



The Charlie May Simon Children's Book Award for children's literature has been presented annually since 1971 to an author whose book has been selected through a vote taken by Arkansas school children in grades four, five and six. The purpose of the award is to promote better reading for children and to recognize Mrs. John Gould Fletcher, an outstanding Arkansas author who wrote under the pen name Charlie May Simon.



2024-2025

Haven: A Small Cat's Big Adventure

by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Honor: **Anne of West Philly** by Ivy Noelle Weir

A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga

2023-2024

Allergic by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Honor: **Wild River** by Rodman Philbrick

Twenty-One Steps: Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by Jeff Gottesfeld

2022-2023 **City Spies** by James Ponti

Honor: **A Bowl Full of Peace: A True Story** by Caren Stelson

When Stars are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

2021-2022 **New Kid** by Jerry Craft

Honor: **The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise** by Dan Gemeinhart

Lizzie Flying Solo by

Nancy Turner Steveson

2020-2021 **Lifeboat 12** by Susan Hood

Honor: **Dear Sister** by Alison McGhee

Saving Winslow by Sharon Creech

2019-2020 **Restart** by Gordon Korman

Honor: **Hideout** by Watt Key

The Losers Club by

Andrew Clements

2018-2019 **Wish** by Barbara O'Connor

Honor: **Soar** by Joan Bauer

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook by Leslie Connor

2017-2018 **The War That Saved My Life** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Honor: **Fuzzy Mud** by Louis Sachar

2016-2017 **The Crossover** by Kwame Alexander

Honor: **El Deafo** by Cece Bell

2015-2016 **The Boy on the Porch** by Sharon Creech

Honor: **Prisoner 88** by Leah Pileggi

2014-2015 **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio

Honor: **The One and Only Ivan** by Katherine Applegate (Newbery Award Books)

2013-2014 **Eight Keys** by Suzanne LaFleur

Honor: **Troublemaker** by Andrew Clements

2012-2013 **Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer** by John Grisham

Honor: **Mockingbird** by Kathryn Erskine

2011-2012 **Zoobreak** by Gordon Korman

Honor: **Mudshark** by Gary Paulsen

2010-2011 **Swindle** by Gordon Korman

Honor: **Lost and Found** by Andrew Clements

2009-2010 **No Talking** by Andrew Clements

Honor: **Lawn Boy** by Gary Paulsen

2008-2009 **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo

Honor: **One-Handed Catch** by Mary Jane Auch

2007-2008 **A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray** by Ann M. Martin

Honor: **Lunch Money** by Andrew Clements



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Charlie May Simon Children's Book Award Winners

2006-2007 **The Report Card** by
Andrew Clements
Honor: **Worth** by A. LaFaye

2005-2006 **Tale of Despereaux** by
Kate DiCamillo
Honor: **The City of Ember** by Jean
DuPrau

2004-2005 **Loser** by Jerry Spinelli
Honor: **Becoming Joe Dimaggio** by
Maria Testa

2003-2004 **Skeleton Man** by Jo-
seph Bruchac
Honor: **The Tiger Rising** by Kate
DiCamillo

2002-2003 **Because of Winn Dixie**
by Kate DiCamillo
Honor: **A Year Down Yonder** by
Richard Peck

2001-2002 **Ramona's World** by
Beverly Cleary
Honor: **The Landry News** by
Andrew Clements

2000-2001 **Flying Solo** by Ralph
Fletcher
Honor: **Riding Freedom** by Pam
Munoz Ryan

1999-2000 **Saving Shiloh** by Phyllis
Reynolds Naylor
Honor: **Joshua T. Bates in Trouble**
Again by Susan Shreve

1998-1999 **Frindle** by Andrew
Clements
Honor: **Tornado** by Betsy Byars

1997-1998 **The 13th Floor: A Ghost**
Honor: **The Private Notebook of**
Katie Roberts, Age 11 by Amy Hest

1996-1997 **The Best School Year**
Ever by Barbara Robinson
Honor: **Time for Andrew: A Ghost**
Story by Mary Hahn

1995-1996 **The Secret Funeral of**
Slim Jim the Snake by Elvira
Woodruff
Honor: **Uncle Jed's Barbershop** by
Margaree King Mitchell

1994-1995 **Attaboy, Sam!** By Lois
Lowry
Honor: **Keep Ms. Sugarman in the**
Fourth Grade by Elizabeth Levy

1993-1994 **Shiloh** by Phyllis Naylor
Honor: **The Night the Whole Class**
Slept Over by Stella Pevsner

1992-1993 **The Ghost Inside the**
Monitor by Margaret J. Anderson
Honor: **Maniac Magee** by Jerry Spi-
nelli

1991-1992 **Number the Stars** by
Lois Lowry

1990-1991 **All About Sam** by Lois
Lowry

1989-1990 **There's a Boy in the**
Girl's Bathroom by Louis Sachar

1988-1989 **The Whipping Boy** by
Sid Fleischman
1987-1988 **Sarah, Plain and Tall** by
Patricia MacLachlan

1986-1987 **The Computer Nut** by
Betsy Byars

1985-1986 **My Horrible Secret** by
Stephen Roos

1984-1985 **Be a Perfect Person in**
Just Three Days by Stephen Manes

1983-1984 **Ramona Quimby, Age 8**
by Beverly Cleary





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Charlie May Simon Children's Book Award Winners

1982-1983 **Do Bananas Chew**

Gum? by Jamie Gilson

1981-1982 **All the Money in the
World** by Bill Brittain

1980-1981 **Banana Twist** by
Florence Parry Heide

1979-1980 **The Pinballs** by Betsy
Byars

1978-1979 **Alvin's Swap Shop** by
Clifford Hicks

1977-1978 **Shoeshine Girl** by Clyde
Robert Bulla

1976-1977 **The Ghost on Saturday
Night** by Sid Fleischman

1975-1976 **Big Foot** by Hal Evarts

1974-1975 **The Tales of a Fourth
Grade Nothing** by Judy Blume

1973-1974 **The Runt of Rogers
School** by Harold Keith

1972-1973 **Runaway Ralph** by
Beverly Cleary

1971-1972 **Big Ben** by David Harry
Walker

1970-1971 **Striped Ice Cream** by
Joan Lexau