The North Carolina Children’s Book Award is a child-driven award to determine the favorite picture book and junior book of school-age children across the state of North Carolina each year. Children nominate their favorite picture book or junior book published within the past 3 years. Committee members vote to narrow down the nominated titles to a list of 10-12 picture books and 10-12 junior books. Children may vote for their favorite book on either or both lists if they have read at least 5 picture books and/or 3 junior books on the respective lists.

**Tasks for the North Carolina Children’s Book Award Committee Members**

* Select the titles to be placed on the finalist lists for picture and junior books through an internal voting process
* Develop and provide access to resources for teachers and librarians to share finalist titles with children
* Committee co-chairs manage the nominating and voting processes
* Promote the awards, activities, and website (<http://nccba.blogspot.com/>)
* Committee members do not nominate books for consideration
* Committee members do not promote or publicize nominated books (the long list of books children nominate from November - March from which we choose the final 10-12 nominees for the year)

**Timeline for NCCBA Program**

May Nominees for the next year’s awards are selected from titles submitted by

school children and posted to [nccba.blogspot.com](http://nccba.blogspot.com/).

July Activity booklet for nominated titles is published and posted to website.

July – March Librarians and teachers read books, share with children, and implement

various activities. Librarians promote the NCCBA Program at meetings,

classes, programs, etc.

Librarians and teachers introduce other new books that fit the criteria for the

next year’s program.

October Winning authors and illustrators are officially presented with the NCCBA honor at the North Carolina School Library Media Association Conference.

**November 1** **Children begin** **nominating books** at [nccba.blogspot.com](http://nccba.blogspot.com/) or their teachers and librarians may email titles to co-chair, Janet West ([janet.west@wakegov.com](mailto:janet.west@wakegov.com)). First publication of book should be within 4 years of award year (ex. 2018 awards have publication dates of

2014-2017).

**March 31** **Deadline for nominations** for next year’s consideration list.

**March 1 - 31** **Children vote for their favorite picture book and/or junior book.**

**Deadline for librarians to submit votes for EACH title is March 31**.

Enter votes at [nccba.blogspot.com](http://nccba.blogspot.com/) or send to co-chair, Lisa England

([lengland@wsfcs.k12.nc.us](mailto:lengland@wsfcs.k12.nc.us)).

If deadline needs to be extended, new dates will be posted on the website.

April Winners are announced and posted to [nccba.blogspot.com](http://nccba.blogspot.com/), NCKids

listserv, and NCSLMA website (<http://www.ncslma.org/>).

**Committee Member Guidelines**

* Term of service
  + Members will commit to serving 2 years and recommit each year by September 1
  + There is no limit to the number of years a person can serve as a member
  + To remain in good standing, members must do at least one of the following but preferably all three:
    - Attend selection meeting in May (meeting is usually in the Greensboro/High Point area the first Saturday of May)
    - Write an activity for the Activity Book (activity templates for both categories are at the end of this document)
    - Attend Activity Book editing meeting in June (meeting is usually in the Raleigh area the first Saturday of June)
* Committee make-up
  + Balance of school librarians and public librarians
  + Committee members are required to be active members of at least one professional organization (ex. NCSLMA, NCLA)
  + Potential members submit application in August and September
  + New members join committee in October
  + If necessary, announcements about applications being accepted for new members are placed on NCKids listserv, NCLA-YSS blog, and NCSLMA website
* Responsibilities and expectations
  + Members are expected to read a list of books within a short time frame in preparation for the selection meeting.
  + Members are asked to bring as many titles from the nominated list as possible to the selection meeting.
  + Members may be asked to attend other meetings to promote the NCCBA program.

**Book Selection Guidelines**

Purpose of Picture Book award (appropriate for lower elementary students)

* To encourage lower elementary students to become better acquainted with the best writers and illustrators of contemporary books with outstanding literary appeal.
* To broaden students’ awareness of literature as a means of personal satisfaction and lifelong pursuit.
* To promote reading aloud with students in the early grades as a means of introducing reading for pleasure.
* To give recognition and honor to their favorite books, authors, and illustrators.

Purpose of Junior Book award (appropriate for upper elementary students)

* To encourage upper elementary students to become better acquainted with noteworthy writers of contemporary books.
* To broaden students’ awareness of literature as a means of personal satisfaction and lifelong pursuit.
* To promote reading aloud with students as a means of extending the concept of reading for pleasure.
* To give recognition and honor to their favorite books, authors, and illustrators.

General guidelines for selection of final nominees

* Committee members choose one list to focus on - picture books or junior books. Members should come to the selection meeting familiar with all of the titles on their chosen list. During the selection meeting, each group discusses and votes on their particular list.
* We have no control over the books that are nominated, but we should consider diversity among our finalists. (Diversity in genre, race, religion, format, gender, etc.)
* Publication dates should be within 4 years of the award year. For example, titles considered for the award voted on and given in 2017 should have a publication date of 2013-2016.

Nomination Procedure:

* Grade school children may nominate titles from November 1 – March 31.
* Nominations should be made online at [nccba.blogspot.com](http://nccba.blogspot.com/) or emailed to co-chair and should include - *Category (Picture or Junior), Title, Author, Publisher, Publication Year*
* Nominated book must have a first publication date of at most 4 years prior to award year (ex. 2018 award books must be published 2014-2017)

Voting Procedures and Rules:

* We no longer have registration for voting. Teachers and librarians may submit votes for each title on our website.
* Elementary school children vote during the month of March from the list of nominated books.
* To be eligible to vote, children must be exposed to at least five of the picture book titles and/or at least three of the junior book titles by either reading them in their entirety independently, or by having them read aloud, or a combination of the two.
* Each qualified voter has one vote for his/her favorite book and may participate through the public library and/or school library/classroom.

**Social Media Guidelines**

Considerations

* Twitter and Facebook accounts geared toward an adult audience, not for children.
* Twitter should be used for quick hits of information because of character limitations. Facebook more flexible with types of information that can be shared.
* Facebook should be a closed group so one of our committee members can manage who is accepted and monitor posts.
* Types of information to include on Facebook and Twitter
  + Share ideas
  + Highlight an activity
  + Share links to book trailers
  + Publicize nominating process starting in November
  + Publicize voting process in March

Guidelines for posts

* No pictures of children.
* No bias toward any particular title, illustrator, or author. We cannot show favoritism.
* We may not publicize in any way the titles that are nominated by the children
* We cannot publicize our internal criteria by which we select titles
* No author or illustrator posts about nominating their own books
* No parent complaints or recommendations for titles