

Latinx Creators

Fiction and Graphic Novels

Early Chapter, Easy Reader and Series Books

Bowles, David. *13th Street: Battle of the Bad-Breath Bats* (Early Chapter series). Cousins Malia, Ivan, and Dante are visiting their aunt for the summer, but stumble on a strange world filled with dangerous beasts!

Delacre, Lulu. *Rafi and Rosi: Music!* (Readers Level 2 series). Rafi and Rosi, two curious tree frogs, explore bomba, plena, and salsa music traditions in Puerto Rico.

González, Saraí. *Saraí and the Meaning of Awesome** (Early Chapter series). Fourth grader Saraí Gonzalez can do anything. She can bake, dance, and run her own cupcake business. But when her grandparents are forced to move, she's not sure what to do.

Heuer, Lourdes. *Esme's Birthday Conga Line* (Early Chapter). Esme plans her own birthday party with the help of the eclectic neighbors who reside in her building.

Jennings, Jerry Catasús. *Definitely Dominguita: Knight of the Cape* (Early Chapter series). Dominguita loves reading the books in Spanish that Abuela gave her. She's inspired by Don Quixote to become a knight and do good deeds!

McDonald, Kirsten and Fatima Anaya. *Carlos and Carmen: The Sweet Treasure* (Readers Level 2 series). Twins Carlos and Carmen want to make Father's Day really special for Papá with a treasure hunt!

Miedoso, Andres. *Desmond Cole, Ghost Patrol: The Haunted House Next Door* (Kids Paperback series). When supernatural things start happening in Andres' new house, next-door-neighbor Desmond Cole, age eight, comes to the rescue.

Raúl the Third. *El Toro & Friends: Tag Team* (Readers Level 1 series). After last night's match, the stadium is a mess! There is so much work to be done and Mexican wrestling star El Toro feels overwhelmed.

Salazar, Alicia. *Camila the Dancing Star* (Readers Level 2 series). At dance camp, Camila teams up with friends to enter the dance competition as Las Estrellas.

Torres, Jennifer. *Catalina Incognito* (Early Chapter series). Eight-year-old Catalina Castañeda uses a sewing kit to turn ordinary clothing into a magical disguise, helping her to uncover a thief at the library.

Fiction

Acevedo, Chantel. *Muse Squad: The Cassandra Curse* (series). A young Cuban American girl discovers that she's one of the nine muses of Greek mythology!

Alegre, Reina Luz. *The Dream Weaver*. Twelve-year-old Zoey navigates the tricky waters of friendship and family while searching for a way to save her grandfather's bowling alley from closing.

Algorta, Alejandra. *Neverforgotten**. Fabio flies through the streets of Bogotá on his bicycle... until he simply forgets how to ride and life changes forever.

Argueta, Jorge. *Caravan to the North: Misael's Long Walk*. A powerful first-person account of Misael Martínez, a Salvadoran boy whose family joins the caravan heading north to the U.S. Also by Jorge Argueta: *Jimena Pérez puede volar*.

Aster, Alex. *Emblem Island: Curse of the Night Witch* (series). After changing the fate he has known since birth, twelve-year-old Tor Luna must visit the Night Witch to break the curse he now faces.

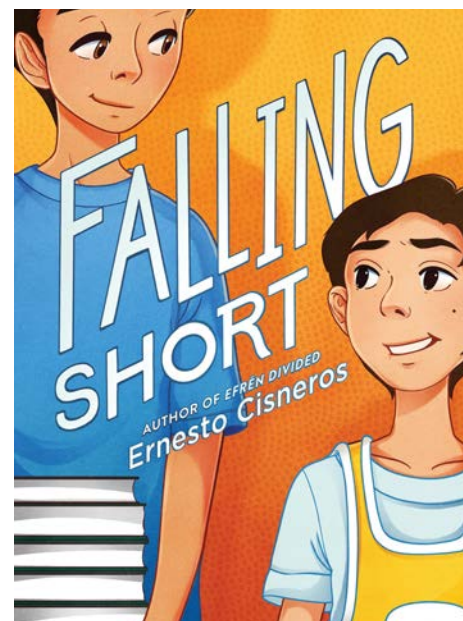
Balcárcel, Rebecca. *Shine On, Luz Véliz!* Sidelined by an injury, soccer star Luz discovers she has a knack for coding. Also by Rebecca Balcárcel: *The Other Half of Happy*.

