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INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION RELEASES 2020 CHOICES READING LISTS

NEWARK, Del. (May 1, 2020) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) released today its much-anticipated [Choices reading lists](#), composed of titles selected by students and educators across the United States as the most outstanding books published in 2019.

The release coincides with [Children's Book Week](#), a yearly celebration that encourages children to embrace the power of reading for pleasure. In response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, this year's program has been reimaged to ensure the celebrations continue at home and online.

"In a time where teachers, families, and students are all hungry for ways to stay engaged in literacy and learning, reading provides the perfect outlet," says ILA Executive Director Marcie Craig Post. "Reading for pleasure is something we can all do."

Each Choices project is run by volunteer team leaders who distribute thousands of newly released books to classrooms; recruit participants to read, review and vote on their favorites; and annotate the final selections.

Across projects, approximately 25,000 children and young adults are involved in the process of selecting the books that had the biggest impact on them as readers.

In turn, hundreds of teachers, librarians, and reading/literacy specialists choose books that help to inform curricula; build strong classroom libraries; introduce their students to new, high-quality works; and impart a lifelong love of reading.

The 2020 Choices reading lists, including titles and annotations, can be found and downloaded for free at literacyworldwide.org/choices.

About the Choices Project

Each year, thousands of children, young adults, and educators around the United States select their favorite recently published books for the International Literacy Association's Choices reading lists. These lists are used in classrooms, libraries, and homes to help readers of all ages find books they will enjoy. Both the Children's Choices and the Young Adults' Choices reading lists are cosponsored by the Children's Book Council. The annotated lists for the current year are posted online in May and are available for free download at literacyworldwide.org/choices.

About the International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers and experts across 146 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated. ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017 provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices and cutting-edge

research to empower educators, inspire students and inform policymakers. ILA publishes The Reading Teacher, Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy and Reading Research Quarterly, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit literacyworldwide.org.

About the Children's Book Council

The Children's Book Council (CBC) is the largest nonprofit trade association of children's book publishers in North America, dedicated to supporting the industry and promoting children's books and reading. To learn more about the CBC, visit cbcbooks.org/about.

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