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An Historical Analysis of the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival
By Leah Rials

Master’s Research Project, December 2015
Readers: Dr. Teresa Welsh
Dr. Matthew Griffis

Introduction
Background
The Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival, hosted by Southern Miss School of Library and Information Science in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was first held in 1968. The festival, which is held annually, promotes children’s literature, as well as writers, illustrators, publishers, librarians and educators. The festival mission is “to recognize excellence in the field of children’s literature and to provide librarians, teachers, researchers, and community members the opportunity to learn about and appreciate children’s literature through presentations, workshops, and personal interactions with people of significance in the field” (USM Aqila, 2015a). Dr. Warren Tracy, Library Science Department chairman and University Librarian, and Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond, Library Science professor, worked to develop the first Children’s Book Festival along with the Library and Information Science Department and support from Dr. William D. McCain, fifth President of the University of Southern Mississippi from 1955 to 1975 (Figure 1).

Two years before the first Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival, Dr. Lena de Grummond started curating the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection (Figure 2). Dr. de Grummond spent a number of hours writing letters to various children’s literature authors and illustrators, urging them to donate original materials to the collection. The first donated items came from Bertha and Elmer Hader, a husband and wife who authored and illustrated books. The Haders sent manuscript materials, dummies, and illustrations for their work with Ding, Dong, Bell (1957) to the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. Over the years the collection has grown impressively and now holds work from over 1,300 authors and illustrators, including a substantial amount of work from H.A. and Margret Rey as well as Ezra Jack Keats (USM Aqila, 2015a).
Problem Statement
This study focuses on investigating the origins of the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival, an internationally renowned annual conference hosted at The University of Southern Mississippi. This research is based on archival collections available at the McCain Archives and Special Collections.

Research Questions
R1. What were the origins of the Southern Miss Children’s Book Festival?

R2. Who was Fay B. Kaigler and what is her contribution to the festival?

R3. How was the festival organized and operated?

R4. How is the festival financed?

R5. What awards are given at the festival? What are the history of these awards?

R7. What historical images are related to the history of the book festival?

Definitions
Historical method - “the process of establishing general facts and principles through attention to chronology and to the evolution or historical course of what is being studied” (Dictionary.com, 2015).

Triangulation - “drawing upon multiple sources of data” (Given, 2008).

Limitations of the Study
This study is limited to historical documents and images available at The University of Southern Mississippi de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection and University Archives. Sources of information were limited to the materials held in the Special Collections at the McCain Library.

Assumptions
It is assumed that the historical documents and various publications related to the history of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection used in this study are accurate and complete.

Importance of the Study
Dr. Tracy and Dr. de Grummond were aware of the importance of the Children’s Literature Collection and saw the Children’s Book Festival as a way to feature the collection and the resources found within it. An historical study of the Southern Miss Children’s Book Festival is a useful way to document and highlight the history of the festival and to understand how it has developed over time.

Literature Review
Children’s Literature Collections
Leslie Barban (2005) wrote about her experience receiving the Louise Seaman Bechtel Fellowship and spending a month researching at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children’s Literature at the University of Florida. Originally there to study E. Nesbit, Barban found that the collection’s vast holdings were too good to not be distracted by: the Baldwin collection, which consists of the first American edition of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, all of the Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys books, and a 1668 edition of Aesop’s Fables, was started by Ruth Baldwin in 1977. Baldwin aimed to add books to the collection that had been owned by children: books that have been read, written in, shared, and loved. While Barban spent a considerable amount of time being sidetracked, it was not all for nought - she discovered by browsing and examining three centuries’ worth of children’s literature, that children’s literature reflects the time it was written and upholds the standard values and societal rules of that age. Barban concludes the article by expressing a need for children’s literature collections to understand the purpose of children’s literature and framework in which it is viewed.