Behar, Ruth. *Letters from Cuba**. In 1938, eleven-year-old Esther joins her father in Cuba, where they toil together to rescue the rest of their Jewish family in Poland.

Bowles, David. *They Call me Güero: A Border Kid's Poems*. Twelve-year-old Güero, a red-headed, freckled Mexican American kid, discovers the joy of writing poetry, thanks to his English teacher.

Burgos, Hilda Eunice. *Miosotis Flores Never Forgets*. Miosotis Flores is excited about three things: fostering rescue dogs, goofy horror movies, and her sister Amarilis's upcoming wedding! Also by Hilda Eunice Burgos: *Ana María Reyes Does Not Live in a Castle*.

Calejo, Ryan. *Charlie Hernández and the League of Shadows* (series). Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernandez learns the stories are true when he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world.



Cartaya, Pablo. *The Last Beekeeper*. To prove that she belongs in a place where only the smartest and most useful are welcomed, twelve-year-old Yolanda must find a long-extinct beehive. Also by Pablo Cartaya: *Each Tiny Spark* and *Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish*.

Cervantes, Angela. *Lety Out Loud**. Lety Muñoz's first language is Spanish, and she likes to take her time putting her words together. She loves volunteering at the animal shelter because the dogs and cats there don't care if she can't always find the right word. Also by Angela Cervantes: *Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring**.

Cisneros, Ernesto. *Falling Short*. Two best friends, one athletically gifted and one academically gifted, have more in common than they realize. Also by Ernesto Cisneros: *Efrén Divided*.

Córdova, Zoraida. *Valentina Salazar Is Not a Monster Hunter*. After her father is killed during a mission to rescue a magical creature who wandered into our world, Val follows in his footsteps to save a mythical egg from the monster hunters. Also by Zoraida Córdova: *The Way to Rio Luna*.

Cuevas, Adrianna. *Cuba in my Pocket*. In 1961 Cuba, with the threat of military service for children looming, twelve-year-old Cumba's parents send him to Miami, where he lives with a new family and misses his homeland. Also by Adrianna Cuevas: *The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez*.

Diaz, Alexandra. *Santiago's Road Home**. Fleeing abusive relatives and extreme poverty in Mexico, Santiago endures being detained by ICE while crossing the border. Also by Alexandra Diaz: *The Crossroads**.

* This title is also available in Spanish in the Kids World Languages section.

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Learn more: oppl.org/kids-lists

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Fiction and Graphic Novels

Fiction, cont.

Dobbs, Alda P. *Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna* (series). After her mother dies and her father is dragged away by soldiers during the Mexican Revolution, Petra will do anything to keep her family safe and lead them to a better life across the U.S. border.

Dominguez, Angela. *Stella Diaz Has Something to Say* (series). Stella wants to be friends with the new boy in class, but sometimes she speaks Spanish instead of English and pronounces words wrong.

Duarte Armendariz, Luisana. *Julieta and the Diamond Enigma*. When a diamond goes missing from the Louvre, it is up to nine-year-old Julieta to identify the thief and exonerate her father.

Engle, Margarita. *Singing With Elephants*. Oriol learns that it takes courage to stay true to herself and do what she thinks is right—attempting to rescue a baby elephant in need—even if it means keeping secrets from those she loves.

Gonzalez, Christina Diaz. *Concealed*. Katrina and her parents are part of the Witness Protection Program. When their location leaks and her parents disappear, she's forced to embark on a rescue mission and find out the truth about her past.

Gonzalez, Mandy. *Fearless* (series). Rehearsing what may be the last show in a theater, twelve-year-old Monica Garcia and other cast members are locked in and must try to appease a ghost and reverse a curse.

