

Hello, Librarians!

Remember when ALA conferences had daily papers keeping us connected to the show and to each other? We do too. We miss them so much, we decided to take a stab at making our own! Welcome to the first-ever Penguin Young Readers conference bulletin. Here you'll find show highlights, booth happenings, book news, and more. Return attendees, we're so happy you're here! First timers, welcome! We hope you'll find this information useful and maybe even a little fun ©.

So please take a read, and say hi to us in the booth. We love to hear from you!

May your feet not get too sore and you never wait in too long of a coffee line. Happy ALA Annual!

Sincerely,

Carmela Iaria (VP, Executive Director of School & Library Marketing) and the entire S&L Marketing team at PYR







PENGUIN YOUNG READERS CONGRATULATES OUR 2023 ALA Youth Media Award Winners!



Michael L. Printz Award Medalist



Schneider Family Book Award **Picture Book Winner**



William C. Morris **Award Winner**



Coretta Scott King Author Honor

BCALA Nonfiction Award Winner



Stonewall Honor



Stonewall Honor



Pura Belpré **Author Honor**



Sydney Taylor Book Award Honor





The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical **Fiction Winner**



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APALA Honor



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> PENGUIN **ART SHOW**

Celebrating **Black Artists and the Creative Process from Studio to Page**



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- Watch Artist Spotlight videos
- **Discover the artist's processes** and mediums
- **Peek inside their books!**





DARE COULTER

NIKKOLAS SMITH

JENNIFER MACK-WATKINS



KITT THOMAS



Woodson's books. I remember the exact place I was when I read Brown Girl Dreaming. And now, her newest middle grade novel, *Remember Us*, is one that has taken hold of me and hasn't let me go since I turned the last page. With Jackie's evocative descriptions and heartachingly beautiful prose, I

was completely transported to Bushwick, Brooklyn, during a hot, sticky summer in 1970s. The story follows Sage, whose whole world is on fire the summer before she starts seventh grade. She's watching and grieving as house after house burns down in her neighborhood, referred to as "The Matchbox" in the local paper. Sage is also, in her own way, mourning the past and the ease of childhood when it feels like so much is left behind as time moves on. This is also the summer of Freddy, a new kid who gets Sage like no one else right now. Remember Us speaks to the power of both letting go . . . and holding on. Drop everything and read now!



pivotal moments in civil rights history. The assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Million Man March changed, and will change, the trajectory of civil rights for these characters and their pursuit of liberation-so why is it that this family of Black men are still having the same experiences and struggles, decades apart? This is a story of generational activism, systemic racism, the Civil Rights Movement, and the continued progression and regression of equality and liberation for Black people in America.

-TREVOR INGERSON



As someone who grew up dancing competitively, I knew I was going to relate to this new middle grade novel as soon as it was pitched to us, but Barely Floating by Lilliam Rivera absolutely blew me away. When we first meet Natalia, she's betting on herself at her local pool and making money racing against other kids, but then she sees the

We have so many great books, but if you asked me for one galley in

our booth, I'd not waste a second

and pass you the MUST-READ

debut of the year! An uncle and

a nephew separated by decades-

one in the '60s at a prestigious

university and one in the '90s at

a private high school—experience

local synchronized swimming team perform, and it's love at first sight. But Nat knows that her progressive mother would hate the sequins, and basically the entire idea of it-a sport that emphasizes being thin and white, so she joins secretly! Finding community in this unexpected place-Nat grows more and more comfortable being herself everywhere, whether that's sparkling in the water or while standing up for what's right. -SUMMER OGATA





how love is the ultimate form of magic. -JUDITH HUERTA



-GABY PAEZ







If there's one thing that you need to know about me, it's that I love romance. So, you can imagine how excited I was to read Aisha Saeed's new YA romance and how easily Aisha had me under her spell. Forty Words for Love is set in the magical coastal community of Moonlight Bay that loses its magic after a tragic death mars the town, and a once-

thriving community begins to blame all their problems on the community of immigrants who live in the nearby forest. At the heart of this story are two friends, Yas and Raf, who embark on a journey to bring back their town's magic to reunite their communities but fall in love along the way. This isn't just a story about star-crossed love. It's a story about identity, the refugee experience, and