Emma Laws (2007) focused on the Victoria and Albert Museum’s Beatrix Potter Collections in her article “Showing ‘What a Woman has Done’: The Beatrix Potter Collections at the V&A.” Laws began the article describing Beatrix Potter and her desire for privacy; her life was somewhat a mystery to the outside world until her death in 1943. A few years after that, Margaret Lane published the first biography on Beatrix Potter.
The first collector and curator of Beatrix Potter’s art was Leslie Linder (Wiltshire, 2016). Mr. Linder donated his personal collection to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, one of the best centers for children’s literature research. Their collections hold over 100,000 children’s literature titles and manuscript materials, including drawings from Walter Crane, Randolph Caldecott, E. H. Shepard, and Kate Greenaway. Mr. Linder’s donation contained 2,100 items related to Beatrix Potter’s artistic development dating to her earliest years included drawings and sketches, correspondence, and photographs.

The Beatrix Potter Collection at the V&A also includes photographs taken by her father Rupert. The National Book League, now known as the Book Trust, gave its collection of Beatrix Potter artworks to the V&A. The collection’s most popular letter, on permanent loan to the V&A from Pearson, is a letter dated September 4, 1984, to Noel Moore with a drawing of Peter Rabbit, Potter’s most famous work (Laws, 2007).

Laws (2007) also discusses the problems facing the archiving of the Beatrix Potter Collection at the V&A. The biggest of these problems is related to preservation. Many of the items in the collection are fragile, can damage easily, and are sensitive to light. Fragile items must be stored in environments with low lighting and consistent archival temperature. The other issue facing the collection is increasing access to the collection. Archivists label each item on its sensitivity to exposure and maintain a spreadsheet that records which items are being exhibited or loaned and for how long. Laws emphasizes the importance of having a professional librarian, archivist, and curator and concludes that these three roles share basic job functions like cataloging, housing material, preservation work, exhibiting, and researching.

Barbara L. Dash (2010) describes the Grushnikov Collection at the Library of Congress, which holds more than 6,000 children’s books from the Soviet Era as well as a multi-volume bibliography of Russian children’s illustrators compiled by Grushnikov. The collection is a representation of authors and illustrators of twentieth century Russian children’s literature, classic Russian literature and poetry, folk tales, fairy tales, and other books written in English, Slavic, Turkic, and Asian languages. The decades that are most represented in this collection are those in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. The collection is housed in archival boxes at the Library of Congress and is searchable through the library catalog. A future project of the LOC is to select books from this collection for digitization. Oleg Grushnikov “wanted his collection to demonstrate how the work of individual Russian illustrators developed” as well as how different political and cultural life periods in the Soviet Union are reflected in these works (Dash, 2010).

De Grummond Children’s Literature Collection
Dr. Warren Tracy (1978) wrote about the Children’s Literature Collection at The University of Southern Mississippi as well as the Children’s Book Festival in the March 1978 issue of Mississippi Library News. The special collection, today known as the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, was started in 1966 when Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond approached Dr. Tracy about investing in children’s books for the Library Science Program. After Dr. de Grummond had collected a substantial amount of early children’s books, she then turned her efforts on obtaining original materials from authors and illustrators. After sending a large number of handwritten letters to those involved in contemporary children’s literature, contributions began pouring in (Tracy, 1978).

Dr. Tracy decided that steps needed to be taken so that the materials could have greater visibility. A system for traveling exhibits was established so that select pieces of artwork could be loaned to museums, libraries, and other venues for display. Dr. Tracy established an annual festival, as well as an award, so that the children’s literature collection would be highlighted. A two-day festival, including talks by authors, illustrators, librarians, and other authority figures on children’s literature, was planned, thus the Children’s Book Festival was created. The first year of the festival saw renowned speakers such as Taro Yashima, Joseph Krumgold, Mary K. Eakin, and Lois Lenski, who received the first USM medallion (Tracy, 1978).
Dr. Tracy wrote about the decision on how to present the USM medallion award. A medal with a basic design was created, with the plan that the names and dates would change yearly. In order to differentiate the USM Medallion from other awards in the field, such as the Caldecott and Newberry Awards, the medallion winner would be a top quality author or illustrator of children’s literature who “must have sustained a high quality of writing or illustrating over a period of years” (Tracy, 1978, p. 28).

