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# Children's Book Guild News



CHILDREN'S  
BOOK GUILD  
OF WASHINGTON, DC

## Monthly News

Authors • Illustrators • Children's Literature Specialists

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Thursday, May 23, 2019

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### Monthly News

The Children's Book Guild of Washington, DC is a professional organization of authors, illustrators and children's literature specialists promoting high standards in children's literature since 1945. Visit us at <https://childrensbookguild.org/>

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## June 2019

### A CONVERSATION WITH ELOISE GREENFIELD



The Children's Book Guild's June luncheon lecture will feature poet Eloise Greenfield in conversation with Guild Member Deborah Taylor.

Greenfield, recipient of the 2018 Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement, was born in Parmele, NC, on May 17, 1929, and grew up in Washington, DC. She published her first poem in the *Hartford Times* in 1962, and her first book followed

10 years later.

Eloise Greenfield has written more than 45 books for young people, including poetry collections, biographies, picture books and works of fiction. She is the author of the much-loved book of poetry *Honey, I Love* (illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon). *Childtimes: A Three-Generation Memoir* (illustrated by Jerry Pinkney) is a Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor title. Her *Africa Dream* (illustrated by Carole Byard) won a Coretta Scott King Award, and *The Great Migration: Journey to the North* (illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist) was recognized as a Coretta Scott King Honor title. Greenfield received the Living Legacy Award from the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), an organization founded by Carter G. Woodson. She has received the Hope S. Dean Award from the Foundation for Children's Literature and the NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children, given for a body of work to a living American poet. Greenfield is also a recipient of the Hurston/Wright Foundation's North Star Award for lifetime achievement and a lifetime achievement award from the Moonstone Celebration of Black Writing. In 1999, she was inducted into the National Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of

**African Descent.** Eloise Greenfield lives in Washington, DC. She is the mother of a son and daughter and the grandmother of four.



Deborah Taylor, the 2015 recipient of the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement, recently retired from the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore. She has chaired and served on many ALA committees, including the 2015 Sibert Award for Outstanding Informational Books for Children, the Newbery Awards, the Coretta Scott King Book Awards and the Printz Award. Taylor is an adjunct professor teaching young adult literature at the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies.

**Date: Thursday, June 20**

**Time: 11:30 a.m. "social hour"; noon luncheon**

**Place: [Busboys and Poets](#), 450 K Street NW**

**Menu: All choices \$25 (\$26 when paid online via PayPal)**

**:: CHOICE OF SANDWICH (served with a salad of baby greens and house-made kettle chips) ::**

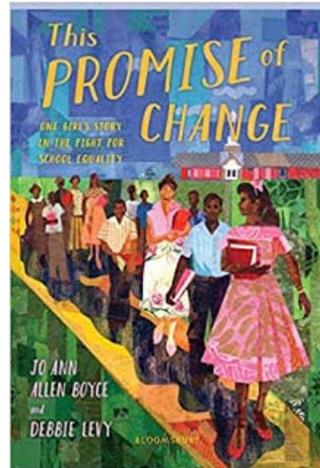
- **Falafel sandwich (vegetarian/vegan) with house-made hummus, cucumbers, lettuce, tomato and onion on whole-wheat pita, served with tahini sauce (vegan without tahini sauce)**
- **Honey-roasted turkey sandwich with Havarti cheese, Dijonnaise, lettuce, tomato and onion on wheat bread**
- **Grilled-chicken panini with chipotle mayo, caramelized onions, pepper jack, lettuce and tomato on ciabatta**
- **Avocado panini with roasted red peppers and melted cheese on multi-grain bread**

**[RSVP Now!](#)**

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

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**THE CHILDREN'S BOOK GUILD CONGRATULATES  
DEBBIE LEVY AND COAUTHOR JO ANN ALLEN BOYCE,  
WINNERS OF THE 2019 BOSTON GLOBE-HORN BOOK  
AWARD IN NONFICTION FOR  
*THIS PROMISE OF CHANGE***



**WOMEN IN THE U.S. ARMY: A FILM-AND-BOOK EVENT**

ANN MCCALLUM STAATS is honored to invite Guild members to an event at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, on July 14 at 2 p.m. The event will feature a short film by award-winning filmmaker James Theres on the history of women in the U.S. Army. This will be followed by a panel of contemporary female soldiers (featured in Ann's book *Women Heroes of the US Army*, launching this July). The panelists include several high-ranking officers as well as the granddaughter of Chief Telephone Operator Grace Banker, who served directly behind enemy lines in France during World War I. Finally, there will be a book and DVD signing, with all proceeds going to the Women's Memorial.

