

October is...

National Book Month



Every October, the winners of the National Book Award are announced. National Book Month is observed yearly to recognize the amazing books that are honored by the National Book Foundation. To celebrate National Book Month, pick up one of these titles from the list below that have been awarded by both the Jane Addams Peace Association and the National Book Foundation!

[Learn More About National Book Month](#)

Booklist for National Book Month



***Kareem Between*, by Shifa Saltagi Safadi**

When Kareem's best friend moves away and he fumbles his tryout for the football team, he feels like he might not survive middle school. To make things worse, he is then targeted by racist bullies that attack him for his Syrian American identity. Can Kareem find his inner confidence to stand up for himself and others?

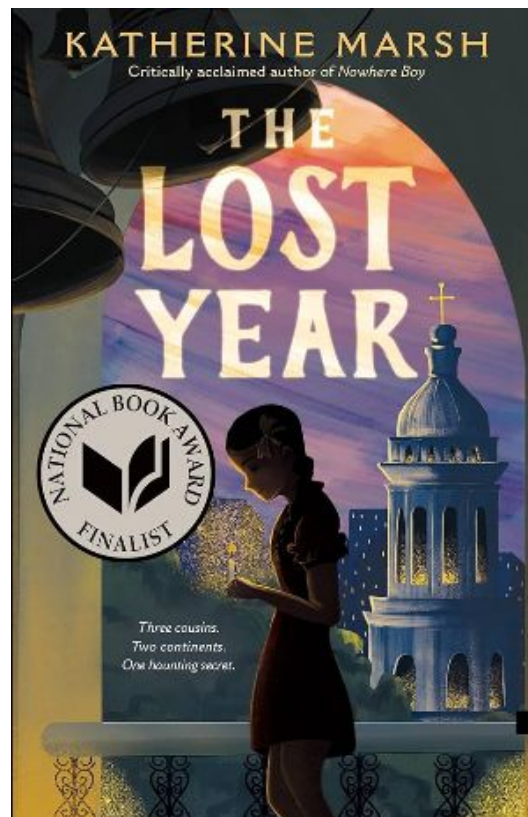
2025 Jane Addams Award Finalist
2024 National Book Award Winner

[Learn More](#)

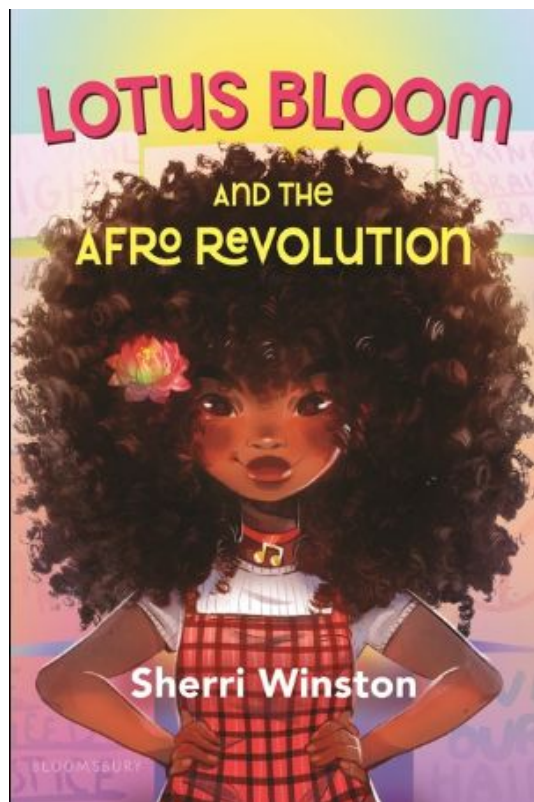
***The Lost Year*, by Katherine Marsh**

Matthew's dad is overseas and he has a new addition to his family: his one-hundred-year-old great-grandmother. Matthew finds a black-and-white photo that belongs to his great-grandmother and discovers the truth about his past which will lead to the uncovering of a shocking secret.

2024 Jane Addams Award Winner
2023 National Book Award Finalist



[Learn More](#)



***Lotus Bloom and the Afro Revolution*, by Sherri Winston**

Lotus is a middle schooler who is unapologetically herself. When she finds herself in trouble because a discriminatory dress code, she has to decide if she should fight back.

