



Nebraska Golden Sower Award Nominee Titles 2009-2010

Sponsored by Nebraska Library Association's
School, Children's, and Young People's Section

The GSA nominee list is developed by selection committees of volunteer readers representing classroom teachers, media specialists, and librarians in Nebraska. Each list is created from nominated titles sent in by participating libraries and schools from across the state.

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2009-2010 Primary Nominees

Clements, Andrew. ***DOGKU***.

Illustrated by Tim Bowers. Simon & Schuster, 2007. ISBN 068985823X

A story about a loveable dog told in haiku poetry.

Cole, Henry. ***ON MEADOWVIEW STREET***.

Illustrated by the author. Greenwillow, 2007. ISBN 0060564814

Upon moving to a new house, young Caroline and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow and animals to stay in their yard. This soon has the whole suburban street living up to its name.

Friend, Catherine. ***THE PERFECT NEST***.

Illustrated by John Manders. Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN 0763624306

Jack the cat gets more than he bargained for when he decides to build the perfect nest to attract the perfect chicken.

Helakoski, Leslie. ***WOOLBUR***.

Illustrated by Lee Harper. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN 0060847263

Woolbur, a sheep with a mind of his own, never seems to follow the flock, in spite of his parents' reminders about how he should behave.

Kasza, Keiko. ***BADGER'S FANCY MEAL.***

Illustrated by the author. Putnam, 2007. ISBN 0399246037

Badger is bored with the same old meals, but his search for more exciting food only leads to trouble.

Kimmel, Eric A. ***THE GREAT TEXAS HAMSTER DRIVE: AN ORIGINAL TALL TALE.***

Illustrated by Bruce Whatley. Marshall Cavendish, 2007. ISBN 9780761453574

When Pecos Bill's daughter gets two pet hamsters, they soon multiply into the hundreds. Bill decides to take them all to Chicago where lots of boys and girls want pet hamsters.

Levine, Ellen. ***HENRY'S FREEDOM BOX.***

Illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Scholastic, 2007. ISBN 043977733X

This is a fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escaped to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.

Noble, Trinka Hakes. ***THE ORANGE SHOES.***

Illustrated by Doris Ettlinger. Sleeping Bear Press, 2007. ISBN 1585362778

Delly Porter enjoys the feel of soft dirt beneath her feet as she walks to and from school. After a classmate makes her feel ashamed of having no shoes, she learns that her parents and others, too, see value in things that do not cost money.

Schotter, Roni. ***MAMA, I'LL GIVE YOU THE WORLD.***

Illustrated by Susan Saelig Gallagher. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2006. ISBN 0375836128

At Walter's World of Beauty, Luisa's secret plans are underway to create a very special birthday celebration for her hard-working, single mother who is employed there as a stylist.

Sierra, Judy. ***THE SECRET SCIENCE PROJECT THAT ALMOST ATE THE SCHOOL.***

Illustrated by Stephen Gammell. Simon & Schuster, 2006. ISBN 1416911758

A boy sends off for "Professor Swami's Super Slime" to use as his science fair project and then has to cope with the disaster that follows.

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2009-2010 Intermediate Nominees

Davies, Jacqueline. *THE LEMONADE WAR*.
Houghton Mifflin, 2007. ISBN 0618750436

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade. As the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn \$100.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *ELEVEN*.
Wendy Lamb Books, 2008. ISBN 0385730691

When Sam, who can barely read, discovers an old newspaper clipping just before his eleventh birthday, it brings back memories from his past. With the help of a new friend at school and the castle they are building for a school project, his questions are finally answered.

Grimes, Nikki. *THE ROAD TO PARIS*.
Putnam, 2006. ISBN 0399245375 [paperback: Puffin 2008, ISBN 0142410829]

Eight-year-old Paris is inconsolable at being separated from her older brother and apprehensive about her new foster family. Just as she learns to trust them, she faces a life-changing decision.

Gutman, Dan. *THE HOMEWORK MACHINE*.
Simon & Schuster, 2006. ISBN 0689876785 [paperback: Aladdin 2007, ISBN 0689876793]

Four fifth-grade students—a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker—as well as their teacher and mothers, each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

Hahn, Mary Downing. ***DEEP AND DARK AND DANGEROUS: A GHOST STORY.***
Clarion Books, 2007. ISBN 0618665455 [paperback: Sandpiper 2008, ISBN 0547076452]

When thirteen-year-old Ali spends the summer with her aunt and cousin at the family's vacation home, she stumbles upon a secret that her mother and aunt have been hiding for over thirty years.

