Award-Winning Books

Every year, at the annual American Library Association Midwinter Conference, books, authors, and illustrators receive accolades and awards. The three most prestigious awards are the John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children’s literature, the Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children, and the Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults. All three of these titles, which you can see in the images above, will soon be available for check-out at the Bastrop Public Library.

However, awards that promote diverse reading experiences are also given. These include the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature promoting Asian/Pacific American culture and heritage and is awarded based on literary and artistic merit; the Pura Belpré Awards honoring Latino writers and illustrators whose children’s books best portray, affirm, and celebrate the Latino cultural experience; Coretta Scott King Book Awards recognizing African American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults; the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award to affirm new talent; the Schneider Family Book Award for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience; the Stonewall Book Award for children’s and YA books of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience; and more. Here are some of our favorite winners that you can check-out today!
**Library Closings**

- Friday, March 1 for Texas Independence Day (and Dr. Seuss’s birthday!)

**Library**

**SOUP-er Friends**

The Friends of the Bastrop Public Library showed appreciation for their lifetime members with a soup supper on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

These Friends received a special card to indicate their lifetime status; it also can be shown when purchasing items from the Book Nook to receive 20% off. These Friends also get a special early preview of the Book Sale that happens every spring. In addition, they are able to have items checked out from the library for three weeks, as all Friends of the Library can.

There are currently 14 lifetime Friends: Karen Abee, Anne Beck, Margaret Comfort, Belinda Goertz, Stella Haecker and Willie Pina, Clara Maynard, Kevin and Angela Plunkett, Duane and Linda Rowe, Carlene Tomlin, Dixie West, and Donna Winkler.

If you would like to become a lifetime Friend, fill out an FOL application and donate $500 to the Friends. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Sims, the FOL president.

Thank you for your lifetime devotion to the Bastrop Public Library and the Friends of the Library!

**Book & Plant Sale**

The Annual Book and Plant Sale co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Lost Pines Garden Club is coming up soon, so mark the date on your calendars!

**Friday and Saturday, March 29-30**

This is the largest fundraiser of the year, and all proceeds go directly to youth programming, like the upcoming Summer Reading Program.

From the Lost Pines Garden Club, you will find lots of healthy plants chosen to flourish in our area and receive tips from knowledgeable gardeners on how to keep them healthy and blooming prettily.

And from the Friends of the Library, there will be thousands of books, most price at $.50 and $1.00-- what a bargain! The sale will take place during normal library hours. Saturday from 3:00-4:00, the Friends will offer a special bag deal, a bag full of books for only $3.00!

FOL members will get a special preview of the sale Friday morning from 9-10am

We are thankful and appreciate all the books donated this year. Keep bringing them in to help us have an awesome sale!

**February Is Black History Month**

Treat your shelf with some diverse African-American-centric stories this February. We’ll have a display up in the library starting Feb. 22. If you can’t wait, find relevant books in the card catalog at this link: https://bastrop.biblionix.com/?booklist=15074

Learn more about Black History Month at africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/about/

**March Is Int'l Women's History Month**

Women aren’t confined to the domestic spheres anymore, and there are lots of books that celebrate that freedom to be strong and independent. We’ll have a display of girl power books in the library in early March, but if you can’t wait, find relevant books in the card catalog at this link: https://bastrop.biblionix.com/?booklist=15078

Learn more about International Women’s History Month at womenshistorymonth.gov/
Mental Health Workshop for Librarians

On Thursday, January 17, 2019, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, in conjunction with Bluebonnet Trails and Integral Care of Travis County, presented a Mental Health First Aid workshop to area librarians.

Thirty-five librarians met to learn about the manifestations of various mental health illnesses in adults. Working with the public on a daily basis, librarians often come into contact with a wide variety of people, some of whom may seem to act outside the social norms. As explained in the workshop, many times, these people are not dangerous, but often do need to be approached with care and without stigma.

If you or a loved one is struggling with their mental health or you worry that they may be suffering with a mental illness, please feel free to peruse our various “Help Yourself Nonfiction” resources that can be found in the catalog and in the adult nonfiction section. For teens, there are teen-centric sources available online at padlet.com/badietrich12/d4nnfgzntysy.

We appreciate the community’s support in this learning opportunity.

Scholarship for Seniors

The Friends of the Library annually award a $300 scholarship to graduating high school seniors.

To apply, teens can access the application at bpltteens.weebly.com/fol-scholarship. They must have volunteered at the library to be eligible.

Completed applications can be turned in by mailing them to the Friends at Friends of Bastrop Public Library, PO Box 670, Bastrop, TX 78602. The deadline to turn them in is March 3rd!
Cary Kittrell:
Outlander by Diana Gabaldon
I thought it was going to be boring and not hold my interest. I was WRONG! It has romance, time travel, historical battles, alternative histories, fantasy and the reader uses Scottish accents! I hadn’t wanted to listen to the first book, but I am hooked and going to listen to the entire series!
Find it: NOV Gab, CD Book F Gab, and as an ebook and audiobook on the OverDrive/Libby app, as well as the tv series: DVD F Out

Bonnie Pierson:
The Boy, the Boat, and the Beast by Samantha M. Clark
This book will keep you turning pages late into the night! A boy wakes up on a mysterious, uninhabited beach all alone. Who is he? How did he get there? The boy can’t remember. The boy’s struggle for survival, and the search for his memory, will force him to face his greatest fears in order to find the way back to his family.
Find it: JF Cla (NEW)

Catherine Lombardo:
Jerusalem Interlude (#4 in Zion Covenant series) by Bodie and Brock Thoene
This is at least the third time that I have read this series. I still get very emotional while reading each book. One is able to see through the eyes of Elisa, a Jewish violinist, what it was like in Germany and the surrounding countries during the 1930’s. If you like and enjoy reading a good novel, I would recommend this series! Start with Vienna Prelude.
Find it in adult fiction: CHR Tho

Bethany Dietrich:
I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sanchez
Julia is a strong-willed, feminist, sassy Latina whose immigrant parents are bewildered by her. Her sister Olga, now unexpectedly dead, had been perfect. But, was she really? Julia finds some unexpected things in Olga’s room that inspire Julia to do some digging. That uncertainty about her sister and her parents’ constant misunderstanding of Julia results in depression and anxiety, which Julia must learn to cope with. This is a wonderful coming-of-age story that includes mental health and dealing with that struggle.
Find it as an ebook on OverDrive/Libby

Most popular check-outs of December 2018:
Picture book: Unicorn’s Picnic by April Hilland ~ E Hil (NEW)
Chapter book: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown ~ JF Kin
YA: A Court of Thorns and Roses by Sarah J. Maas ~ YA F Maa
Adult fiction: Still Lives: A Novel by Maria Hummel ~ MYS Hum (NEW)
Adult nonfiction: Ship of Fools: How a Selfish Ruling Class Is Bringing America to the Brink of Revolution by Tucker Carlson ~ 305.52 Car (NEW)