I have to say that friend breakups can be harder to recover from than romantic ones. Jessica Kim captures that painful part of growing up so well in Make a Move, Sunny Park! This new middle grade novel from the author of Stand Up, Yumi Chung! follows seventh grader Sunny Park. Sunny loves the K-pop band

Supreme Beat, her very cool grandma, dancing when she thinks no one is looking, and her bestie Bailey. But when Bailey pushes Sunny to audition for Ranchito Mesa Middle School's dance team (even though Sunny has stage fright), and only Sunny makes the team . . . their fallout is drawn out and maybe even epic in the worst way. It is so sweet and satisfying to see Sunny come into her own, on and off the stage!

> When this book was first launched to us, I immediately fell in love with the art, followed the artist on all her social channels, and then purchased a print of these characters from her store. But it's not just the art that's great-the story and these characters really hold up.

-DANIELLE PRESLEY







I love everything Michelle Cuevas writes. The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles? Stunning. Confessions of an Imaginary Friend? Absolutely lovely. The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole? Quirky, funny, and unforgettable. Her latest middle grade novel, The Dreamatics, does not disappoint. In true Cuevas style, it is utterly original, a little odd, and

a lot whimsical. It's the story of a fantastical dream theater and its troupe that performs a young girl's dreams . . . until nightmares take over. Each night when Luna goes to sleep, the theater's troupe produces her spectacular dreams: dreams of memories, family, and her beloved dog, Murph. Cool, right?! The book is full of magic, wonder, humor, and grace. And beneath the surface of going behind the scenes of your dreams lies an exploration of our waking lives—and the grief, trauma, joy and recovery that we experience there.



WINNER OF THE **2023 ASTRID LINDGREN** MEMORIAL AWARD

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Thank you, booksellers and librarians, for introducing readers to Anderson's groundbreaking, brilliant books.

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A NEW MIDDLE GRADE SERIES ABOUT FRIENDSHIP, FEELINGS, AND FINDING YOUR PEOPLE





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"A bright and emotionally accessible story full of wit and warmth." -Kirkus Reviews

"Shepard's light touch and sketchbook-style b&w doodles make for an engaging read that candidly portrays the effect of destabilizing changes on one child experiencing anxiety." -Publishers Weekly



BOOK TALKING

t may be June, but these picture books from Spring 2023 are not ones to miss. From lyrical poetry to gripping nonfiction about Antarctic explorers, folk artists, and Indigenous baseball players, there is something for every reader in these gorgeous picture books!

Based on the viral poem by Coretta Scott King honoree Junauda Petrus, Can We Please Give the Police Department to the Grandmothers? imagines a radically positive future where police aren't in charge of public safety and community well-being. With stunning art by Kristen Uroda, this picture book has struck a chord with reviewers and has been critically acclaimed with three starred reviews, with Kirkus Reviews raving that "Unconditional love and communitybased care lay at the heart of this radical and linguistically delicious picture book." When introducing the book to educators and librarians, author Junauda Petrus told us that "I believe we have yet to uncover so many magical and imaginative ways that could help us heal as humanity and as a planet. I believe in sweetness and healing, and that everyone deserves care, beautiful surroundings, delicious food, personal and consensual pleasure, compassion and safety—not just those who live with privilege."

You Gotta Meet Mr. Piercel: The Storied Life of Folk Artist Elijah Pierce by Christopher Award-winning author Carmella Van Vleet and Chiquita Mullins Lee and illustrated with striking Japanese woodblock by Jennifer Mack-Watkins is a new addition to vital Black art history! Based on the true story of Elijah Pierce and his community barber shop in Columbus, Ohio, this picture book includes cleverly collaged, museum-sourced photos of his art and informative back matter about his life. You Gotta Meet Mr. Pierce! has been praised as "intimate" and "thoughtful and enlightening," receiving three starred reviews. Editor Sydnee Monday describes the book as a "perfect addition to lessons about undersung Black history, and it connects trade professions to conversations about what art is and can be."

