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Mock Caldecott 2012

Yesterday, our librarians held a Mock Caldecott discussion.

What's a Caldecott, you ask? It's an annual award for the artist of the most distinguished picture book for children, given by the Association for Library Services to Children (part of the American Library Association).

What's a Mock Caldecott discussion, you wonder? A fun way for librarians to predict which picture book will be given the award. (Last year, our clever librarians were right -- A Sick Day for Amos McGee won the "award" in the library and in real life!).

This year, we selected nine books to discuss. They are:

Me... Jane written and illustrated by Patrick McDonnell

Balloons Over Broadway: the True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade written and illustrated by Melissa Sweet

Grandpa Green written and illustrated by Lane Smith

Jonathan and the Big Blue Boat written and illustrated by Philip C. Stead

Where's Walrus written and illustrated by Stephen Savage

Brother Sun, Sister Moon: Saint Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures written by Katherine Paterson and illustrated by Pamela Dalton

Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature written by Joyce Sidman and illustrated by Beth Krommes

Tiny Little Fly written by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Kevin Waldron

Cookiebot: a Harry and Horsie Adventure written by Katie Van Camp and illustrated by Lincoln Agnew

After discussing each book as related to the official Caldecott criteria, the librarians took different colored M&Ms to mark their first, second, and third place choices for the award. Three rounds of

voting were held. Like the official Caldecott committee, third place votes were awarded one point, second place votes three points, and first place votes five points. (Unlike the real one, it was much more delicious.) Each book's votes were tallied after each round of voting.

Round 1 Results: Me...Jane: 32 votes
Brother Sun, Sister Moon: 22 votes
Grandpa Green: 21 votes
Where's Walrus: 21 votes
Swirl by Swirl: 19 votes
Cookiebot: 13 votes
Jonathan and the Big Blue Boat: 6 votes
Balloons Over Broadway: 3 votes
Tiny Little Fly: 2 votes

The four books receiving the lowest amount of votes were then eliminated.

Round 2 Results:
Me...Jane: 26 votes
Where's Walrus: 24 votes
Grandpa Green: 19 votes
Swirl by Swirl: 17 votes
Brother Sun, Sister Moon: 13 votes

The lowest two books were eliminated, and the final round of voting began.

The book with the highest number of votes (and it had to win by five, as per the official committee rules) would win the Highland Park Public Library Youth Services Department Mock Caldecott Medal, and second and third place the HPPL YSD Mock Caldecott Honor Award.

Round 3 Results
Me...Jane: 39 votes
Where's Walrus: 33 votes
Grandpa Green: 23 votes

Congratulations to Me...Jane by Patrick McDonnell, Where's Walrus by Stephen Savage, and Grandpa Green by Lane Smith!

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Stay tuned for a Mock Newbery post next week.

YS Reviewers:
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