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The official newsletter of the
Children's Librarians Association of Suffolk County

The Trumpet

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President's Message

Linda Overton is the President of the Children's Librarians Association of Suffolk County. She is the Head of Children's Services at the Sachem Public Library.



Dear CLASC members,

This is the second edition of our online newsletter. I hope you are enjoying your electronic version of The Trumpet. We continue to rely on our CLASC librarians to contribute information, both informative and entertaining, for the CLASC membership.

I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season. As we continue into a busy winter season, don't forget to "Save the Date" for CLASC and SCLS Youth Services Department Fall Literature Conference on Friday, October 22, 2010. This year's theme is "Reading: A Grand Adventure" with Special Guest Author: Jane Yolen.

As noted in this edition of the The Trumpet, there was a January New Book Forum dedicated to the Newbery Awards. I encourage all of you to take part in New Book Forum meetings as, with all things related to CLASC, your participation makes everything possible!

Linda



2010 Barbara Flescher Scholarship



This award will be presented in recognition of Barbara Flescher's tremendous contribution to the field of children's librarianship. The presentation will be made by the Children's Librarians Association of Suffolk County, Inc. (CLASC, Inc.) in the amount of \$1,500. Each applicant must be currently attending an accredited graduate library school program, but not scheduled to graduate prior to June 2010. The applicant must be a resident of Suffolk County and exhibit an interest in the field of children's librarianship in a public library. Applications are now available. **Please contact Chairperson, Debbie Bush at dbush@suffolk.lib.ny.us or 928-1212. Deadline for applying is: March 5, 2010.**

National Ambassador For Young People's Literature

The Library of Congress has named the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. The Ambassador is: Katherine Patterson. She will serve as Ambassador during 2010-2011. She has chosen "**Read for Your Life**" as the theme for her platform. Ms. Patterson is only the second children's author to hold this position. Previously, Jon Scieszka held the position. For more information about Mrs. Patterson's role as Ambassador, go to:
<http://www.read.gov/cfb/ambassador/>

STUMP THE LIBRARIAN!



The answer to our last trivia question, "What was Oscar Wilde's only published novel?" The correct answer: The Picture of Dorian Gray was submitted almost instantaneously by two brilliant CLASC librarians!

The winners were **Debbie Bush from the Comsewogue library** and **Julie Delaney from the Smithtown Library**. Congratulations! Each librarian received a crossword puzzle book.

This month's trivia question from Kim Giery is:

Which two illustrators won the Caldecott Medal three times each?



As always, the first correct answer received by Kim at kgiery@suffolk.lib.ny.us wins a prize!

SAVE THE DATE!

CLASC Annual Dinner
Thursday, April 29
The Three Village Inn
6:00-9:00 pm

The guest author will be Lauren Tarshis, editor of *Storyworks*, a magazine for children in Grades 3rd-5th, and the books, *Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree* and *Emma-Jean Lazarus Fell In Love*. Her new six-book series of historical fiction about disasters, "*I Survived*" will be coming out in June.

Editors Note: The following information is still valid except Doris Gebel will, unfortunately, not be able to chair the 2011 Committee because the meeting will take place the same day as her son's wedding!

Mildred L. Batchelder Award

The Batchelder Award is a citation awarded to an American publisher for a children's book considered to be the most outstanding of those books originally published in a language other than English, in a country other than the United States, and subsequently translated into English and published in the United States.

It was named to honor Mildred Leona Batchelder (1901-1998), a longtime ALA staff member. She was named one of the 100 most important library leaders we have had in the 20th Century by American Libraries in 1999. A champion of library service to youth who mentored developing leaders, she established international relations with others in youth services, and succeeded in focusing public attention on issues of children and their reading and use of libraries. One legacy of her leadership was an increased emphasis on translating and exchanging quality children's books with other countries.