Hernandez, Carlos. *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe* (series). To heal after his mother's death, Sal learned how to meditate. Now he can reach into time and space to retrieve things from other universes!

Higuera, Donna Barba. *The Last Cuentista*. Petra wants to be a storyteller, but after the destruction of Earth, she and her family are headed to a new planet. Also by Donna Barba Higuera: *Lupe Wong Won't Dance**

Manzano, Sonia. *Coming Up Cuban*. Four children from different backgrounds learn to find a place for themselves in a world changed after Fidel Castro's rise to power.

Medina, Meg. *Merci Suárez Changes Gears** (series). Merci struggles as she does extra community service for her private school scholarship, plus no one will tell her why her abuelo has been acting strangely.

Mejia, Tehlor Kay. *Paola Santiago and the River of Tears* (series). Science-loving Paola doubts her mother's stories of the monstrous La Llorona until she takes a walk through a cactus field near the Gila River.

* This title is also available in Spanish in the Kids World Languages section.

Méndez, Yamile Saied. *Shaking up the House*. The outgoing First Daughters play a prank on their incoming counterparts, sparking an epic prank war.

Meriano, Anna. *Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble* (series). Wanting to be a part of her family's Día de los Muertos preparations, Leonora sneaks out of school to discover her mother, aunt, and older sisters have been keeping a secret.

Moreno, Nina. *Join the Club, Maggie Diaz*. Maggie is excited to start seventh-grade, but trying out all the different clubs while still juggling school work is exhausting!

Older, Daniel José. *Flood City*. Flood City is the last inhabitable place on Earth and the battleground between oppositional forces in the sky and on land. Also by Daniel José Older: *Dactyl Hill Squad* (series).

Ortega, Claribel A. *Witchlings*. Seven Salazar can't wait to be placed in the most powerful coven of witches, but something goes wrong at her Black Moon Ceremony! Also by Claribel A. Ortega: *Ghost Squad*.

Oshiro, Mark. *You Only Live Once, David Bravo*. David accidentally summons a talking, shapeshifting dog who claims that a choice in David's past put him on the wrong timeline and she can take him back to fix it. Also by Mark Oshiro: *The Insiders*.

Otheguy, Emma. *Sofía Acosta Makes a Scene*. Sofia, a fifth grader trying to fit into her ballet-obsessed Cuban American family, learns to speak up for herself and others when she mistakenly reveals a visiting dancer's plan to defect to the U.S.

Pendleton Jiménez, Karleen. *The Street Belongs to Us*. In 1984 Los Angeles, tomboy Alex and her troubled best friend Wolf are excited to explore when their street is torn up by construction machines.

Pérez, Celia C. *Tumble*. Twelve-year-old Adela Ramírez reconnects with her estranged biological father—who is in the midst of a career comeback as a luchador—and the eccentric extended family of wrestlers she has never met. Also by Celia C. Pérez: *Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers*.

Piñeiro, Victor. *Time Villains* (series). When a homework assignment and a magic table summon real and fictional people from history, sixth-grader Javi and his friends join forces to save the world.

Randall, Julian. *Pilar Ramirez and the Escape from Zafa*. While doing research for her documentary about her cousin Natasha—who disappeared in the Dominican Republic fifty years ago during the Trujillato—twelve-year-old Pilar is transported to Zafa, an island where Dominican myths and legends come to life.

Rivera, Kaela. *Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls* (series). Cecelia experiments with the forbidden art of brujería to rescue her kidnapped sister.

Rivera, Lilliam. *Goldie Vance: The Hotel Whodunit* (series). In early 1960s Florida, sixteen-year-old Goldie, an aspiring detective, investigates when a diamond-encrusted swim cap goes missing during the filming of a movie.