Since the first medallion was presented to Lois Lenski, a number of renowned children’s literature contributors have received the award including Ernest H. Shepard (Figure 3), Roger Duvoisin, Marcia Brown, Lynd Ward, Taro Yashima, Scott O’Dell, and Adrienne Adams. Dr. Tracy noted the importance of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection and how fast the collection has grown since its beginning in 1966, as well as the problem of needing space to house all the materials. By the time of this article in 1977, the collection had received “3,768 manuscripts, 11,637 pieces of artwork, 115 dummy books, and 4,600 photographs” (Tracy, 1978, p. 28).

The de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection is not only useful to those studying children’s literature or librarianship, but to a variety of researchers and scholars. Citing items such as correspondence between authors and editors, antique tea service sets, puzzles, and other items, Elleman (1995) states “representation of today’s working artists ensures that study and examination of the current evolutionary process of bookmaking is available as well as that of the past” (p. 682). This representation is important in making the de Grummond collection more than just a repository of children’s literature and gives students and researchers the opportunity to study the material in-depth.

Methodology
The methodology of this study is an historical analysis of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. Archival documents and images from the de Grummond Children’s Collection as well as news clippings related to the collection and the book festival were examined and analyzed to address each of the research questions. The Children’s Book Festival Collection (DG0182), Fay B. Kaigler Papers (DG1326), Lena Y. de Grummond Collection (DG0256), as well as unprocessed items held in the de Grummond Collection were examined in order to address each of the research questions.

Microsoft Excel was used to compile data into a spreadsheet. Archival images and historical documents were compiled into a folder. Triangulation (the cross-checking of information from various sources) was used in order to increase the validity of the study.
Results

R1: What were the origins of the Southern Miss Children’s Book Festival?

The Children’s Book Festival began just two years after the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. Dr. Lena de Grummond, Professor of Library Science, took the initiative to get the special children’s literature collection started. Dr. de Grummond had just retired from the position of State Superintendent of School Libraries for Louisiana before coming to The University of Southern Mississippi. She wanted her library science students to examine children’s books up close, as well as the process to create the book and get it published. Writing numerous letters each week to writers, illustrators, and owners of rare books, Dr. de Grummond began receiving donations so fast that soon the collection was in need of a bigger space (Amoss, 1981).

One of the first illustrators to respond was Edward Ardizonne, who expressed that he would love to give illustrations to the collection, but was not able to do so considering that a complete set could be sold for a substantial sum. A year later, Dr. de Grummond visited Mr. Ardizonne in England, and returned with an incomplete set of his illustrations. These incomplete illustrations, while not worth as much as a complete set, but were still a valuable addition to the children’s literature collection (Amoss, 1981).

Dr. Warren Tracy was so impressed with the response to de Grummond’s efforts that he, with the help of Dr. de Grummond and the School of Library Science, established the first children’s book conference in 1968. Dr. Tracy wanted to showcase the items within the collection and the intended audience was the same as it is today - educators, librarians, children’s literature scholars, school teachers and students. Members of the surrounding community who had a love for children’s literature were encouraged to attend the festival as well. The book conference aimed to show the creative process that goes into the making of children’s books, and included three days of notable guest speakers, exhibits, films, luncheons, workshops, and panel discussions led by publishers and editors (Amoss, 1981).

In 1969, the conference officially became known as the Children’s Book Festival. This was the first year that the Southern Miss Medallion was awarded. According to Dr. Onva K. Boshears, Festival Director from 1977 to 1980, the focus of the Children’s Book Festival had always been about “bringing together those who work with children, to hear those who write and illustrate children’s books. And that has made a wonderful mix that contributes to a wonderful festival” (Bradford, 1997).

