

| Year | Author | Book Title |
|------|-------------------------|---|
| 2022 | Donna Barba Higuera | <i>The Last Cuentista</i> |
| 2021 | Tae Keller | <i>When You Trap a Tiger</i> |
| 2020 | Jerry Craft | <i>New Kid</i> |
| 2019 | Meg Medina | <i>Merci Suarez Changes Gears</i> |
| 2018 | Erin Entrada Kelly | <i>Hello, Universe</i> |
| 2017 | Kelly Barnhill | <i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> |
| 2016 | Matt de la Pena | <i>Last Stop on Market Street</i> |
| 2015 | Kwame Alexander | <i>The Crossover</i> |
| 2014 | Kate DiCamillo | <i>Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures</i> |
| 2013 | Katherine Applegate | <i>The One and Only Ivan</i> |
| 2012 | Jack Gantos | <i>Dead End in Norvelt</i> |
| 2011 | Clare Vanderpool | <i>Moon Over Manifest</i> |
| 2010 | Rebecca Stead | <i>When You Reach Me</i> |
| 2009 | Neil Gaiman | <i>The Graveyard Book</i> |
| 2008 | Laura Amy Schlitz | <i>Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village</i> |
| 2007 | Susan Patron | <i>The Higher Power of Lucky</i> |
| 2006 | Lynne Rae Perkins | <i>Criss Cross</i> |
| 2005 | Cynthia Kadahata | <i>Kira-Kira</i> |
| 2004 | Kate DiCamillo | <i>The Tale of Despereaux</i> |
| 2003 | Avi | <i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i> |
| 2002 | Linda Sue Park | <i>A single Shard</i> |
| 2001 | Richard Peck | <i>A Year Down Yonder</i> |
| 2000 | Christopher Paul Curtis | <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i> |
| 1999 | Louis Sachar | <i>Holes</i> |
| 1998 | Karen Hesse | <i>Out of the Dust</i> |
| 1997 | E. L. Konigsburg | <i>The View from Saturday</i> |
| 1996 | Karen Cushman | <i>The Midwife's Apprentice</i> |
| 1995 | Sharon Creech | <i>Walk Two Moons</i> |
| 1994 | Lois Lowry | <i>The Giver</i> |
| 1993 | Cynthia Rylant | <i>Missing May</i> |
| 1992 | Phyllis Reynolds Naylor | <i>Shiloh</i> |
| 1991 | Jerry Spinelli | <i>Maniac Magee</i> |
| 1990 | Lois Lowry | <i>Number the Stars</i> |
| 1989 | Paul Fleischman | <i>Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices</i> |
| 1988 | Russell Freedman | <i>Lincoln: A Photobiography</i> |
| 1987 | Sid Fleischman | <i>The Whipping Boy</i> |
| 1986 | Patricia MacLachlan | <i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i> |
| 1985 | Robin McKinley | <i>The Hero and the Crown</i> |
| 1984 | Beverly Cleary | <i>Dear Mr. Henshaw</i> |
| 1983 | Cynthia Voigt | <i>Dacey's Song</i> |
| 1982 | Nancy Willard | <i>A Visit to William Blake's Inn</i> |
| 1981 | Katherine Paterson | <i>Jacob Have I Loved</i> |

