NCTE ORBIS PICTUS AWARD
OUTSTANDING NONFICTION FOR CHILDREN
1990-2000 PAST WINNERS

The NCTE Orbis Pictus Award was established in 1989 for promoting and recognizing excellence in the writing of nonfiction for children. The name Orbis Pictus commemorates the work of Johannes Amos Comenius, Orbis Pictus—The World in Pictures (1657), considered to be the first book actually planned for children.

2000

Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges, Margo Lundell (Scholastic Press)

Honor Books:
- At Her Majesty’s Request: An African Princess in Victorian England by Walter Dean Myers (Scholastic Press)
- Clara Schumann: Piano Virtuoso by Susanna Reich (Clarion Books)
- Mapping the World by Sylvia A. Johnson (Atheneum)
- The Snake Scientist by Sy Montgomery, illustrated by Nic Bishop (Houghton Mifflin)
- The Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest by Steve Jenkins (Houghton Mifflin)

Recommended Titles:
- Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books)
- Bound for America: The Forced Migration of Africans to the New World by James Haskins, Kathleen Benson, illustrated by Floyd Cooper (Lothrop Lee & Shepard)
- Building the Book Cathedral by David MacAulay (Houghton Mifflin)
- A Child’s Book of Art: Discover Great Paintings by Lucy Micklethwait (Dorling Kindersley)
- Einstein: Visionary Scientist by John B. Severance (Clarion Books)
- Fire in Their Eyes: Wildfires and the People Who Fight Them by Karen Magnuson Beil (Harcourt Brace)
- In Search of the Spirit: The Living National Treasures of Japan by Sheila Hamanaka, Ayano Ohmis (Morrow Jr.)
- Kids on Strike! by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Houghton Mifflin)
- The Mystery of the Hieroglyphics: The Story of the Rosetta Stone and the Race to Decipher Egyptian Hieroglyphics by Carol Donoughue (Oxford University Press Children’s Books)
- A Nest of Dinosaurs: The Oviraptor by Mark Norell, Lowell Dingus, illustrated by Mike Ellison (Doubleday)
- Rushmore by Lynn Curlee (Scholastic)
- Tallichief: America’s Prima Ballerina by Maria Tallchief, Rosemary Wells (contributor), illustrated by Gary Kelley (Viking Press)

1999

Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance by Jennifer Armstrong (Crown)

Honor Books:
- Black Whiteness: Admiral Byrd Alone in the Antarctic by Robert Burleigh, illustrated by Walter Lyon Krudop (Atheneum)
- Fossil Feud: The Rivalry of the First American Dinosaur Hunters by Thom Holmes (Messner)
- Hottest, Coldest, Highest, Deepest by Steve Jenkins (Houghton)
- No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War by Anita Lobel (Greenwillow)

Recommended Titles:
- Behind the Mask: The Life of Queen Elizabeth I by Jane Resh Thomas (Clarion)
- Discovering the Inca Ice Maiden: My Adventures on Ampato by Johan Reinhard (National Geographic)
- Duke Ellington by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Hyperion)
- Frontier Merchants: Lionel and Barron Jacobs and the Jewish Pioneers Who Settled the West by Jerry Stanley (Crown)
- Joan of Arc by Diane Stanley (Morrow)
- Light Shining Through the Mist: A Photobiography of Dian Fossey by Tom L. Matthews (National Geographic)
• Looking Back: A Book of Memories by Lois Lowry (Houghton)
• Martha Graham: A Dancer’s Life by Russell Freedman (Clarion)
• On the Home Front: Growing Up in Wartime England by Ann Stalcup (Linnet)
• Pioneer Girl: Growing Up on the Prairie by Andrea Warren (Morrow)
• Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange by Elizabeth Partridge (Viking)

1998  An Extraordinary Life: The Story of a Monarch Butterfly by Laurence Pringle (Orchard Books)

Honor Books:
• A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder by Walter Wick (Scholastic)
• A Tree is Growing by Arthur Dorros (Scholastic)
• Charles A. Lindbergh: A Human Hero by James Cross Giblin (Clarion)
• Kennedy Assassinated! The World Mourns: A Reporter’s Story by Wilborn Hampton (Candlewick)
• Digger: The Tragic Fate of the California Indians from the Missions to the Gold Rush by Jerry Stanley (Crown)