R2: Who was Fay B. Kaigler and what is her contribution to the festival?

In 2001, the festival was named in honor of Fay B. Kaigler from Gloster, Mississippi, a long-time participant and supporter of the Children’s Book Festival. She was a retired teacher, having taught in California and Mississippi public schools for 33 years (Figure 4).

Fay B. Kaigler is remembered for inspiring and encouraging reading and the importance of books to her students. She planned a generous endowment to the Children’s Book Festival, which supports the continuation of the festival so that educators, writers, illustrators, and students would be inspired to “strive for excellence in children’s literature and of providing

Figure 4. Fay B. Kaigler (center) with fourth grade class, Pasadena, CA, 1955. McCain Library and Archives, de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, Fay B. Kaigler Papers (DG1326), Box 2
information to teachers and librarians” (USM Aquila, 2015a).

**R3: How was the festival organized and operated?**

Dr. Warren Tracy directed the Children’s Book Festival until 1977 with the assistance of Dr. de Grummond as well as faculty and staff in the School of Library Science. The exhibits at each year’s festival were arranged by staff of the de Grummond Collection. These exhibits would showcase the children’s literature collection, especially materials by Randolph Caldecott, Walter Crane, Kate Greenaway, Scott O’Dell, and Ezra Jack Keats.

From 1977 to 1980, Dr. Onva K. Boshears served as director of the festival. Dr. Boshears, Director of the Library School, was dedicated to the well-being of the festival. After his time served as festival director, he continued to help with the Children’s Book Festival as well as serve as the Chair of the Southern Miss Medallion Committee until his retirement in 2001. In 1998, Dr. Boshears wrote a letter to Dr. Horace Fleming, the university president at that time, expressing his worry about the future of the festival after his retirement. In this letter, Dr. Boshears proposed that a university budget account be established for the festival. The letter also suggests that the festival be operated as a joint effort between USM Libraries and the Library School (Children’s Book Festival Collection DG0182, 1998).

In 1980, Dr. Jeannine Laughlin-Porter was named festival director. This was also the year that the Southern Miss Medallion was awarded to Ezra Jack Keats. Ezra Jack Keats enjoyed his time at the festival so much that after his death, the de Grummond Children’s Collection received Keat’s original artwork, dummies, preliminary sketches, as well as personal papers. Starting in 1987, the Ezra Jack Keats Lecture, funded by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, began and has since been an integral part of the Book Festival. The lecturer, chosen by the School of Library and Information Science, is an individual who is an authority on the picture book or a noted picture book illustrator. During Dr. Laughlin-Porter’s years as director, Dr. Boshears helped with the planning of the Festival and in 1994 he resumed the title of Festival Director until 2001. After that time, Dr. Rosemary Chance, Assistant Professor of Library and Information Science, served as director from 2002 until 2004, then Dr. Catharine Bomholt served as the director until 2010. Karen Rowell, who has worked as the assistant director of the festival since 2007, currently oversees the festival, working with a steering committee composed of University of Southern Mississippi faculty (USM, 2015).

**R4: How is the festival financed?**

One way the festival was financed early on was through registration fees. Those interested in coming to the Fay B. Kailger Children’s Book Festival could choose different registration packages. In 1997, the registration package fee for the entire festival was priced at $84, with other options to choose from as well. For example, participants could choose the $44 option, which would allow them to see everything besides the luncheons and medallion awards banquet. An endowment was established by The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation and the festival supported by generous donors, in particular Fay B. Kaigler. Dr. Martin and Lillie Pope of the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation’s annual grant also funds the Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer and Awards (de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, 2015).