"Take Me Out to the Library, Take Me Out to the Books!" The true story of John Meyers and Charles Bender, who in 1911 became the first two Native pro baseball players to face off in a World Series, comes to life with Traci Sorell and Arigon Starr's Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series. The book features Charles Bender, an Ojibwe player, who invented the slider pitch and debuted in the majors at nineteen, as well as John Meyers, a Cahuilla powerhouse batter and catcher for the New York Giants who didn't hit the big leagues until age twenty-eight. Traci Sorell said that she hopes that, "In reading and discussing this book, I hope young people have their curiosity piqued not only about whose contributions haven't been shared in baseball, but across so many professions." This picture book teaches important lessons about resilience, doing what you love in the face of injustice, and the fight for Native American representation in sports.

Jennifer Thermes's The Indestructible Tom Crean: Heroic Explorer of the Antarctic brings a formidable landscape and the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration to





life through dazzling mapwork and vivid illustrations. Teachers and librarians have loved this gripping tale, as have reviewers! Kirkus Reviews raved that it's "a story of bitter cold infused with warmth and with the fighting spirit of its courageous subject," and Horn Book and Booklist called it "enthralling" and "not to be missed." When discussing the book, Jennifer's editor, Tamar Brazis (Associate Publisher), was in awe of her art process for the book, sharing that "While Jen usually works traditionally with colored pencils, ink, and watercolor, for this book, she added a salt-and-watercolor technique to evoke the ice! She started by taping her watercolor paper to a board so that it wouldn't warp, and then applied a wash of color quickly across the surface with a brush. After experimenting with mixing multiple colors together and figuring out how much water to use, she sprinkled salt across the paint while it was still wet. After the paint dried completely, she brushed off the excess salt, excited to see what the piece would reveal. It was unpredictable every time!" It is a stunning result, and Brazis notes that "You will feel Crean's solitude in the Antarctic and you will feel the frostbite on his toes." Just what you need on a hot summer day at ALA.









CELEBRATING











"Calling Eric Loves Animals a tribute might actually be selling it a little short . . . beautiful and engaging and fun."



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CELEBRATE CELEBRATE ERIC CARLE

—Jon Klassen, The New York Times Book Review



Don't miss this exploration of the animal kingdom through the eyes of Eric Carle with this alphabetized treasury of animal illustrations, featuring beloved classic characters!







BOOTH 2811 SIGNING SCHEDULE

Please come meet these creators and get a FREE signed copy!

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

9:00am - 9:30am	AISHA SAEED FORTY WORDS FOR LOVE	9:00ам – 9:30ам	NIDHI CHANANI SHARK PARTY
9:00ам – 10:00ам	LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON SHOUT	10:00ам – 11:00ам	SHANNON STOCKER & DEVON HOLZWARTH LISTEN: HOW EVELYN GLENNIE, A DEAF GIRL, CHANGED PERCUSSION
9:00ам – 10:00ам	SABAA TAHIR ALL MY RAGE	11:00ам – 12:00рм	
9:30ам – 10:00ам	DERRICK BARNES LIKE LAVA IN MY VEINS	11:00ам – 12:00рм	IBI ZOBOI STAR CHILD
10:00ам – 10:30ам	ALANA TYSON & LONDON LADD MY RED, WHITE, AND BLUE	1:00рм – 1:30рм	REKHA RAJAN THIS IS MUSIC: STRINGS
11:30ам – 12:00рм	KYLE LUKOFF DIFFERENT KINDS OF FRUIT	1:00рм – 1:30рм	
12:00рм – 1:00рм	LIZA FERNEYHOUGH NANA, NENEK & NINA	1:00рм – 2:00рм	
12:00рм – 1:00рм	KITT THOMAS MY FADE IS FRESH	1:00рм – 2:00рм	
1:00рм – 1:30рм	TRACI SORELL CONTENDERS	2:00рм – 2:30рм	
1:30рм – 2:30рм	JENNIFER MACK-WATKINS YOU GOTTA MEET MR. PIERCE!	2:00рм – 2:30рм	
1:30рм – 2:30рм	NIKKOLAS SMITH BORN ON THE WATER	2:30рм – 3:00рм	
2:30рм – 3:30рм	PEDRO MARTÍN MEXIKID	5:00рм – 6:00рм	
3:30рм – 4:30рм	IRENE LATHAM & CHARLES WATERS AFRICAN TOWN	<u></u>	HINALEIMUANA WONG-KALU KAPAEMAHU
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