

Children and Young Adult Authors/Illustrators

Tucson Festival of Books, March 14-15, 2026

PICTUREBOOKS

Applegate, Katherine (author). *The Littlest Elephant* (2026). <https://katherineapplegate.com/>

Brown, Monica (author). *Singing Justice, Singing Peace: The Story of Joan Baez* (2026). <https://www.monicabrown.net/>

Cicchese, Brittany (author/illustrator). *Tiny Worlds* (2026); *No More Senora Mimi* (2024); <https://brittanycicchese.com/>

Diesen, Deborah (author). *The Pout-Pout Fish*. <https://deborahdiesen.com/>

Handy Bruce (author). *The Balloon* (2025).

Harmony, Cynthia (author). *Apapacho Love* (2026); *Forest en Familia* (2026); *A Flicker of Hope* (2024). www.cynthiaharmony.com

Heck, Ellen (author/illustrator). *Sunflower Seeds* (2025); *A is for Bee* (2022). ellenheck.com/

Kenseth, Lars (author/illustrator). *Call Me Moby* (2026); *Space: The Final Pooping Frontier* (2024). www.larskenseth.com

Lies, Brian (author/illustrator). *Cat Nap* (2025); *Rough Patch* (2018 Caldecott Honor); *Bats* (Series). www.brianlies.com

Lindstrom, Carole (author). *The Gift of the Great Buffalo* (2025); *We Are the Water Protectors* (2020 Caldecott Winner). www.carolelindstrom.com

Littlebird, Steph (author/illustrator). *You are the Land* (2026); *Body Beautiful* (2025); *My Powerful Hair* (2023). www.stephlittlebird.com

Marcero, Deborah (author/illustrator). *The Great Escape* (2026); *Hope in a Jar* (2025); *Out of a Jar* (2022). www.deborahmarcero.com

Morales, Yuyi (author/illustrator). *Little Rebels* (2025); *Bright Star* (2021); *Dreamers* (2018). <http://www.yuyimorales.com/>

Nelson, S.D. (author/illustrator). *The Animals Speak: The Lakota Way* (2026); *Grandma's Tipi* (2023). <https://sdnelson.net/>

Parra, John (illustrator). *Viva Valenzuela!: Fernandomania Erupts in Los Angeles* (2026); *This Moment is Special: A Día de Muertos Story* (2025); *Frida Kahlo and her Animalitos* (pb2017). www.johnparraart.com

Peña, Zeke (author/illustrator). *Sundust* (2025), *My Papi Has a Motorcycle*. <https://www.zpvisual.com/>

Player, Micah (illustrator). *Itty Bitty Betty Blob Makes a Splash* (2025); *This is a Moment* (2025); *Fix-It Familia* (2025). www.micahplayer.com

Robertson, David A. (author). *Too Little Shoes* (2025). www.darobertson.ca

Smith, Cynthia Leitch (author). *Here Come the Aunties!* (2026); *Jingle Dancer* (2021). www.cynthialeitchsmith.com

Westbrook, Pasha (author). *Braided Roots* (2025). www.instagram.com/pashawestbrook

MIDDLE GRADE

Applegate, Katherine (author). *The One and Only Ivan*; *The One and Only Ruby*; *The One and Only Bob*; *The One and Only Family*. <https://katherineapplegate.com/>

Baptiste, Tracey (author, fantasy). *Moko Magic: Carnival Chaos* (2024) and *Museum Mayhem* (2025), *Super Goat Girl* (pb, 2025). www.traceybaptiste.com

Bowling, Dusti (author/Realistic Fiction). *The Beat I Drum* (2025); *Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus* (2021); *Insignificant Event in the Life of a Cactus* (2019). www.dustybowling.com

Campbell, Scott (author/illustrator, graphic novel). *Cabin Head and Tree Head #1* (2025); *Hug Machine* (picturebook 2014). www.scottc.com

Cisneros, Ernesto (author/fantasy, realistic fiction). *Queso, Just in Time* (2026); *Efren Divided* (pb 2021 Pura Belpré Award); *Falling Short* (pb 2023). www.ernestocisneros.com

Glaser, Karina Yan (author, historical fiction). *The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli* (2025); *A Duet for Home* (pb2023); *Vanderbeekers Series*. www.karinaglaser.com