Hobbs, Valerie. ***SHEEP.***

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006. ISBN 0374367779

After a fire destroys the farm where he was born, a young border collie acquires a series of owners and learns about life as he seeks a home and longs to fulfill his life's purpose of shepherding sheep.

O'Connor, Barbara. ***HOW TO STEAL A DOG.***

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2007. ISBN 0374334978

Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer.

Peck, Richard. ***ON THE WINGS OF HEROES.***

Dial, 2007. ISBN 0803730810 [paperback: Puffin 10/08, ISBN 014241204X]

A boy in Illinois remembers the home-front years of World War II, especially his two heroes—his brother in the Air Force and his father, who fought in the previous war.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. ***THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY.***

Illustrated by Carson Ellis. Little, Brown, 2007. ISBN 0316057770 [paperback: Little, Brown 2008, ISBN 0316003956]

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Wiles, Deborah. ***THE AURORA COUNTY ALL-STARS.***

Harcourt, 2007. ISBN 0152060685 [paperback: Harcourt 2/09, ISBN 0152066268]

For most of the boys one hot summer in a small Mississippi town, the biggest concern is whether their annual July 4th baseball game will be cancelled due to their county's anniversary pageant. However, after the death of the old man to whom twelve-year-old star pitcher House Jackson has been secretly reading for a year, House uncovers secrets about the man and the history of baseball in Aurora County that could fix everything.

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2009-2010 Young Adult Nominees

Bingham, Kelly L. ***SHARK GIRL.***

Candlewick Press, 2007. ISBN 0763632074

After a shark attack causes the amputation of her right arm, fifteen-year-old Jane, an aspiring artist, struggles to come to terms with her loss and the changes it imposes on her day-to-day life and her plans for the future.

Cooney, Caroline B. ***DIAMONDS IN THE SHADOW.***

Delacorte Press, 2007. ISBN 0385732619

The Finches, a Connecticut family, sponsor an African refugee family of four, all of whom have been scarred by the horrors of civil war, and who inadvertently put their benefactors in harm's way.

Kadohata, Cynthia. ***CRACKER!: THE BEST DOG IN VIETNAM.***

Atheneum, 2007. ISBN 1416906371 [paperback: Aladdin 10/08, ISBN 141690638X]

A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.

Resau, Laura. ***RED GLASS.***

Delacorte Press, 2007. ISBN 0385734662

Sixteen-year-old Sophie has been frail and delicate since her premature birth, but discovers her true strength during a journey through Mexico, where the six-year-old orphan her family hopes to adopt was born, and to Guatemala, where her would-be boyfriend hopes to find his mother and plans to remain.

Salisbury, Graham. ***NIGHT OF THE HOWLING DOGS.***

Wendy Lamb Books, 2007. ISBN 0385731221

In 1975, eleven Boy Scouts, their leaders, and some new friends camping at Halape, Hawaii, find their survival skills put to the test when a massive earthquake strikes, followed by a tsunami.

Schmidt, Gary D. ***THE WEDNESDAY WARS.***

Clarion Books, 2007. ISBN 0618724834

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

Smith, Roland. ***PEAK.***

Harcourt, 2007. ISBN 0152024174 [paperback: Harcourt 2008, ISBN 0152062688]

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Ursu, Anne. ***THE SHADOW THIEVES.***

Atheneum, 2006. ISBN 1416905871 [paperback: Aladdin 2007, ISBN 141690588X]

After her cousin Zee arrives from England, thirteen-year-old Charlotte and he must set out to save humankind from denizens of the underworld, Nightmares, Death, Pain, and a really nasty guy named Phil.

Wells, Rosemary. ***RED MOON AT SHARPSBURG.***

Viking, 2007. ISBN 0670036387 [paperback: Puffin 9/08, ISBN 0142412058]

As the Civil War breaks out, India, a young Southern girl, summons her sharp intelligence and the courage she didn't know she had to survive the war that threatens to destroy her family, her Virginia home, and the only life she has ever known.

Werlin, Nancy. ***THE RULES OF SURVIVAL.***

Dial Books, 2006. ISBN 0803730012 [paperback: Puffin 2008, ISBN 0142410713]

Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting at a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.

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