The poster is for a 'SHORT FILM AND BOOK EVENT' titled 'MEET THE HEROES OF THE BOOK'. It features the 'THE WOMEN'S MEMORIAL' logo at the top left, which includes the text 'WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE FOR AMERICA MEMORIAL'. The main title 'SHORT FILM AND BOOK EVENT' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, 'YOU'RE INVITED TO MEET THE HEROES OF THE BOOK' is written in a similar font. The event is 'along with documentary filmmaker James Theres and author Ann McCallum Staats'. The date and time are 'Sunday, July 14, 2019, 2:00 p.m.' The location is 'Women in Military Service For America Memorial, Memorial Avenue & Schley Drive, Arlington, VA 22202'. The website 'www.womensmemorial.org' is listed. A circular badge on the right says 'Event book and DVD proceeds to benefit the Women's Memorial'. At the bottom, contact information for Ann McCallum Staats is provided: 'www.annmccallumbooks.com, annheather11@yahoo.com, 301-946-6507'. The right side of the poster features a vertical banner 'LISTEN TO THE STORIES OF WOMEN HEROES' and a book cover for 'WOMEN HEROES OF THE US ARMY' by Ann McCallum Staats, with the subtitle 'REMARKABLE SOLDIERS FROM THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION TO TODAY'. The book cover includes a photo of a soldier and four portraits of women, with the text '★★★★ ANN MCCALLUM STAATS ★★★★★' and 'WOMEN OF ACTION'.

## THE 15TH ANNUAL GREEN EARTH BOOK AWARDS

Environmental nonprofit The Nature Generation has announced the winners of the 2019 Green Earth Book Award to draw attention to the authors and illustrators whose books best inspire youth to grow a deeper appreciation, respect and responsibility for their natural environment.

“The 2019 winners reflect a range of interesting and impactful stories that children will want to read,” said Amy Marasco, president and founder of The Nature Generation.

Winners were selected in the Picture Book, Children’s Fiction, Children’s Nonfiction and Young Adult Fiction categories. Authors and illustrators will receive the award and \$1,500 at a fall event in Washington, DC, and were honored at the Salisbury University Children’s Literature Festival, held in Maryland on April 26 and 27.

### Picture Book

*The Brilliant Deep: Rebuilding the World's Coral Reefs: The Story of Ken Nedimyer and the Coral Restoration Foundation*, by Kate Messner, illustrated by Matthew Forsythe (Chronicle Books)

*Honors: Counting Birds*, by Heidi E. Y. Stemple, illustrated by Clover Robin (The Quarto Group/Seagrass Press)

*Salamander Sky*, by Katy Farber, illustrated by Meg Sodano (Green Writers Press)

### Children's Fiction

*Honors: The Flooded Earth*, by Mardi McConnochie (Pajama Press)  
*Ellie's Strand: Exploring the Edge of the Pacific*, by M.L. Herring and Judith L. Li, illustrated by M.L. Herring (Oregon State University Press)

### Children's Nonfiction

*Trash Revolution: Breaking the Waste Cycle*, by Erica Fyvie, illustrated by Bill Slavin (Kids Can Press)

*Honor: Bat Citizens*, by Rob Laidlaw (Pajama Press)

### Young Adult Fiction

*Dry*, by Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman, illustrated by Jay Shaw (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

*Honors: Orphaned*, by Eliot Schrefer (Scholastic)  
*Beyond the Sixth Extinction: A Post-Apocalyptic Pop-Up*, by Shawn Sheehy, illustrated Jordi Solano (Candlewick Press)

"This was the biggest year to date for the number of high quality submissions, making the competition fierce. The stories were powerful and relevant, fueling passionate discussions within the selection committees," said Dr. Patricia Dean, associate professor, Early and Elementary Education Department at Salisbury University.

The books were vetted by a panel of esteemed judges representing environmental and educational organizations in private industry, associations and governmental natural resource agencies, as well as college professors, elementary school teachers and librarians.

## CAROLE BOSTON WEATHERFORD: PRESENTING THE PAST WITH A VIEW TOWARD THE FUTURE

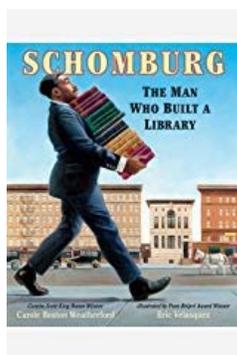
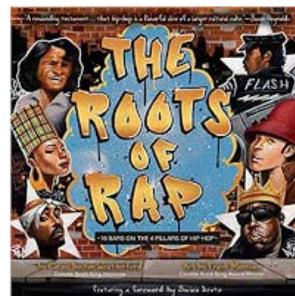
by Catherine Reef



On Saturday, May 11, Guild members and their guests came together at Clyde's of Gallery Place, in Washington, DC, to celebrate Carole Boston Weatherford, the forty-first winner of the Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award. The award recognizes Weatherford's body of work, which consists of poetry collections and picture books on historical and biographical subjects. The events and people that Weatherford has explored in verse range from the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL, to the origins of rap; from Harriet Tubman to Arturo Schomburg and Billie Holiday. Maria Salvadore, chair of the 2019 Nonfiction Award Committee, praised the breadth and music of Weatherford's writing. "Carole has said that Billie Holiday is her muse, and I believe it," Salvadore commented.