**R5: What awards are given at the festival? What are the history of these awards?**

The Southern Miss Medallion (Figures 5, 6, 7), awarded “for distinguished service in the field of children’s literature” (USM, 2015), is an annual award that is presented to authors or illustrators who have a “high quality of writing or illustrating over a period of years” (Tracy, 1978, p. 28). The award is not for one work, but rather for the recipient’s total body of work. A Medallion Committee was created in order to determine a list of nominees for the award and to choose a winner. Through the years, committee members have been composed of past festival directors, past medallion winners, children’s literature authors, illustrators, professors, and experts in the field. Each year, six silver medallions are struck and one presented to the medallion winner, one to the President of the University of
Southern Mississippi, one to Dr. de Grummond, one to Mississippi State Archives and Museum, and two to the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection (first known as the University of Southern Mississippi’s Children’s Collection). A number of aluminum medallions are also created to be sold.

The medallion winner award banquet and presentation quickly became the highlight of the Children’s Book Festival. The award was first presented to Lois Lenski (Figure 8), who established the Lois Lenski Memorial Fund, which allowed attendees to obtain an aluminum copy of the medallion for a contribution of ten dollars (de Grummond Children’s Collection, 1969). Since then, the award has been given to noted contributors to the field, such as Ernest H. Shepard in 1970, followed by Roger Duvoisin, Marcia Brown, Lynd Ward, Taro Yashima, Barbara Cooney, and Scott O’Dell (Appendix).

The Coleen Salley Storytelling Award was established in 2010 in honor of Coleen Salley, Professor of Children’s Literature at the University of New Orleans, who was a storyteller and longtime supporter of the festival. She helped to attract speakers to the festival by writing letters to various authors, illustrators, and publishers, encouraging them to come to the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival (Aquila, 2015b). The Coleen Salley Storytelling Endowment as well as The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation supports the Coleen Salley Storytelling Award, given to “a storyteller...
whose mission reflects the ideals and dedication to the field that Ms. Salley personified.” Since 2010 the winners have been Walter Mayes, Carmen Agra Deedy, Caroline Herring, Trout Fishing in America, Mary Hamilton, and Rita Auerbach (USM, Coleen Salley Storytelling Award, 2015).

Another award given at the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival is the Magnolia Award, a partnership between the Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi Library Commission, Mississippi Reading Association, the Southern Miss School of Library and Information Science, Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival, Southern Miss Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, and the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection. The mission of the Magnolia Award is “to introduce the children of Mississippi to current children’s literature and instill a love of reading” (Aquila, 2015a). A list of nominations are made by the Magnolia Committee and the books read and voted on by children in grades K-12 across Mississippi schools (public, private, and homeschooled) (Aquila, 2015a).

The Fay B. Kaigler-Ruth Lamont Award was established and funded in 1998 by Fay B. Kaigler and Ruth Lamont, two friends who share a passion for children’s literature, to recognize “distinguished accomplishments in promoting children’s reading by librarians and teachers in Mississippi schools and by children’s librarians in the public libraries of Mississippi” (USM, 2015, para. 1). The recipient of the award receives free registration to the festival, a plaque commemorating the honor, a $500 honorarium, as well as $500 to purchase books for their library. The first person to be honored with this award was Mattie Rials, a children’s librarian with the Pike-Amite-Walthall Public Library System in McComb, Mississippi (USM Kaigler Book Festival, 2015).

The Ezra Jack Keats New Writer and New Illustrator Awards for Children’s Books (also known as the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award) is also presented annually at the Book Festival. This award is to “encourage authors and illustrators starting out in the field of children’s books” (Aquila, 2015a). The recipient of this award must have no more than three books published. A selection committee of children’s literature experts identifies nominees who produce work with like-minded values to Ezra Jack Keats, the “universal qualities of childhood, a strong and supportive family, and the multicultural nature of our world.” In 2012, an “Honor Books” category was added to the awards.