Rodriguez, Sallie Anne. *Treasure Tracks*. Twelve-year-old Fin drags his reluctant father on a diving hunt for a missing treasure, hoping that finding the family legacy will help his ailing Abuelo.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *Solimar: The Sword of the Monarchs*. On the eve of her Quinceañera, Princess Solimar discovers that it will take more than magic to save her kingdom and prevent the destruction of the Monarch butterfly. Also by Pam Muñoz Ryan: *Mañanaland**

Salazar, Aida. *Land of the Cranes**. When nine-year-old Betita's father is arrested and deported to Mexico, Betita and her mother are detained, but she finds heart in her own poetry and in the community she and her mother find in the camp. Also by Aida Salazar: *The Moon Within**

San Miguel, Samantha. *Spineless*. Staying at a health resort in the wilds of Florida due to his asthma, 12-year-old budding naturalist Algie stumbles upon a brand-new species that he must protect from a famous collector of exotic animals.

Torres, Jennifer. *The Do-Over*. Twins Raquel and Lucinda used to be inseparable, but since their parents divorce Raquel has become bossy and obsessive, while Lucinda has immersed herself in her ice skating lessons. Also by Jennifer Torres: *Flor and Miranda Steal the Show*; and *The Fresh New Face of Griselda*.

Unger, David. *Sleeping With the Light On*. Davico lives in Guatemala City in the early 1950s. One day, there is shooting in the streets, then tanks and soldiers swarm the front of the National Palace. Davico wants to be brave, but he's terrified, even when it's time to leave for the USA.

Valenti, Karla. *Lotería*. In Oaxaca City, Mexico, ancient friends Life and Death discuss free will while engaged in a game of chance, with eleven-year-old Clara as the protagonist of their theories and a pawn in their game, moving inevitably towards her ultimate fate.

Weaver, Lila Quintero. *My Year in the Middle*. At Lu Olivera's school the white kids and black kids sit on different sides of the classroom, while Lu just wants to get along with everyone. However, growing racial tensions will not let Lu stay neutral about the racial divide in school.

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Libros en Español

Alcolea, Ana. *El abrazo de la sirena*. A clase de Miguel llega una nueva compañera, Sabina, que está muy triste. Ella cree que su madre ha ido a vivir con las sirenas.

Catdoor, Sabrina. *Los Rescatadores Mágicos y la puerta a Imaginaria* (serie). En casa de la abuela hay una gatera, pero abuela nunca ha tenido gatos. Marina, Lucas y Zoe descubren que a través de la gatera se accede a un mundo fantástico que tienen una misión: salvar al rey del bosque.

Garza, Xavier. *Vincent Ventura y el misterio del Chupacabras* (serie bilingüe). Vincent Ventura tiene una teoría sobre las desapariciones de mascotas en el barrio. Los perros empezaron a desaparecer cuando el señor Calaveras se mudó a la zona, y Vincent está seguro de que él no es el indefenso viejito gruñón que todos suponen que es.

Gascó, Francesc. *Jurásico total: Perdidos sin wifi* (serie). Un grupo de amigos ha encontrado un portal que les permite viajar a un lugar en el que no se extinguieron los dinosaurios.

Mejía Eguiluz, Diego. *Enmascarado de terciopelo: Primera caída!* (serie). Desde su debut, el Conde de Terciopelo se ha empeñado en demostrar que no hay luchador más rudo que él. Pero, la verdad, el Conde es de naturaleza sensible, y su carrera podría irse a pique por eso.

Montes, Bárbara. *Amanda Black: Una herencia peligrosa* (serie). El mismo día en que Amanda Black cumple trece años recibe una carta misteriosa que cambiará su vida.

Muñoz Puelles, Vicente. *La isla de los libros andantes*. Cuando el padre de John, el capitán Lemuel Gulliver, vuelve de sus largos viajes, le habla de tierras remotas. Deseoso de ver con sus propios ojos esas maravillas, John se embarca en su busca.

Putellas, Alexia. *Alexia superfutbolista*. Alexia sueña con ser futbolista profesional. Para conseguirlo, tiene que dar lo mejor de sí misma e impresionar a los ojeadores. Pero, cuando llega al campeonato de la Copa Inter, empiezan a pasar cosas muy extrañas.