Recommended Titles:
• Animal Dads by Sneed B. Collard III, illustrated by Steve Jenkins (Houghton)
• The Brain: Our Nervous System by Seymour Simon (Morrow)
• Catching the Fire: Philip Simmons, Blacksmith by Mary E. Lyons, photographs by Mannie Garcia (Houghton)
• The Dead Sea Scrolls by Ilene Cooper, illustrated by John Thompson (Morrow)
• Dinosaur Ghosts: The Mystery of Coelophysis by J. Lynett Gillette, illustrated by Douglas Henderson (Dial Books)
• Fiery Vision: The Life and Death of John Brown by Clinton Cox (Scholastic)
• The Great Wall by Elizabeth Mann, illustrated by Alan Witschonke (Mikaya)
• A Log’s Life by Wendy Pfeffer, illustrated by Robin Bickman (Simon and Schuster)
• Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story by Ken Mochizuki, illustrated by Dom Lee (Lee & Low)
• The Planet Hunters: The Search for Other Worlds by Dennis Brindell Fraden (McElderry)
• The Snake Book by Mary Ling and Mary Atkinson, photos by Frank Greenaway and David King (DK)
• Leon’s Story by Leon Walter Tillage, collage art by Susan L. Roth (Farrar, Straus, Giroux)

1997  Leonardo da Vinci by Diane Stanley (Morrow Junior Books)

Honor Books:
• Full Steam Ahead: The Race to Build a Transcontinental Railroad by Rhonda Blumberg (National Geographic Society)
• The Life and Death of Crazy Horse by Russell Freedman (Holiday House)
• One World, Many Religions: The Ways We Worship by Mary Pope Osborne (Alfred A. Knopf)

Recommended Titles:
• The Abracadabra Kid by Sid Fleischman (Greenwillow)
• A Desert Scrapbook by Virginia Wright-Frierson (Simon & Schuster)
• A Strange and Distant Shore by Brent Ashabranner (Cobblehill)
• Dia’s Story Cloth by Cha Dia (Lee & Low/Denver Museum of Natural History)
• Free to Dream by Audrey Ososfsky (Lothrop)
• Growing Up in Coal Country by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Houghton)
• Hurricanes by Patricia Lauber (Scholastic)
• John Steinbeck by Catherine Reef (Clarion)
• Mandela by Floyd Cooper (Philomel)
• Nearer Nature by Jim Arnosky (Lothrop)
• Starry Messenger by Peter Sis (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
• We Have Conquered Pain by Dennis Brindell Fradin (McElderry/Simon & Schuster)
• Who Were the Founding Fathers? by Steven Jaffe (Holt)
• With Needle and Thread by Raymond Bial (Houghton)
**1996**  
*The Great Fire* by Jim Murphy (Scholastic)

Honor Books:
- *Dolphin Man: Exploring the World of Dolphins* by Lawrence Pringle, photographs by Randall S. Wells (Atheneum)
- *Rosie the Riveter: Women Working on the Home Front in World War II* by Penny Colman (Crown)

Recommended Titles:
- *Air: The Elements* by Ken Robbins (Henry Holt)
- *The Book of North American Owls* by Helen Roney Sattler, illustrated by Jean Day Zallinger (Clarion)
- *Everglades* by Jean Craighead George, paintings by Wendell Minor (HarperCollins)
- *The Golden City: Jerusalem's 3,000 Years* by Neil Waldman (Atheneum)
- *In Search of the Grand Canyon: Down the Colorado with John Wesley Powell* by Mary Ann Fraser (Holt)
- *Learning from the Dalai Lama: Secrets of the Wheel of Time* by Karen Pandell and Barry Bryan, photographs by John B. Taylor (Dutton)
- *The Life and Times of the Honeybee* by Charles Micucci (Ticknor & Fields)
- *Listen for the Bus: David's Story* by Patricia McMahon, photos by John Godt (Boyds Mills)
- *The Magic of Mozart: Mozart, the Magic Flute, and the Salzburg Marionettes* by Ellen Switzer, photographs by Costas (Atheneum)
- *Raptor Rescue: An Eagle Flies Free* by Sylvia A. Johnson, photographs by Ron Winch (Dutton)
- *Summer Ice: Life Along the Antarctic Peninsula* by Bruce McMillan (Houghton Mifflin)
- *The Underground Railroad* by Raymond Bial (Houghton Mifflin)
- *Unraveling Fibers* by Patricia Keeler and Francis X. McCall Jr. (Atheneum)

