

PRESS RELEASE

For Release: Immediately

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ILLINOIS READS! A Reading State of Mind <http://illinoisreads.org> and www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL'S 2023 ILLINOIS READS BOOK SELECTION FEATURED AT THE IRC CONFERENCE ON MARCH 9-10, 2023

The Illinois Reading Council (IRC) has just released the list of ILLINOIS READS books for 2023. ILLINOIS READS is a statewide program that promotes reading for all Illinois citizens. The program promotes six books in six different age categories by authors and illustrators who have ties to Illinois. The books range from read-to books for infants to books for adult readers. Bookmarks and posters highlighting the ILLINOIS READS books will be available in early 2023. Order early as supplies are limited!

The 2023 ILLINOIS READS Program will also be featured at the annual IRC Conference in Springfield, Illinois on March 9-10, 2023. Conference registration is now open for educators, librarians, and others interested in promoting literacy. More information is available at the Illinois Reading Council website.

The ILLINOIS READS book selections for 2023 are:

Ages Birth – 4 Years

Would You Come Too? by Liz Garton Scanlon and illustrated by Diana Sudyka

This is Music: Drums by Rekha S. Rajan

Chicago, Baby! by Feather Flores, illustrated by Kelly Leigh Miller

ABC Animals! by Stephen F. Majsak

I'll Be Your Polar Bear by Justin Roberts

Molly on the Moon by Mary Robinette Kowal

Grades 3-5

Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera

Buzzing with Questions: The Inquisitive Mind of Charles Henry Turner by Janice N. Harrington

Pighearted by Alex Perry

A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga

Apple Crush by Lucy Knisley

Three Strike Summer by Skyler Schrempp

Grades 9-12

A Man Called Horse: John Horse and the Black Seminole Underground Railroad by Glennette Tilley Turner

Murder Among Friends: How Leopold and Loeb Tried to Commit the Perfect Crime by Candace Fleming

As Fast As Her: Dream Big, Break Barriers, Achieve Success by Kendall Coyne

Strike the Zither by Joan He

The Wolves Are Watching by Natalie Lund

Darling by K. Ancrum

Grades K-2

The Most Haunted House in America by Jarrett Dapier

Stella Keeps the Sun Up by Clothilde Ewing

Elephant's Big Solo by Sarah Kurpiel

The Meaning of Pride by Rosiee Thor and illustrated by Sam Kirk

Tortoise and Hare: A Fairy Tale to Help You Find Balance by Susan Verde and illustrated by Jay Fleck

Yetis are the Worst! by Alex Willan

Grades 6-8

Courage by Barbara Binns

The Civil War of Amos Abernathy by Michael Leali

Pilar Ramirez and the Escape from Zafa by Julian Randall

Tumble by Celia C. Pérez

ReThink the Internet: How to Make the Digital World a Lot Less Sucky by Trisha Prabhu

Underground Fire: Hope, Sacrifice, and Courage in the Cherry Mine Disaster by Sally M. Walker

Adult

The Upstairs House: A Novel by Julia Fine

Grace: President Obama and Ten Days in the Battle for America by Cody Keenan

Eat, Drink, and Be Murray: A Feast of Family Fun and Favorites by Andy Murray

Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel by Shelby Van Pelt

The Two Lives of Sara by Catherine Adel West

Last Summer on State Street: A Novel by Toya Wolfe

ILLINOIS READS is sponsored by the Illinois Reading Council, a nonprofit organization with close to 2,000 members across the State of Illinois. The mission of the Illinois Reading Council is to provide support and leadership to all who promote and teach lifelong literacy. Book lists from 2013 to 2022 may be found on the ILLINOIS READS website. More information is also available at www.IllinoisReads.org and www.IllinoisReadingCouncil.org.