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| 1980 | Joan Bloss | <i>A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal</i> |
| 1979 | Ellen Raskin | <i>The Westing Game</i> |
| 1978 | Katherine Paterson | <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> |
| 1977 | Mildred Taylor | <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> |
| 1976 | Susan Cooper | <i>The Grey King</i> |
| 1975 | Virginia Hamilton | <i>M. C. Higgins, the Great</i> |
| 1974 | Paula Fox | <i>The Slave Dancer</i> |
| 1973 | Jean Craighead George | <i>Julie of the Wolves</i> |
| 1972 | Robert C. O'Brien | <i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH</i> |
| 1971 | Betsy Byars | <i>Summer of the Swans</i> |
| 1970 | William H. Armstrong | <i>Souder</i> |
| 1969 | Lloyd Alexander | <i>The High King</i> |
| 1968 | E. L. Konigsburg | <i>From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler</i> |
| 1967 | Irene Hunt | <i>Up a Road Slowly</i> |
| 1966 | Elizabeth Borton de Trevino | <i>I, Juan de Pareja</i> |
| 1965 | Maia Wojciechowska | <i>Shadow of a Bull</i> |
| 1964 | Emily Cheney Neville | <i>It's Like This, Cat</i> |
| 1963 | Madeleine L'Engle | <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> |
| 1962 | Elizabeth George Speare | <i>The Bronze Bow</i> |
| 1961 | Scott O'Dell | <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> |
| 1960 | Joseph Krumgold | <i>Onion John</i> |
| 1959 | Elizabeth George Speare | <i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i> |
| 1958 | Harold Keith | <i>Rifles for Watie</i> |
| 1957 | Virginia Sorensen | <i>Miracles on Maple Hill</i> |
| 1956 | Jean Lee Latham | <i>Carry On, Mr. Bowditch</i> |
| 1955 | Meindert DeJong | <i>The Wheel on the School</i> |
| 1954 | Joseph Krumgold | <i>....And Now Miguel</i> |
| 1953 | Ann Nolan Clark | <i>Secret of the Andes</i> |
| 1952 | Eleanor Estes | <i>Ginger Pye</i> |
| 1951 | Elizabeth Yates | <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> |
| 1950 | Marguerite de Angeli | <i>The Door in the Wall</i> |
| 1949 | Marguerite Henry | <i>King of the Wind</i> |
| 1948 | William Pene du Bois | <i>The Twenty-One Balloons</i> |
| 1947 | Carolyn Sherwin Bailey | <i>Miss Hickory</i> |
| 1946 | Lois Lenski | <i>Strawberry Girl</i> |
| 1945 | Robert Lawson | <i>Rabbit Hill</i> |
| 1944 | Esther Forbes | <i>Johnny Tremain</i> |
| 1943 | Elizabeth Janet Gray | <i>Adom of the Road</i> |
| 1942 | Walter D. Edmonds | <i>The Matchlock Gun</i> |
| 1941 | Armstrong Sperry | <i>Call It Courage</i> |
| 1940 | James Daugherty | <i>Daniel Boone</i> |
| 1939 | Elizabeth Enright | <i>Thimble Summer</i> |
| 1938 | Kate Seredy | <i>The White Stag</i> |

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| 1937 | Ruth Sawyer | <i>Roller Skates</i> |
| 1936 | Carol Ryrie Brink | <i>Caddie Woodlawn</i> |
| 1935 | Monica Shannon | <i>Dobry</i> |
| 1934 | Cornelia Meigs | <i>Invincible Louisa</i> |
| 1933 | Elizabeth Foreman Lewis | <i>Young Fu and the Upper Yangtze</i> |
| 1932 | Laura Adams Armer | <i>Waterless Mountain</i> |
| 1931 | Elizabeth Coatsworth | <i>The Cat Who Went to Heaven</i> |
| 1930 | Rachel Field | <i>Hitty, Her First Hundred Years</i> |
| 1929 | Eric P. Kelly | <i>The Trumpeter of Krakow</i> |
| 1928 | Dhan Gopal Mukerji | <i>Gay Neck, the Story of a Pigeon</i> |
| 1927 | Will James | <i>Smoky the Cow Horse</i> |
| 1926 | Arthur Bowie Chrisman | <i>Shen of the Sea</i> |
| 1925 | Charles Finger | <i>Tales from Silver Lands</i> |
| 1924 | Charles Boardman Hawes | <i>The Dark Frigate</i> |
| 1923 | Hugh Lofting | <i>The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle</i> |
| 1922 | Hendrik Willem van Loon | <i>The Story of Mankind</i> |