Weatherford began writing poems as a child growing up in Baltimore, but she had no early dreams of becoming an author. She had never met any

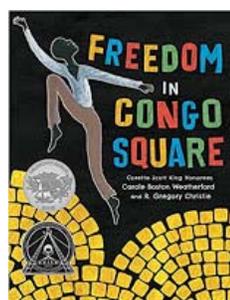
authors, and she had a mistaken notion that the men and women who had written the books she liked to read were all long dead. She was a good student who in the eighth grade became fascinated with the Harlem Renaissance and completed a project on Countee Cullen. Young Carole did outstanding work, but her white teacher gave her a B and questioned whether she, an African American, had written her paper without help. "I had exceeded the teacher's expectations of me," Weatherford understands today. "He was not going to give me an A."



Rather than feel discouraged, Carole excelled. "Doubters have propelled my imagination," Weatherford said, and she takes pride in coming from a family of people who "defy the system and defy the odds." She mentioned an intrepid aunt who refused to drink from "colored" water fountains when traveling in the South during the years when racial segregation was enforced, who claimed never to have heard of "colored water."

Weatherford has made it her mission, she said, "to mine the past for hidden stories and forgotten struggles" that she can delve into in her books. She takes on tough subjects unhesitatingly. "Children can handle the truth," she said; "children deserve the truth." Thus, in

her picture book *Freedom in Congo Square*, about the enslaved people of New Orleans gathering in an established place on the Sunday afternoons they were allowed off, Weatherford presents the harshness of the people's working lives on the other six days of the week. Children will often ask her if the historical realities that she describes really happened. "Kids are appalled, and I'm glad they're appalled," she said. But, she added, she writes "not only about the racist past, but about how we have prevailed." In other words, she documents the past but also looks to the future. She said that her books have value for teachers as much as for their students, because "educators can't teach what they don't know."



The prolific Carole Boston Weatherford revealed that she has several books in various stages of completion. One will be on Thurgood Marshall; another will be a novel in verse about Marilyn Monroe, with the working title *Beauty Mark*.



Katherine Paterson poses with family members on the occasion of her receiving of the E. B. White Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

## **A MESSAGE FROM GUILD PRESIDENT RHODA TROBOFF**

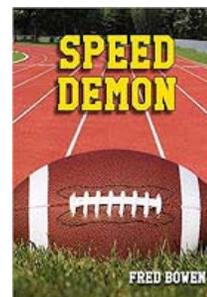
Many thanks to all the members who have offered comments and suggested ways to demonstrate that the Guild is a welcoming, inclusive and respectful community for all.

To that end, a Code of Conduct, written by a subcommittee of the Board and reviewed by an attorney and the Board, is now being finalized. This Code of Conduct will very soon be posted on the Guild's website.

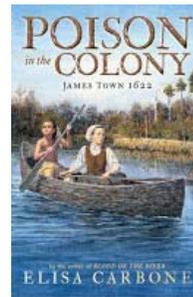
In addition, in late June, in partnership with Jean Diehl and Karen Deans (our soon-to-be president and vice president for 2019-2020), I will send an email to the membership describing summer and early fall initiatives to further demonstrate our commitments to inclusivity and respect for all people.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

**SUSAN STOCKDALE** will sign her picture books at the American Library Association's [Annual Conference](#) (Peachtree Publishing's Booth #1444) in Washington, DC, on Saturday, June 22, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

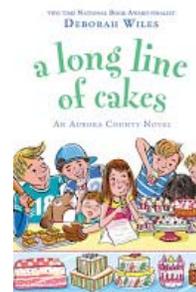


**FRED BOWEN** will be speaking at the National Book Festival, in Washington, DC, on August 31, 2019, from 1:35 to 2 p.m., on the Children's Green Stage. The appearance will be the launch of Fred's latest (24th) book, *Speed Demon* (Peachtree Publishers).