Goetter, Sara and Riess, Natalie. (author/Illustrator, graphic novel/fantasy). *The Prophecies Begin* (Warriors series #3 2025); *The Prophecies Begin* (Warriors series #2 2025); *The Prophecies Begin* (Warriors series #1 2024) www.sgoetter.com and www.nataliereiss.com

Green, John Patrick (author, graphic novel/mystery). *InvestiGators: Agents of S.U.I.T! Sew Much Trouble* (2026); *InvestiGators: Case Files* (2025). www.investigatorsbooks.com

Gupta, Ruchira (author/social intolerance). *The Freedom Seeker* (2025); *I Kick and I Fly* (2023). www.ruchiragupta.com

Haddix, Margaret Peterson (author/mystery/fantasy). *Moonleapers* (2025); *Falling Out of Time* (pb2024); *Greystone Secrets #1*; *The Strangers* (pb2020). www.haddixbooks.com

Kagawa, Julie (author/fantasy). *Firebred* (Storm Dragons #2, 2026); *Lightening Born* (Storm Dragons #1, 2025); *Skys shattered* (Storm Dragons #3, 2026). www.juliekagawa.com

Kelly, Erin Entrada (author/fantasy). *The First State of Being* (2026pb, Newbery Award 2025); *At Last She Stood* (2025); *The Last Resort* (2025). www.erinentradakelly.com

Lindstrom, Carole (author/Historical Fiction). *Red River Rose* (2026); www.carollelindstrom.com

Mancusi, Mari (author, fantasy). *Dawn of the Dragons* (2025), *New Dragon City* (2022); *Sally's Lament* (2024). www.newdragoncity.com

McDonald, Megan (author/fantasy). *Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Hobgoblins* (2026); *Bunny and Clyde on the Lam* (2026); *Judy Moody Series*. www.judymoody.com

Messenger, Shannon (author, graphic novel/fantasy). *Keeper of the Lost Cities: The Graphic Novel Part 2* (2025); *Keeper of the Lost Cities: The Graphic Novel Part 1* (2023). www.shannonmessenger.com

Nayeri, Daniel (author, historical fiction). *The Teacher of Nomad Land* (2025). *Everything Sad is Untrue*; *The Many Assassinations of Samir*, *the Seller of Dreams*. www.danielnayeri.com/

Pennypacker, Sara (author/historical fiction). *The Lions' Run* (2026); PAX Series. www.sarapennypacker.com

Ponti, James (author/mystery). *City of Spies: Europa* (2026); *The Sherlock Society* (pb2025); *The Sherlock Society: Hurricane Heist* (book #2 2025). www.jamesponti.com

Rául the Third (author/illustrator, graphic novels/sports). *Tito and Friends: Tough Times* (2026); *Tito and Friends: Tag Team* (2024); *Tito and Friends: Tacos Today* (2023). www.raulthethird.com

Robertson, David A. (author/fantasy). *The World's End* (Misewa Saga #6 2025). www.darobertson.ca

Sampson, Michael (author/animal fiction). *JoJo the Tornado Dog: A Tale of Rescue, Courage and Family*. 2026; *Armadillo Antics* (picturebook 2022). www.billmartinjr.com

Stine, R.L. (author/horror). *One Night at Camp Bigfoot*. (House of Shivers series #6 2026); *Scariest Book Ever* (House of Shivers series #1, 2023); *The Last Sleepover* (House of Shivers #5 2025). www.RLstine.com

Thummler, Brenna (author/illustrator, graphic novel). *Gumshoe* (2026); www.brennathummler.com

Warga, Jasmine (author/animal fiction; mystery). *The Unlikely Tale of Chase and Finnegan* (2026); *The Claiming* (Last Resort #2 2026); *A Rover's Story* (pb 2024, 2023 Newbery Honor). www.jasminewarga.com

YOUNG ADULT

Alcaraz, Hailey (author/historical fiction/romance). *Rosa By Any Other Name* (2025); *Up In Flames* (2023). www.haileyalcaraz.com

Bernet, Katie (author/thriller). *Beth is Dead* (2026). www.katiebernet.com

Boulley, Angeline (author/mystery). *Sisters in the Wind* (2025); *Warrior Girl Unearthed* (pb2025); *Firekeeper's Daughter* (pb2023, Printz Award). www.angelineboulley.com