**R7: What historical images are related to the history of the book festival?**

There are many photographs relating to the history of the book festival held in the de Grummond Children’s Literature Archives. Many of these images are a part of an unprocessed de Grummond Photograph Collection. The images are currently being stored in filing cabinets in the archive and are awaiting accession. A few historic images can be found in The University of Southern Mississippi’s Digital Collections at digilib.usm.edu/. Digital Collections also includes scans of seven Southern Miss Medallions, including the most recent two recipients of the award, Christopher Paul Curtis and Paul O Zelinsky. Many of the images in Figures 4 - 25 are as yet unprocessed in the de Grummond Photographs Collection. The AQUILA Digital Community’s Children’s Book Festival Web site holds PDFs of festival brochures from 2007 through 2015: http://aquila.usm.edu/bookfest/.

**Discussion and Conclusion**

Through the years, thousands have traveled to the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. The results of this study document a large number of distinguished professionals in the field that have participated in the festival, which has helped to make the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival one of the most historically important children’s literature festivals in the Southern United States. The festival currently attracts 400-500 librarians, educators, children’s literature professionals and enthusiasts.

The Southern Miss Medallion continues to be awarded each year to an outstanding author or illustrator of children’s literature. The festival
workshops and presentations highlight the process of creating books for children, discuss continuing themes in children’s literature as well as the relationship between authors and publishers.

Other areas of the book festival that may be of interest for further research are to analyze the individual speeches and workshops held each year. The Children’s Book Festival Collection (DG0182) held in the de Grummond archives contain a large number of VHS tapes from the festival events and many speeches and workshops are included in these tapes. The collection also includes typescripts of the Southern Miss Medallion winners’ speeches. Another potential area of research could focus on the festival participants. The Children’s Book Festival Collection contains information on the festival participants including a list of names and locations, transportation documents, as well as evaluation sheets filled out at the end of each festival.

Due to the success of the festival, the University of Southern Mississippi has made strong connections with the authors and illustrators honored at the festival throughout the years. Many of the Southern Miss Medallion winners have donated books and manuscript materials to the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection, which helps continue to make the de Grummond Collection one of the most outstanding collections of children’s literature in the United States.

One of the most important relationships the festival helped to create is that between the University of Southern Mississippi and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. The foundation still works closely with USM and the staff of the de Grummond Collection to facilitate the new Author and Illustrator Book Awards. It is due to these relationships that the University of Southern Mississippi has become well-known as a hub of children’s literature research.
Figure 11. Roger Duvoisin at the 1971 Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 12. Original art created by Tony Chen exclusively for the 1973 Children’s Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 13. Book store display welcoming attendees of the 1974 Children’s Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 14. Dr. Warren Tracy looking over the manuscript for film, “Let’s Help Recycle” at 1974 Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)
Figure 15. Peter Spier signing autographs, 1974 Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 16. 1976 Medallion winner Scott O’Dell with Dr. Boshears (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 17. Madeleine L’Engle (right) and women viewing L’Engle’s manuscript for A Wrinkle in Time and Summer of the Great-Grandmother, 1978 Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 18. Anne McConnell (second from left) and Barbara Corcoran (second from right), 1979 Children’s Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)
Figure 19. 1979 Medallion winner Leonard Everett Fisher, Dr. Onva K. Boshears, and Roger Johnson (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 20. 1980 Book Festival Film Screenings booklet cover (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 21. Dr. Jeannine Laughlin-Porter, Lora Long, Virginia Hamilton, Richard Peck, and Lee Ames, 1981 Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 22. 1985 Medallion winner Arnold Lobel (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)
Figure 23. 1990 Medallion winner Charlotte Zolotow, Children’s Book Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 24. 1994 Medallion winner Ashley Bryan, Marion Dane Baver, USM President Dr. Aubrey Lucas, Anita Silvey, Floyd Cooper, Jose Aruego, 1994 Festival (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 25. Ashley Bryan, 1994 Medallion winner with Dr. Aubrey Lucas, USM President (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)

Figure 26. Dr. