2014 NCTE Orbis Pictus Award
for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

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.

A Splash of Red:
The Life and Art of Horace Pippin
by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Alfred A. Knopf)

Recommended Books

Emancipation Proclamation:
Lincoln and the Dawn of Liberty
by Tonya Bolden (Abrams Books for Young Readers)

Becoming Ben Franklin: How a Candle-Maker’s Son Helped Light the Flame of Liberty
by Russell Freedman (Holiday House)

The Mad Potter: George E. Ohr Eccentric Genius
by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan
(Roaring Brook Press)

Thomas Jefferson Builds a Library
by Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by John O’Brien
(Calkins Creek)

Eruption! Volcanoes and the Science of Saving Lives
by Elizabeth Rusch, photographs by Tom Uhlman
(Houghton Mifflin Books for Children)

Lifetime: The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives
by Lola M. Schaefer, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal
(Chronicle Books)

Who Says Women Can’t Be Doctors?
The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell
by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman
(Henry Holt and Company)

Scaly, Spotted, Feathered, Frilled:
How Do We Know What Dinosaurs Really Looked Like?
by Catherine Thimmesh
(Houghton Mifflin Books for Children)

Honor Books

Locomotive
by Brian Floca
(Atheneum Books for Young Readers)

The Boy Who Loved Math:
The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos
by Deborah Heiligman
illustrated by LeUyen Pham
(Roaring Brook Press)

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers’ Strike of 1909
by Michelle Markel
illustrated by Melissa Sweet
(Balzer + Bray)

Parrots Over Puerto Rico
by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore
(Lee & Low Books Inc.)

Courage Has No Color:
The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America’s First Black Paratroopers
by Tanya Lee Stone
(Candlewick Press)