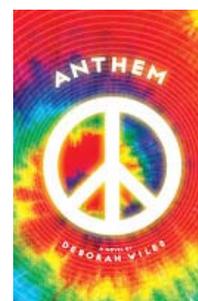


ELISA CARBONE's *Poison in the Colony: James Town 1622* was released in March from Viking Books for Young Readers. This is the long-awaited sequel to *Blood on the River: James Town 1607*. Virginia Laydon, an infant at the end of *Blood on the River*, struggles to make sense of her own inner world against the backdrop of pivotal years in the Jamestown colony. The first representative government is established, the first enslaved Africans arrive, and the self-righteousness of the colony's leaders angers the native Algonquin. Virginia has the gift, or the curse, of "the knowing"--an ability that could help save the colony but is equally likely to land her at the burning stake as an accused witch.

DEBORAH WILES sends greetings from Atlanta, along with some news:



*A Long Line of Cakes* is the newest Aurora County novel and has just been published. It features a family of bakers that moves into Ruby Lavender's hometown.



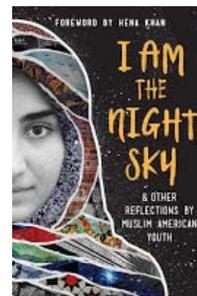
*Anthem* will be released in September, from Scholastic, Inc. This documentary novel takes place in 1969 and completes Deborah's Sixties Trilogy.

Deborah writes, "I've managed to figure out how to get off the road (mostly) and write more, and hope to be present now at more Guild meetings, as I still have family in the DC area, and that includes the Guild."



A new book by KALLI DAKOS and Deborah Cholette is being released on June 11 by Holiday House. *Get Me Out of This Book: Rules and Tools for Being Brave* is inspired by techniques the Navy SEALs use to fight fear.

Max the bookmark hates scary books, but in this humorous text he learns to (1) breathe deeply, (2) make a plan and (3) think positive thoughts. He puts his new tools into practice and overcomes his fears of a snake, roaches, a skeleton and monsters. This humorous story packs a big punch as it introduces children to mindfulness, self-regulation, self-control and other techniques for dealing with stress and overcoming fear.



SHOUT MOUSE PRESS announces the release *I Am the Night Sky*. During an era characterized by both hijabi fashion models and enduring post-9/11 stereotypes, 10 Muslim American teenagers came together to explore what it means to be young and Muslim in America today. These teens represent the tremendous diversity within the American Muslim community, and their book, like them, contains multitudes. Bilal writes about being a Muslim rocker. Noor reflects on speaking in multiple tongues. Samaa creates her own cartoon Hijab Squad. Ayah responds to online hate. Through poems, essays, artwork and stories, these young people aim to show their true selves, build connection and create more inclusive and welcoming communities for all. Guild member HENA KHAN wrote the foreword to the book.



The teen authors of *I Am the Night Sky*.



**SUSAN ROTH's** newest book, *Birds of a Feather: Bowerbirds and Me*, was released in May. States Susan, "It is an autobiography (more or less) about collage-making me and collage-making bowerbirds, including the true grit about my studio (and the birds' too)."

**SALLY DAVIES** was awarded the 2019 Maryland State Arts Council's Individual Artist Award for Painting. A panel of out-of-state jurors reviewed the submissions of all applicants in this category and recommended Sally for this prestigious award based solely on the artistic excellence of her artwork. The IAA Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019, as the concluding event of the first Maryland Arts Summit at University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Sally's winning painting, *Spiral Swirl Staircase*, was selected for publication in *SPLASH 21 Watercolor Magazine*, which will be published in August 2019. And she won the Juror's Choice Award at the Maryland Federation of Art Spring Exhibit for her painting *Inner Thoughts*.



*Inner Thoughts*, by Sally Davies

## **TIME TO RENEW GUILD MEMBERSHIP**

Please respond to the email notices to renew your membership in the Children's Book Guild for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Dues are \$75 a year for residents of the Washington, DC, area and \$35 for nonresidents. You can renew online at <https://childrensbookguild.org/membership-payments>. (There is a \$2.00 service charge to renew online.)

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**NOTE ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S BOOK GUILD NEWS:** Would you rather print your newsletter than read it online? Current and past issues are now available for printing on the Guild's website at <http://www.childrensbookguild.org/guild-newsletters>. Look for the "Newsletter" tab on the left side of the Guild website. There is also a "Printer Friendly Version" link on the top left-hand side of this blog.

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**LITERARY EVENTS SPONSORED BY POLITICS AND PROSE:** The literary calendar at Politics and Prose lists many upcoming programs that may be of interest to Children's Book Guild members: <http://www.politics-prose.com/events>. June's speakers include ERICA PERL and MEG MEDINA.

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