Rincón, Valentín. *Kiko robot*. El abuelo de Frida y Eduardo le gusta construir todo tipo de cosas. Juntos crean Kiko, un robot muy especial. Pero hay un gran misterio escondido dentro de él.

Ronda, Magela. *Cuentos españoles de hoy y de siempre*. Una deliciosa colección de cuentos tradicionales españoles para leer en familia.

Santamaría, Jara. *Dioses del norte: La leyenda del bosque* (serie). En el valle del Baztán, los dioses y las criaturas del día y de la noche convivían en armonía. Pero Gaeko, el temible dios de la noche, empezó a atemorizar a los humanos con su séquito de lobos. La diosa de la tierra, Mari, engendró la Luna y el Sol para protegerlos de la oscuridad.

Valenzuela Sánchez, Fermín. *Criaturas míticas de España: cuaderno de campo*. Acompaña Mía y a la Esfinge de Balazote en un viaje a través del ilusorio de nuestras tradiciones de España, a menudo transmitidas de boca en boca. Comparte nuestro viaje descubriendo cuarenta criaturas y leyendas, ya casi olvidadas, y ayúdanos a perpetuarlas en nuestra recuerdo.

Graphic Novels

Bermudez, Alyssa. *Big Apple Diaries*. Twelve-year-old New Yorker Alyssa is navigating middle school, but then life abruptly changes on September 11, 2001 and worries about gossip and boys feel distant and insignificant.

Blas, Terry. *Hotel Dare*. Olive and her siblings are spending the summer with their estranged grandma at her creepy hotel. They're stuck inside doing boring chores but they soon stumble upon a secret involving mystery, danger and alternate worlds. Also by Terry Blas: *Dead Weight: Murder at Camp Bloom*.

Bowles, David. *Rise of the Halfing King*. A magical boy from Mayan mythology faces impossible tasks and a ruthless king to save the people of Mexico.

Castellanos, Alexis. *Isla to Island*. Sent from Cuba to Brooklyn by her parents, Marisol feels like nothing about her new life in the cold city is home, until she starts to realize that home isn't always a place.

Fernandez, Kelly. *¡¡Manu!!* After a prank goes seriously wrong and she loses her powers, Manu uses a dangerous spell to restore them and learns that great power comes at a high price—one that she may not be able to pay.

Gonzalez, Christina Diaz. *Invisible*. When five overlooked students are forced to complete their school's community service hours, they meet someone in need but must decide if they are each willing to expose their own secrets to help.

Hernandez, Jaime. *The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America** (Non-fiction graphic novels 398.2 HER). How would a kitchen maid fare against a seven-headed dragon? What happens when a woman marries a mouse? And what can a young man learn from a thousand ants?



Mercado, Yehudi. *Chunky* (series). Hudi would rather do anything else than try out for sports, but then he meets Chunky, his imaginary friend and mascot. Also by Yehudi Mercado: *Sci-Fu* (series).

Pimienta, Jose. *Twin Cities*. Luis Fernando and Luisa Teresa are twins who learn about who they are and what their sibling means to them when they are sent to different middle schools, one on each side of the U.S./Mexico border.

Reynolds, Justin and Pablo Leon. *Miles Morales: Shock Waves*. After a disastrous earthquake strikes his mother's birthplace of Puerto Rico, Miles springs into action to help set up a fundraiser for the devastated island. But when a new student's father goes missing, Miles makes connections between the disappearance and a giant corporation sponsoring Miles' fundraiser.

Spiegelman, Nadja and Sergio García Sánchez. *Blancaflor, the Hero with Secret Powers: A Folktale from Latin America**. Raised by an ogre of a father, Blancaflor is told not to show off her own considerable powers for fear of scaring off suitors. When a prince falls from the sky and wakes up in her lap, she is spellbound and moves heaven and earth to help the endearing, yet not so clever, young man.

Voces sin Fronteras: Our Stories, Our Truth (Non-fiction graphic novels 362.779 VOC). Sixteen young people from the Latin American Youth Center in Washington, D.C. came together to tell their own stories of immigration and transformation.

