

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1. The entry shall be the author's/authors' first or second book (grades pre-K to 12).
2. The book will be submitted during the year of first copyright (2018) in English. Thus, a book will be considered but one time.
3. This award is intended for newly published authors who show unusual promise in the children's and young adults' book field. When a book by a newly published author is competing against a book by an acclaimed adult author or a juvenile author who has previously won a major award, preference will be given to the newly published author.
4. Both fiction and nonfiction books are eligible; each will be rated according to characteristics that are specifically appropriate to the genre.
5. The awarded book should serve as a reading and literary standard by which readers can measure other books.
6. If appropriate to the genre, the awarded book should provide believable and intriguing characters growing naturally out of the events and actions in the text. Nonfiction books should exhibit excellence in the areas of authority and accuracy, organization, design, and writing style.
7. The awarded book should be truthful and authentic in its presentation of information and attitudes as they exist(ed) at the time and place which the story reflects.
8. The characters and events in the book should meet the experience and possible expectations of the intended audience.
9. The awarded book will be nonracist and nonsexist, as far as the selection committee can determine.
10. The awarded book should encourage young readers to read by providing them with something they will delight in and/or profit from by reading.
11. If the award-winning picture book (younger reader category) is the first or second book of the illustrator, then the author and illustrator share the award. In all other cases, the author will receive the full award.
12. A book may be entered into the award competition by either its publisher or author. One copy of each book submitted must be sent to each of the designated ILA Children's and Young Adults' Book Award Subcommittee Member by **March 15, 2019**.
13. If the committee recommends finalists, their names will be submitted to *Literacy Today* and *Literacy Daily* for listing as space becomes available.

Submission Timeline

- Late October 2018: Submissions open
- **March 15, 2019**: Submission deadline (must be submitted electronically)
- May–June 2019: Applicants notified of the results via email.

How to Apply

Complete your submission online using ScholarOne (a web-based grant management system; previously Manuscript Central) at https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ILA_Awards-Grants.

Creating a Profile

All applicants (including any coapplicants) must create a profile by providing the following information in the ScholarOne system. If you are a **returning user**, please view or edit your profile to make sure it is current.

- User name and password
- First and last name
- Mailing address
- Phone number and email address
- Institutional affiliation and position/title