



## Rhode Island Middle School Book Award 2019 Nominees

*\* Please remember not all books  
are suitable for all readers*

### ***Armstrong & Charlie* by Steven Frank**

Can two boys from different neighborhoods and backgrounds, who meet during school desegregation in the 1970's, become friends or will they always be at odds? Historical fiction

### ***Beautiful Blue World* by Suzanne LaFleur**

Mathilde's country is at war and she must leave her family when she is chosen for the Adolescent Army. She isn't sure where she fits in until she is asked to talk to an enemy prisoner of war realizing that the line between 'enemy' and 'hero' is a thin one. Adventure

### ***Click Here to Start* by Denis Markell**

Ted loves to solve online escape rooms. The adventure begins when his dying great uncle leaves him a real-life escape room puzzle with a priceless treasure waiting to be found. Mystery

### ***The Evil Wizard Smallbone* by Delia Sherman**

Twelve-year-old runaway Nick finds shelter from a blizzard in Evil Wizard Books, run by Wizard Smallbone, who decides Nick is his new apprentice. Nick tries to outwit the wizard to gain his freedom and stay one step ahead of the motorcycle-riding werewolves that want him for their own. Fantasy

### ***Family Game Night and Other Catastrophes* by Mary Lambert**

Annabelle's mother, a compulsive hoarder, refuses to throw anything away. When a pile of newspapers falls on her sister Leslie's head, it is just too much to bear. Annabelle learns to face her problems, not run from them. Realistic fiction

### ***Fuzzy* by Tom Angleberger**

Max never expected to befriend a robot, but that's before she meets Fuzzy. Fuzzy is a robot who is being trained to think for himself, which helps when the school is threatened by their vice principal BARBARA, a computer program gone rogue. Science fiction

### ***Garvey's Choice* by Nikki Grimes**

Pressured by his father to get involved in sports and teased by his classmates for being overweight, Garvey must find the courage to pursue what he loves most: singing. Novel in Verse, Realistic fiction

### ***Maya Lin: Thinking with Her Hands* by Susan Goldman Rubin**

Maya Lin, an artist's biography told through the different art forms in which she created some of the most important memorials in the United States. Biography

### ***The Nameless City* by Faith Erin Hicks**

For longtime residents the city has no name; it changes each time that it's conquered. Kaidu is Dao, the cities' current occupiers; Rat is a city dweller, and distrustful of the Dao, including Kaidu. This graphic novel touches upon prejudices and class division. Graphic novel

### ***Once was a Time* by Leila Sales**

Charlotte and her friend get kidnapped by the Nazis leaving her with a split second decision when a portal opens up. She jumps into the future not knowing what happened to the life she left behind.. Historical fiction, Science fiction

### ***One Half from the East* by Nadia Hasham**

After her father loses a leg in a bomb blast in Afghanistan, Obayda's family decides she will become a 'bacha posh' - a girl dressed and treated as a boy - to improve the family's fortunes. Obayda, now called Obayd, feels lost and unsure until she meets another bacha posh who helps her navigate her new role and the freedom it brings. Realistic fiction

### ***The Pants Project* by Cat Clarke**

Liv is disgusted with her school's sexist dress code which forces girls to wear skirts. Liv may seem like a girl on the outside, but in fact he's a boy on the inside. Armed with new friends, Liv takes on the dress code and school administration. Realistic fiction

### ***Refugee* by Alan Gratz**

Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, but each is leaving home and family, escaping great danger in search of safety, opportunity and a future. Historical fiction

### ***Restart* by Gordon Korman**

Eighth grader Chase Andrews fell off of his roof and suffered total amnesia. When Chase goes back to school, he is torn between old football loyalties and new video club friends. Is once a bully always a bully or can he truly RESTART his life? Realistic fiction

### ***Scar Island* by Dan Gemeinhart**

When Jonathan was sent to a reformatory school on an island in the middle of the ocean, he never expected that a freak accident would leave him and the others without any supervision. The boys compete for dominance and try to survive the hazards of the island. Adventure

### ***The Skeleton Tree* by Iain Lawrence**

Chris and Frank, almost perfect strangers, are stranded in the Alaskan wilderness after a boating accident. Will they be able to survive without any supplies and winter quickly approaching? Adventure

### ***Spirit Hunters* by Ellen Oh**

Harper, a 7th grader, fighting her own demons and blocked memories must figure out what or who is making her little brother act so evil before it is too late for both of them. Horror, Mystery

### ***Top Prospect* by Paul Volponi**

Travis Gardner lives to play quarterback. He's been promised a place on the team and a full scholarship to Gainesville University. The fame is exciting, but the spotlight's on him and the pressure is on. Realistic fiction, Sports

### ***Train I Ride* by Paul Mosier**

Ryder leaves the life she knew behind her, heading to a situation that provides little hope. This train ride is the journey; Ryder explores friendship and family on the ride. Realistic fiction

### ***We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler* by Russell Freedman**

An inspiring true story of a group of university students who secretly work to stop the Nazi party in WWII Germany. If a group of students could work to overthrow Hitler, what else can students accomplish? Nonfiction

*For more information about the award,  
please visit*

**RI Middle School Book  
Award Home Page**

**<http://bit.ly/2ofCGQE>**

