# 2013 NCTE Orbis Pictus Award

# for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

The world of children's literature contains a variety of genres, all of which have appeal to the diverse interests of children, as well as potential for classroom teaching. In recent years, nonfiction or informational books have emerged as a very attractive, exciting, and popular genre. The NCTE Orbis Pictus Award Committee established the award in 1990 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.





## Monsieur Marceau: Actor without Words

by Leda Schubert illustrated by Gérard DuBois (Roaring Brook Press)

### **Honor Books**

Citizen Scientists:

Be a Part of Scientific Discovery
from Your Own Backyard
by Loree Griffin Burns

by Loree Griffin Burns photos by Ellen Harasimowicz (Henry Holt & Company)

Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin

by Robert Byrd (Dial Books for Young Readers)

The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity

by Elizabeth Rusch (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children)

Those Rebels, John & Tom

by Barbara Kerley illustrated by Edward Fotheringham (Scholastic)

We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March

by Cynthia Levinson (Peachtree Publishers)

## Recommended Books

A Black Hole is NOT a Hole by Carolyn Cinami DeCristofano, illustrated by Michael Carroll (Charlesbridge Publishing)

> Abraham Lincoln & Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship by Russell Freedman (Clarion Books)

The Amazing Harry Kellar: Great American Magician by Gail Jarrow (Calkins Creek)

Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust by Doreen Rappaport (Candlewick Press)

The Case of the Vanishing Golden Frogs:
A Scientific Mystery
by Sandra Markle (Millbrook Press)

Chuck Close: Face Book by Chuck Close (Abrams Books for Young Readers)

Hands Around the Library:
Protecting Egypt's Treasured Books
by Karen Leggett Abouraya
illustrated by Susan L. Roth (Dial Book for Young Readers)

Life in the Ocean: The Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle by Claire A. Nivola (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

# 2012 Balloons over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade

by Melissa Sweet (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children)

#### **Honor Books:**

- Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming (Schwartz & Wade Books)
- Father Abraham: Lincoln and His Sons by Harold Holzer (Calkins Creek)
- Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People by Monica Brown illustrated by Julie Paschkis (Henry Holt and Company)
- Terezin: Voices from the Holocaust by Ruth Thomson (Candlewick Press)
- The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families by Susan L. Roth & Cindy Trumbore (Lee & Low Books Inc.)

#### **Recommended Books:**

- Billions of Years, Amazing Changes: The Story of Evolution by Laurence Pringle, illustrated by Steve Jenkins (Boyds Mills Press)
- Far from Shore: Chronicles of an Open Ocean Voyage by Sophie Webb (Houghton Mifflin Books for Children)
- For the Birds: The Life of Roger Tory Peterson by Peggy Thomas, illustrated by Laura Jacques (Calkins Creek)
- Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans by Kadir Nelson

- (Balzer + Bray Imprint of Harper Collins Publishers)
- Harry Houdini: The Legend of the World's Greatest Escape Artist by Janice Weaver, illustrated by Chris Lane (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- Inkblot by Margaret Peot (Boyds Mills Press)
- Me...Jane by Patrick McDonnell (Little, Brown and Company)
- Thunder Birds: Nature's Flying Predators by Jim Arnosky (Sterling)

# 2011 Ballet for Martha: Making Appalachian Spring

by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan, illustrated by Brian Floca (Roaring Brook Press)

#### **Honor Books:**

- Birmingham Sunday by Larry Dane Brimner (Calkins Creek)
- Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot" by Michael O. Tunnell (Charlesbridge)
- If Stones Could Speak: Unlocking the Secrets of Stonehenge by Mark Aronson (National Geographic)
- Journey into the Deep: Discovering New Ocean Creatures by Rebecca L. Johnson (Millbrook Press)
- Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age by Cheryl Bardoe (Abrams Books for Young Readers)

#### **Recommended Books:**

- Black Elk's Vision: A Lakota Story by S.D.
   Nelson (Abrams Books for Young Readers)
- Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave by Laban Carrick Hill, illustrated by Bryan Collier (Little, Brown & Company)
- The Extraordinary Mark Twain (According to Suzy) by Barbara Kerley, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham (Scholastic)
- For Good Measure by Ken Robbins (Roaring Brook Press)

- Henry Aaron's Dream by Matt Tavares (Candlewick Press)
- Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World's Strangest Parrot by Sy Montgomery, photographs by Nic Bishop (Houghton Mifflin)
- Polar Bears by Mark Newman (Henry Holt and Company)
- They Called Themselves the KKK: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group by Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Houghton Mifflin)