Each year a committee of four ALSC members and a chairperson are appointed to evaluate translations of children's books and recognize the publisher for their efforts to make international literature available to American children. Last year

Arthur A. Levine Books, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc. was given the award for **Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit**, written by Nahoko Uehashi, and translated from the Japanese by Cathy Hirano. The book tells the story of Balsa, a skilled female warrior, who accepts the task of protecting a young prince from otherworldly demons and his father's assassins. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers and Amulet Books were given honors for their books **Garmann's Summer** and **Tiger Moon**.

Doris Gebel will chair the committee for the 2011 Batchelder Award. (see Editor's Note.) She welcomes your suggestions as you read books eligible for the award this year. <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrantsbookmedia/batchelderaward/index.cfm>

Another opportunity to become familiar with international children's literature is to review the **Outstanding International Books list**. This book list is published annually and is prepared by a committee of USBBY members. It is printed in the February issue of School Library Journal. The list is broader in scope than the Batchelder Award because it includes books written in English, but originally published in a country other than the United States.

Past lists can be found on the USBBY website at www.usbby.org/outstanding_international_books_list.htm



The 2010 Batchelder Award is Announced...

Delacore Press is the winner of the 2010 Batchelder Award for "**A Faraway Island**". According to the ALA website, the title was originally published in Swedish in 1996. "The book tells the story of two Jewish sisters from Vienna, Austria... who are sent by their parents to Sweden to escape the Nazis. Nellie adapts easily, but Stephanie faces painful challenges. This engaging novel explores the importance of family and personal growth."

The three Batchelder Honor Books are:

Eidi by **Bodil Bredsdorff (Denmark)**

Big Wolf and Little Wolf by **Nadine Brun-Cosme (France)**

Moribito II: Guardian of the Darkness by **Nahoko Uehashi (Japan)**

Nassau Children's Literature Conference

By Ann Gomez

CLASC members, if you didn't get a chance to attend the **Nassau Children's Literature Conference** on **November 6, 2009**, here are some highlights from the day...

Gail Carson Levine spoke about her love of story and writing. She shared the awful experience of being told her writing was pedestrian by a teacher, and that, as a result, she put writing aside for many years. Fortunately, for all her fans she resumed writing! Gail currently runs a writing workshop, "Scribble Scrabble", every summer for 10-17 year olds. You can visit Gail at

gailcarsonlevine.blogspot.com, she posts at least once a week.

Ed Young spoke about how he creates his complex, collage illustrations using numerous found objects. Check out his artwork in the book "**Wabi Sabi**", by Mark Reibstein.

One of the book discussions, "**Happy Birthday Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin**", proved to be quite a learning experience. Some of us were completely surprised to discover that Abraham Lincoln used photography (the new medium at the time), to portray a down to earth appearance by always tousling his hair prior to a photo session.

The conference also presented a terrific opportunity to visit with colleagues.

Hope to see you all at the CLASC sponsored Suffolk County Fall Literature Conference featuring author Jane Yolen and illustrator Mike Cavallaro.



Banner Programmer



By Lisa Herskowitz

Looking for a great low-keyed, reasonably priced art program? Look no further than **Michael Krasowitz' printmaking workshop**. Michael is reliable, organized, neat, and has a great rapport with elementary school children as well as teens. He arrives early with more than enough supplies to teach children to make printing plates using foam panels. With Michael's clear instructions and gentle guidance, kids have fun creating their own designs using shapes, pens, and other safe materials. He also explains the basics of printmaking from woodcuts to metal plates. The kids have a positive creative experience and are exposed to a unique art form. It's a great confidence builder for children who don't feel they are artistic because everyone goes home with high quality handmade creations. Contact information: kraz@optonline.net or (516) 457-0122

If you know of any great programmers you would like to share with your CLASC Librarians, please contact Lisa at lherskow@suffolk.lib.ny.us

CLASC MEMBERS

Are you getting e-mails from CLASC? If not, we may have an incorrect address for you. Please let us know by contacting BOTH CLASC secretaries -
Corresponding Secretary Joanne Adam at joadam@suffolk.lib.ny.us AND
Recording Secretary
Lisa Herskowitz at lherskow@suffolk.lib.ny.us

CLASC

NEW BOOK FORUM

Mock Newbery Discussion

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

A report by New Book Forum moderator,
Doris Gebel

Fifteen literature-minded Children's Librarians met on a cold January evening at the Half Hollow Hills Library to discuss the Newbery worthiness of twelve outstanding children's books published in 2009.