2023 Jane Addams Award Finalist
2022 National Book Award
Longlist

[Learn More](#)

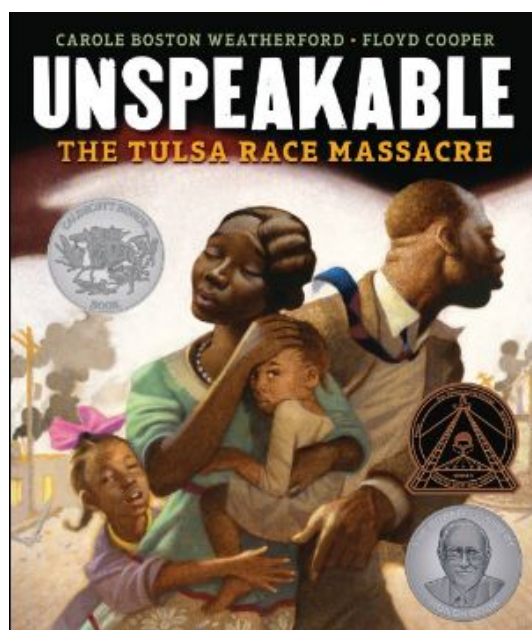
***Swim Team*, by Johnnie Christmas**

This graphic novel follows a middle schooler named Bree who reluctantly joins a highly competitive swim team at her school. Does Bree have what it takes to lead her school to victory?

2023 Jane Addams Award Honor
2022 National Book Award
Longlist



[Learn More](#)



***Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*, by Carole Boston Weatherford and Floyd Cooper**

This moving book depicts one of the worst instances of racial violence in U.S. history, when a white mob attacks a Black community in Tulsa's Greenwood district.

2022 Jane Addams Award Honor
2021 National Book Award
Longlist

[Learn More](#)

***King and the Dragonflies,* by Margarita Engle**

A young boy named King has to grapple with his brother's unexpected death when his best friend disappears as well. When he finds his friend hiding in a tent in his backyard, Sandy reveals that he needs King's help to escape from his abusive father.

2020 Jane Addams Award Finalist
2020 National Book Award Winner



[Learn More](#)

Indigenous Peoples' Day



October 13th is [Indigenous Peoples' Day](#)! This holiday is celebrated on the second Monday of October annually to honor the contributions and lasting legacy of Indigenous people. Celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day with a Jane Addams-awarded book from the list linked below!

[See Book List](#)

Apply to Our Selection Committee



The Jane Addams Children's Book Award titles are carefully selected by a diverse set of activists, educators, parents, and teachers. Be a part of this amazing team for the 2026 award cycle! Applications are due October 31st, 2025.

[Apply Now](#)

Community Highlight



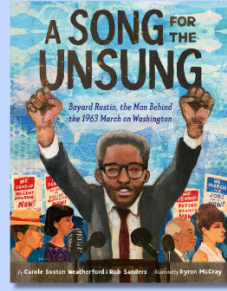
Rooted MKE BIPOC Children's Bookstore and Literacy Exploration

5312 W Vliet St, Milwaukee, WI 53208

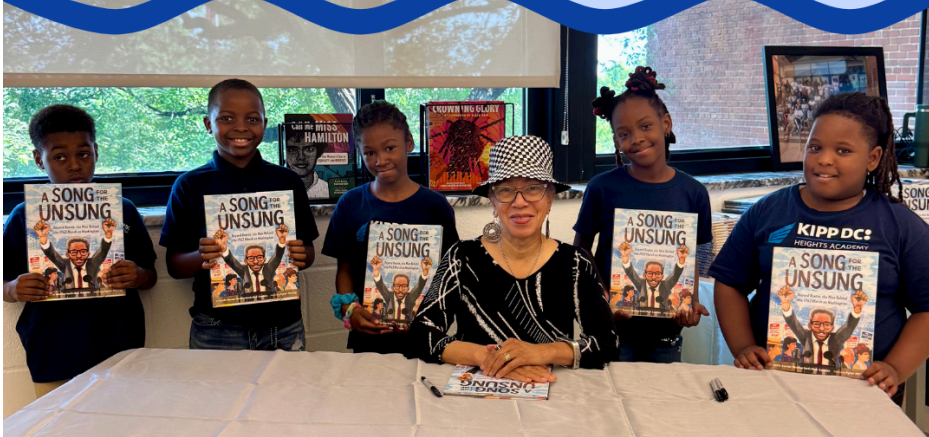
Rooted MKE is a bookstore in Milwaukee that prioritizes selling literature centering BIPOC voices. They host in-store author and illustrator visits as well as offering academic tutoring sessions for kids as part of their mission to foster literacy. Rooted MKE is owned by Ashley Valentine, a former Special Education teacher within the Milwaukee Public School system.

Check Out Their Website!

Support Our Work



Thank you to our generous donor match for helping to fund this author visit to 3rd graders in Washington DC!



The Jane Addams Peace Association perpetuates the spirit of activist and pacifist Jane Addams, her love for children and humanity, her commitment to freedom and democracy, and her devotion to the cause of world peace.

Your donation to the Jane Addams Peace Association, a 501(c)(3) organization, is tax-deductible and helps us support authors, illustrators, parents, teachers, and librarians as they “deepen understanding of peace and justice for children and their adults through reflection, dialogue, and social action.”

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