**1995**  
*Safari Beneath the Sea: The Wonder World of the North Pacific Coast* by Diane Swanson (Sierra Club Books)

Honor Books:
- *Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters* by Patricia C. McKissack and Frederick L. McKissack (Scholastic)
- *Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor* by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books)

Recommended Titles:
- *Ancient Ones: The World of the Old-Growth Douglas Fir* by Barbara Bash (Sierra Club Books)
- *Animals Who Have Won Our Hearts* by Jean Craighead George, illustrated by Christine Herman Merrill (HarperCollins)
- *Cheap Raw Material: How Our Youngest Workers Are Exploited and Abused* by Milton Meltzer (Viking)
- *Cleopatra* by Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema (Morrow)
- *Fur, Feathers, and Flippers: How Animals Live Where They Do* by Patricia Lauber (Scholastic)
- *Jazz: My Music, My People* by Morgan Monceaux (Knopf)
- *Lives of the Writers: Comedies, Tragedies (and What the Neighbors Thought)* by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt (Harcourt Brace)
- *Rosie, a Visiting Dog's Story* by Stephanie Calmenson, photographs by Justin Sutcliffe (Clarion)
- *Science to the Rescue* by Sandra Markle (Atheneum)
- *Squish! A Wetland Walk* by Nancy Luenn, illustrated by Ronald Himler (Atheneum)
- *Take a Look, an Introduction to the Experience of Art* by Rosemary Davidson (Viking)
- *Unconditional Surrender: U.S. Grant and the Civil War* by Albert Marrin (Atheneum)
- *Vanilla, Chocolate & Strawberry: The Story of your Favorite Flavors* by Donnie Busenberg (Lerner Publications)
1994  **Across America on an Emigrant Train** by Jim Murphy (Clarion Books)

Honor Books:
- **Making Sense: Animal Perception and Communication** by Bruce Brooks (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc.)
- **To the Top of the World: Adventures with Arctic Wolves** by Jim Brandenburg (Walker & Company)

Recommended Titles:
- **Anne Frank: Beyond the Diary** by Ruud van der Rol and Rian Verhoeven (Viking)
- **Be Seated: A Book about Chairs** by James Cross Giblin (HarperCollins)
- **Behind the Secret Window: A Memoir of Hidden Childhood During World War II** by Nelly S. Toll (Dial Books)
- **Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery** by Russell Freedman (Clarion)
- **Lincoln: in His Own Words** by Milton Meltzer, illustrated by Stephen Alcorn (Harcourt Brace)
- **Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom** by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon (Knopf)
- **Shadows of the Night: The Hidden World of the Little Brown Bat** by Barbara Bash (Sierra Club Books for Children)
- **Seven Candles for Kwanzaa** by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Dial Books)
- **The Way West: Journal of a Pioneer Woman** by Amelia Stuart Knight, adapted with introduction by Lillian Schlissel, illustrated by Michael McCurdy (Simon and Schuster)
- **Whaling Days** by Carol Carrick (Clarion Books)

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1993  **Children in the Dust Bowl: The True Story of the School at Weedpatch Camp** by Jerry Stanley (Crown Publishers, Inc.)

Honor Books:
- **Come Back, Salmon** by Molly Cone (Sierra Club Books)
- **Talking with Artists** by Pat Cummings (Bradbury Press)

Recommended Titles:
- **A Twilight Struggle: The Life of John Fitzgerald Kennedy** by Barbara Harrison and Daniel Terris (Lothrop, Lee, and Shepard Books)
- **The Amazing Potato: A Story in which the Incas, Conquistadors, Marie Antoinette, Thomas Jefferson, Wars, Famines, Immigrants, and French Fries All Play a Part** by Milton Meltzer (HarperCollins)
- **An Indian Winter** by Russell Freedman (Holiday House)
- **Antarctica: The Lost Unspoiled Continent** by Lawrence Pringle (Simon and Schuster)
- **Bard of Avon: The Story of William Shakespeare** by Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema (Morrow)
- **The Great St. Lawrence Seaway** by Gail Gibbons (Morrow)
- **Hopscotch Around the World** by Mary d. Lankford, illustrations by Karen Milone (Morrow Junior Books)
- **The Long Road to Gettysburg** by Jim Murphy (Clarion Books)
- **Surtsey: The Newest Place on Earth** by Kathryn Lasky, photographs by Christopher G. Knight (Hyperion Books for Children)
- **The Taínos: The People Who Welcomed Columbus** by Francine Jacobs, illustrated by Patrick Collins (G.P. Putnam’s Sons)
- **Wings Along the Waterway** by Mary Barrett Brown (Orchard Books)