Who was the Voice of the People?: Cesar Chavez (Graphic novel biography, B CHAVEZ). Discover the true story behind Cesar Chavez and the Delano Grape Strike, as he and the National Farm Workers Association set out on an incredible three-hundred-mile protest march in support of farmworkers' rights.

* This title is also available in Spanish in the Kids World Languages section.

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Pura Belpré Book Awards



The Pura Belpré Award, established in 1996, is presented to a Latinx writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latinx cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.

The award is named after Pura Belpré, the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library. As a children's librarian, storyteller, and author, she enriched the lives of Puerto Rican children in the U.S.A. through her pioneering work of preserving and disseminating Puerto Rican folklore. The award is now given annually. It was given as a biennial award from 1996 through 2008. Author awards for Young Adult materials were added in 2021.

2022 Winner for Illustration

¡Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge by Raúl Gonzalez (Raúl the Third)

2022 Honor Books for Illustration

Boogie Boogie, Y'all by C.G. Esperanza

Bright Star by Yuyi Morales

De aquí como el coquí by Nomar Perez

May Your Life Be Deliciosa, illustrated by Loris Lora, written by Michael Genhart

2022 Youth Author Winner

The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera

2022 Youth Author Honor Books

Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna by Alda P. Dobbs

Child of the Flower-Song People: Luz Jiménez, Daughter of the Nahua by Gloria Amescua

De aquí como el coquí by Nomar Perez

Past Pura Belpré Book Award Winners for Illustration

1996: *Chato's Kitchen**, illustrated by Susan Guevara, written by Gary Soto

1998: *Snapshots from the Wedding*, illustrated by Stephanie Garcia, written by Gary Soto

2000: *Magic Windows* by Carmen Lomas Garza

2002: *Chato and the Party Animals**, illustrated by Susan Guevara, written by Gary Soto

2004: *Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book* by Yuyi Morales

2006: *Doña Flor: A Tall Tale About a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart*, illustrated by Raul Colón, written by Pat Mora

2008: *Los Gatos Black on Halloween*, illustrated by Yuyi Morales, written by Marisa Montes

2009: *Just in Case: A Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book* by Yuyi Morales

2010: *Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children's Day**, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Pat Mora

2011: *Grandma's Gift* by Eric Velasquez

2012: *Diego Rivera: His World and Ours* by Duncan Tonatiuh

2013: *Martín de Porres: The Rose in the Desert*, illustrated by David Diaz, written by Gary D. Schmidt

2014: *Niño Wrestles the World** by Yuyi Morales

2015: *Viva Frida** by Yuyi Morales

2016: *Drum Dream Girl*, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Margarita Engle

2017: *Lowriders to the Center of the Earth*, illustrated by Raúl Gonzalez, written by Cathy Camper

2018: *La Princesa and the Pea**, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal, written by Susan Middleton Elya

2019: *Dreamers** by Yuyi Morales

2020: *Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln**, illustrated by Rafael López, written by Margarita Engle

2021: *¡Vamos! Let's Go Eat* by Raúl Gonzalez (Raúl the Third)

Past Pura Belpré Book Award Author Winners

1996: *An Island Like You: Stories of the Barrio* by Judith Ortiz Cofer

1998: *Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida* by Victor Martinez

2000: *Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba* by Alma Flor Ada

2002: *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

2004: *Before We Were Free* by Julia Alvarez

2006: *The Tequila Worm* by Viola Canales

2008: *The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano* by Margarita Engle

2009: *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom* by Margarita Engle

2010: *Return to Sender* by Julia Alvarez

2011: *The Dreamer* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

2012: *Under the Mesquite* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

2013: *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

2014: *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass* by Meg Medina

2015: *I Lived on Butterfly Hill* by Marjorie Agosín

2016: *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir* by Margarita Engle

2017: *Juana & Lucas* by Juana Medina

2018: *Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar

2019: *The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo

2020: *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez

2021: *Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros

