



Announcing the 2025-2026 Young Hoosier Book Award Nominees (by title)

Picture Book (K-2)

Acorn Was a Little Wild by Jen Arena
Cranky Chicken by Katherine Battersby
The Fastest Tortoise in Town by Howard Calvert
Flat Cat by Tara Lazar
Giraffe is Too Tall For This Book by D.K. Ryland
Heavy Metal Badger by Duncan Beddie
Hello Opportunity: The Story of Our Friend on Mars by Shaelyn McDaniel
How This Book Got Read by Margaret Chiu Greanias
How to Make a Peanut Butter Sandwich in 17 Easy Steps by Bambi Edlund
Just Snow Already by Howard McWilliam
King Kong's Cousin by Mark Teague
The King Penguin by Vanessa Roeder
Mr. S by Monica Arnaldo
No is All I Know by Chris Grabenstein
Our Pool by Lucy Ruth Cummins
The Scariest Kitten in the World by Kate Messner
Simon and the Better Bone by Corey Tabor
Somebody Needs to Do Something About That Monster by Doug Cenko
Try a Bite, Trilobite by Jonathan Fenske
Twenty Questions by Mac Barnett

Intermediate (3-5)

102 Days of Lying About Lauren by Maura Jortner
Animal Rescue Friends by Meika Hashimoto and Gina Loveless
Confessions of a Class Clown by Arianne Costner
Dogtown by Katherine Applegate
Duel by Jessica Bagley
Emma Just Medium: The Beach Dilemma by Laura Wiltse Prior
Ghosts, Toast and Other Hazards by Susan Tan
The Greatest Kid in the World by John David Anderson
Ice Cream Man: How Augustus Jackson Made a Sweet Treat by Glenda Armand and Kim Freeman
Jawbreaker by Christina Wyman
Maple's Theory of Fun by Kate McMillan
My Head Has a Bellyache and More Nonsense by Chris Harris
On the Corner of Chocolate Avenue: How Milton Hershey Brought Chocolate to America by Tziporah Cohen
Picture Puzzler: A Natural History Hide-and-Seek by Ksenia Bakhareva
A Seed in the Sun by Aida Salazar
Shelley Frankenstein: CowPiggy by Colleen Madden
Squished by Megan Wagner Lloyd
The Superteacher Project by Gordon Korman
Table Titans Club by Scott Kurtz
The Wild Journey of Juniper Berry by Chad Morris

Middle Grade (6-8)

Ballad & Dagger: An Outlaw Saints Book by Daniel Jose Older
Cinder and Glass by Melissa De La Cruz
Dinged by Tommy Greenwald
The Girl From the Sea by Molly Knox Ostertag
Greymist Fair by Francesca Zappia
Hands by Torrey Maldonado
Hoops by Matt Tavares
The In-Between by Katie Van Heidrich
The N.O.A. H. Files: I Am the Walrus by Neal Shusterman
Iveliz Explains It All by Andrea Beatriz Arango
The Labors of Hercules Beal by Gary D. Schmidt
The Liars Society by Alyson Gerber
Nic Blake and the Remarkables: The Manifestor Prophecy by Angie Thomas
Not An Easy Win by Chrystal D. Giles
Select by Christie Matheson
Simon Sort Of Says by Erin Bow
Squire by Nadia Shammes and Sara Alfageeh
Strong as Fire, Fierce as Flame by Supriya Kelkar
Thin Air by Kellie Parker
Undercover Latina by Aya De León



For more information about the YHBA program, please visit the ILF web site at:

<http://www.ilfonline.org/?page=YHBA>