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1992  **Flight: The Journey of Charles Lindbergh** by Robert Burleigh illustrated by Mike Wimmer (Philomel Books)

Honor Books:
- **Now Is Your Time! The African American Struggle for Freedom** by Walter Dean Myers (HarperCollins)
- **Prairie Vision: The Life and Times of Solomon Butcher** by Pam Conrad (HarperCollins)
### Recommended Titles:

- **A Young Painter: The Life and Paintings of Wang Yani** by Zhensun and Low (Scholastic, Inc.)
- **Appalachia: The Voices of Sleeping Birds** by Cynthia Rylant, illustrations by Barry Moser (Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich)
- **Batman: Exploring the World of Bats** by Laurence Pringle, photographs by Merlin Tuttle (Charles Scribner’s Sons)
- **Bully for You, Teddy Roosevelt!** by Jean Fritz, illustrations by Mike Wimmer (G.P. Putnam)
- **Dawn to Dusk in the Galapagos** by Rita Goldman Gelman, photographs by Tui DeRoy (Little Brown)
- **The Discovery of the Americas** by Betsy and Giulio Maestro (Lothrop, Lee, and Shepard)
- **Earthquakes** by Seymour Simon (Morrow Junior)
- **N.C. Wyeth’s Pilgrims** by Robert SanSouci (Chronicle Books)
- **The Painter’s Eye: Learning to Look at Contemporary American Art** by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan (Delacorte)
- **Pueblo Boy: Growing Up in Two Worlds** by Marcia Keegan (Cobblehill)
- **Pueblo Storyteller** by Diana Hoyt-Goldsmith (Holiday)
- **The Remarkable Voyages of Captain Cook** by Rhoda Blumberg (Bradbury)
- **Summer of Fire: Yellowstone 1988** by Patricia Lauber (Orchard)
- **Voyager to the Planets** by Necia H. Apfel (Clarion)
- **The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane** by Russell Freedman (Holiday)

### 1991 **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books)

**Honor Books:**

- *Arctic Memories* by Normee Ekoomiak (Henry Holt)  
- *Seeing Earth from Space* by Patricia Luber (Orchard Books)

**Recommended Titles:**

- **Christopher Columbus** by Nancy Smiler Levinson (Lodestar/Dutton)  
- **The Clover and the Bee** by Anne Ophelia Dowden (Crowell)  
- **Columbus and the World Around Him** by Milton Meltzer (Franklin Watts)  
- **Dinosaur Dig** by Kathryn Lasky, photographs by Christopher G. Knight (Morrow)  
- **Giraffes** by Helen Roney Sattler, illustrations by Christopher Santoro (Lothrop, Lee, and Shepard)  
- **Good Queen Bess** by Diand Stanley and Peter Vennema (Four Winds)  
- **The Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System** by Joanna Cole, illustrations by Bruce Degan (Scholastic)  
- **The Many Lives of Benjamin Franklin** by Mary Pope Osborne (Dial)  
- **Mom Can’t See Me** by Sally Hobart Alexander, photographs by George Ancona (Macmillan)  
- **My Hiroshima** by Junko Morimoto (Viking)  
- **Oceans** by Seymour Simon (Morrow)  
- **The Oregon Trail** by Leonard Everett Fisher (Holiday House)  
- **The Riddle of the Rosetta Stone** by James Cross Giblin (Crowell)  
- **Totem Pole** by Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith, photographs by Lawrence Migdale (Holiday House)  
- **Wolves** by R.D. Lawrence (Sierra Club/Little Brown)  
- **Wood-Song** by Gary Paulsen (Bradbury)

### 1990 **The Great Little Madison** by Jean Fritz (Putnam)

**Honor Books:**

- *The Great American Gold Rush* by Rhoda Blumberg (Bradbury Press)  
- *The News about Dinosaurs* by Patricia Lauber (Bradbury Press)

**Recommended Titles were not selected**

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