

Report for Land of Enchantment Book Award Committee

The Committee is spending the summer reading for the 2010/2011 list of books to be chosen at our October meeting. If you have a book that is by a living American Author and has been published since 2007, you may contact Land of Enchantment Committee Liaison, Linda Barnett, or use the website (www.loebookaward.com) to submit the title and author. All submissions must be done prior to September 1, 2009.

We are also choosing a list for what is to be termed, a "Picture Book" category. This means that there would be four winners in 2011 (one for the YA list, one for the Children's List, and the author AND illustrator of the "Picture Book". We are hoping that this will eliminate some of the criticism by some schools that "a picture book always seems to win the Children's Award." We are also hoping that 1st and 2nd grade teachers will read these to their students and get them voting, too.

At present the criteria for the "Picture Book" category is as follows:

1. Author living in US
2. Copyright within 5 years of award presentation year
3. Picture Books are defined as illustrated text less than 50 pages long,;the illustrations contribute significantly to the story line and there are pictures on almost every page.
4. Reading level of 3.0 or higher
5. Award to be given to both author and illustrator (2 trays)
6. Fiction and non-fiction subject material
7. Maximum number of titles on the list 8

We are also considering some thematic names for the 3 different lists instead of just Picture Book, Children's List and Young Adult List. Examples: yucca, chamisa, pinon, roadrunner, coyote, horned toad (something uniquely New Mexico). If you have a suggestion, you can contact this committee or anyone through the website cited above.

In a few years, we may want to select new awards to give to the authors, because the Nambe is now made in China and is no longer unique to New Mexico. They also have not come down on the price of the trays even though they are not made here any longer.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Barnett, Liaison
Land of Enchantment Committee