Cho, Kat (author, realistic fiction, romance). *Wish Upon a K-Star* (2025); *Once Upon a K-Prom* (2023). www.katchowrites.com/

Dennard, Susan (author, fantasy). *Witchlight* (2025), *The Executioners Three* (2025), *The Luminaries* trilogy. www.susandennard.com/

Fennell, Saraciea J. (anthologies, horror). *The Black Girl Survives in This One* (2025, pb); *Wild Tongues Can't Be Tamed* (2021). <https://www.saracieafennell.com/>

Goodwin, Idris (author, historical fiction). *King of the Neuro Verse* (2025). <https://www.idrisgoodwin.com/>

Ixta, Carolina (author/realistic fiction). *Few Blue Skies* (2026); *This is Serious* (pb, 2025). www.carolinaixta.com

Jackson, Tiffany D. (author/mystery). *The Scammer* (2025); *Monday's Not Coming* (pb2019); *Allegedly* (pb2018). www.writeinbk.com

James, Cassandra (author/fantasy). *Capitana* (2026, pb); *Libertad* (2026).

www.Cassandrajameswrites.com

Jean, Emiko (author/romance). *Love Me Tomorrow* (2026); *The Return of Ellie Black* (pb2025); *Tokyo Ever After* (pb2022). www.emikojean.com

Khorram, Adib (author, realistic fiction). *One Word, Six Letters* (2026); *Darius the Great is Not Okay*. <https://adibkhorram.com/>

Krause, Autumn (author/fantasy). *Grave Flowers* (2025); *Before the Devil Knows You're Here* (pb2025); *A Dress for the Wicked* (pb2019). www.autumnkrause.com

Lee, Stacey (author/historical fiction). *Heiress of Nowhere* (2026); *Kill Her Twice* (pb2025); *The Downstairs Girl* (pb2019). www.staceyhlee.com

Mara, Sunya. (author, fantasy). *Embrace the Serpent* (2025); *The Darkening* (pb, 2023); and *The Lightstruck*, (pb, 2025). <https://www.sunyamara.com/>

Painter, Lynn (author, romance). *Fake Skating* (2025); *Nothing Like the Movies*; *Better than the Movies*. <https://lynnpainter.com/>

Reyes, Sonora (author/realistic fiction). *The Golden Boy's Guide to Bipolar* (2025); *Lesbiana's Guide to Catholic School* (Pura Belpré Honor 2023); *The Louis Ortega Survival Club* (pb2025). www.sonorareyes.com

Shusterman, Neal (author/SciFi/Fantasy). *MindWorks: An Uncanny Compendium of Short Fiction* (2025); *All Better Now* (2025); *Scythe* (pb2016). www.storyman.com

Smith, Cynthia Leitch (author/Realistic Fiction/Fantasy). *The Legendary Frybread Drive-In* (2025); www.cynthialeitchsmith.com

Smith, Sasha Peyton (author/fantasy). *The Rose Bargain* (2025). www.sashapsmith.com

NONFICTION

Broyles, Anne L. (author/science/biography). *Eating to Save the Planet: How Veganism Helps Fight Climate Change* (2025); *I'm Gonna Paint: Ralph Fasanella, Artist of the People* (pb2026); *Priscilla and the Hollyhocks* (pb2019). www.annebroyles.com

Levinson, Cynthia (author/history). *Who Owns the Moon? And Other Conundrums of Exploring and Using Space* (2025); *Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Framers, Their Fights, and the Flaws* (revised 2025). www.cynthialevinson.com

Nelson, Kadir (author/illustrator, history). *Basket Ball: The Story of the All- American Game* (2026); *We are the Ship: The Story of Negro Baseball League* (2008). www.kadirnelson.com

Parra, John (illustrator/biography). *Viva Valenzuela!: Fernandomania Erupts in Los Angeles* (2026); *This Moment is Special: A Día de Muertos Story* (2025). www.johnparraart.com

Other areas

Águila, María Dolores. *A Sea of Lemon Trees* - Nuestras Raices

Gollub, Matthew. *The Jazz Fly* – Children's Stage

Lopez, Paloma Angeline. *Popo the Xolo* – Nuestras Raices