfather's illness prompts their frequently moving family to settle down in a permanent home, 12-year-old Ross, a kid famed for pranks at his previous schools, tries to master the art of being funny to secure his popularity. From AR BookFinder]
14. **The Explorer** by Katherine Rundell, 9781481419451, 336 pgs., 2017. Simon & Schuster Books For Young Readers, IL: UG - BL: 5.4 - AR Pts: 12.0. AR Quiz No. 190442. [SLJ starred review, adventure, plane crash, four teens: two British and two Brazilian, survival in Amazon jungle, gritty narrative]
15. **The First Rule of Punk** by Celia C. Perez, 9780425290408, 336 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group. no AR yet, [female-protagonist of Mexican heritage, multi-cultural, move to Chicago, talent show, rock band, divorced parents, Pura Belpre honor Award]
16. **Flying Lessons & Other Stories** edited by Ellen Oh. 9781101934593, 240 pgs. 2017. Crown Books for Young Readers. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **6.0.** AR Quiz No. 186505. [5 starred reviews, 10 short stories from award winning YA authors, POC protagonists]
17. **Halfway Normal** by Barbara Dee, 9781481478519, 256 pgs., 2017. Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, IL: MG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 7.0 [SLJ starred review, leukemia survivor, female-protagonist, school, friendship]
18. **Hello, Universe** by Erin Estrada Kelly, 9780062414151, 320 pgs. 2017 HarperCollins / Greenwillow. IL:MG – BL:4.7 – AR Pts:B:. AR Quiz No. 187756. [4 starred reviews, *winner of the 2018 Newbery Medal*, told from four diverse points of view, male and female protagonists, interpersonal relationships, friendship, bullying, POC protagonists]
19. **Horizon (Horizon, Book 1)** by Scott Westerfeld, 9780545916776, 256 pgs., Scholastic. IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **7.0.** Quiz No. 187855 [male and female protagonists from diverse heritages including a Japanese-American, first in 7 book series that will be written by various authors, teens crash land in a jungle, action adventure, mystery, survival, sci-fi, horror, sell to fans of The Missing and 39 Clues]
20. **I Love You, Michael Collins** by Lauren Baratz-Logsted.9780374303853, 240 pp., 2017. Farrar, Straus and Giroux Books for Young Readers. IL: MG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 7.0 AR Quiz No. 190172 [historical fiction, Apollo 11, space flight to moon, family problems, female protagonist is 10 years old, *2019 is anniversary of Apollo 11 Moon Landing*]
21. **Lion: A Long Way Home Young Readers’ Edition** by Saroo Brierley, 9780425291764, 233 pgs. 2017. Puffin Books (Penguin Imprint). No AR. [true story of a young boy who at age 5 got lost on a train in India, he survived alone on the streets of Calcutta then eventually was put in an orphanage and adopted by a family in Australia, using Google Maps he was able to locate his family’s village and as an adult travel home to India to find them, young readers’ edition version of this bestselling memoir and motion picture]
22. **The List** by Patricia Forde, 9781492647966, 368 pgs., 2017. Sourcebooks. IL: MG - BL: 4.4 - AR Pts: 11.0. AR Quiz No. 190290. [dystopian city, leaders assert control over vocabulary and language, sci-fi, plot does include details about torture, The Giver meets **Fahrenheit**451]
23. **Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess** by Shari Green, 9781772780338, 234 p. 2017. Pajama Pres, Inc. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **3.0.** AR Quiz No. 189078 (Deafness, Friendship, Adolescence, Change. Told in free verse, a book-loving 11-year old girl, deaf since the age of four, not liking the fact that her mom is remarrying and currently on the outs with her BF, finds an unexpected new BF in the elderly neighbor she's asked to help out next door. 2018 ALA Schneider Family Book Award, Middle Grade Books Winner, on 6 best book lists**)**
24. **Pashmina** by Nidhi Channani, 9781626720879, 176 pgs., 2017. Roaring Brook Press, IL: MG - BL: 2.3 - AR Pts: 1.0, [SLJ starred review, graphic novel, female protagonist, Indian culture & heritage, magical/fantasy elements, familial problems, female empowerment].
25. **Poison: Deadly Deeds, Perilous Professions, and Murderous Medicines** by Sarah Albee. 9781101932230, 192 pgs., 2017. Random House Children’s Books. No AR Yet [non-fiction, poisons & toxins, chemistry, world history, true crime]
26. **The Relic War: Daniel Coldstar #1** by Stel Pavlou, 9780062126054, 304 pgs. 2017. HarperCollins. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **9.0**. AR Quiz No. 192025 [sci-fi adventure, for fans of Alex Rider, male protagonist]
27. **Restart** by Gordon Korman, 9781338053777, 256 pgs., 2017. Scholastic, Incorporated, IL: MG - BL: 5.1 - AR Pts: 9.0, AR Quiz No. 188396. [male-protagonist, amnesia, bullying, school life, second chances & redemption, humorous]
28. **Saving Marty** by Paul Griffin, 9780399539077, 208 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group, IL: MG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 5.0. AR Quiz No. 191793 [male-protagonist, friendship, pet pig, deceased parents, financial struggles, music, laugh out loud funny,]
29. **See You in the Cosmos** by Jack Cheng, 9780399186370, 302 pp. 2017, Dial Books. IL: MG - BL: 5.4 - AR Pts: 10.0. AR Quiz No. 187744 [two starred reviews, Asian American, dog, astronomy, podcast transcripts, bedridden mother, journey to rocket festival]
30. **Short** by Holly Goldberg Sloan, 9780399186219, 304 pgs., 2017. Penguin Young Readers Group, IL: MG - BL: 5.3 - AR Pts: 10.0, [female-protagonist, short stature, Wizard of Oz production and being cast as a Munchkin, building confidence, self-awareness]
31. **Undefeated** by Steve Sheinkin, 9781596439542, 280 pgs. 2017. Roaring Book Press, IL: MG+ - BL: 6.8 - AR Pts: 9.0. AR Quiz No. 186921 **[narrative non-fiction, 4 starred reviews, true story of Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team and Pop Weaver, sports legends, gold medalist, football mastermind, Native Americans, erasing culture]**
32. **When My Sister Started Kissing** by Helen Frost, 9780374303037, 208 pgs., 2017. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, IL: MG - BL: 4.3 - AR Pts: 4.0. AR Quiz No. 188417. [two starred reviews, 11 year old female protagonist, sisters, step families, novel in verse, dating]
33. **Whistling in the Dark** by Shirley Hughes, 9780763690724. 227 p., first US edition 2017. Candlewick Press.  IL: **MG** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **6.0.** AR Quiz No. 191931 [Historical fiction, WWII England; Friendship; England, does contain a lot of British colloquialisms, two 13-year old girls cope with trying to live a normal life as possible amidst hardships, nightly bombing blitzes]