Books included in the discussion: **11 Birthdays**, **Almost Astronauts**, **Anything But Typical**, **Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice**, **Crossing Stones**, **The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**, **The Magician's Elephant**, **Neil Armstrong is My Uncle and Other Lies Muscle Man McGinty Told Me**, **A Season of Gifts**, **Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis**, **When the Whistle Blows** and **When You Reach Me**. Each book was defended and straw polls were conducted to whittle down the list. Further discussions were held for the remaining titles.

A strong case was made for the outstanding nonfiction title about **Claudette Colvin**. This outstanding and detailed biography skillfully integrates the social history of the time in a way that thoroughly respects the audience. The artful way the author separated his well-paced narrative from the subjects own words and the impeccable organization of information make this a distinguished book. Although this book did not make it into the final consideration, all gained a sincere appreciation for this fine title.

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate was presented as a beautifully written example of a book about the coming of age of an ambitious girl with depth beyond the typical "spunky girl" character. This is a book that shows rather than tells what it is like to live in a small rural town at the turn of the century in the dawning of the scientific age and allows a young reader to understand the social conventions of the early 20th Century. The them of each chapter is perfectly foreshadowed with scientific quotes.

The remarkable complexity of plot was an outstanding feature of the book **When You Reach Me**. Participants in the discussion were struck by the suspenseful way the author was able to successfully intertwine genres of realistic fiction, mystery and science fiction to create a compelling story. Characters that think and act their age and a setting that is perfectly described were also noted. For a structure that is ingenious this book accomplishes all it sets out to do, and was deemed distinguished by the group.

With spare text, the author of **Anything But Typical** gives the reader a clear picture into the mind of an autistic boy. Readers are struck by the struggle the character feels as he is thrust into the typical world. Passages were read aloud to demonstrate the raw emotion conveyed by the spare language and the realistic way the story is told.

At the end of the night a vote determined that **Anything But Typical** be named the **2010 CLASC Mock Newbery winner**. The group named two honor books:

- * **The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate** and
- * **When You Reach Me**.

And as you are all aware, the actual winner of the 2010 Newbery Award is...

When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

The 2010 Honor Books are...

- * **Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice**
By Phillip Hoose
- * **The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**
By Jacqueline Kelly
- * **Where The Mountain Meets the Moon**
By Grace Lin
- * **The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg**
By Rodman Philbrick

Look for more great book discussions from your CLASC New Book Forum in the future.



CLASC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

CLASC held its General Membership meeting at the Patchogue-Medford Public Library. CLASC Librarians enjoyed a talk by PALS Manager/Systems Operator, Emily Clasper. Here are a few moments from the evening.



Emily Clasper spoke about *Using Twitter to Connect with Plugged-In Professionals, Mobile Moms and Digital Dads.*



CLASC President, Linda Overton addresses the CLASC Membership at the General Membership meeting.



CLASC Librarians at the November 17th General Membership Meeting

Mock Newbery Discussion

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

CLASC Librarians that took part in the discussion included:

Natalie Anklowitz, Sharon Babcock, Ann Burke, Kristine Casper, Diane Doty, Marylou Famiglietti, Doris Gebel, Lisa Herskowitz, Corinna Jaudes, Marybeth Kozikowski, Lisa Kropp, Adriana LoDolce, Linda Meglio, Pat Pidgeon, Patricia Rose Richardson



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Children's Librarians Association of Suffolk County, Inc.
P.O. Box 330
Smithtown, NY 11787

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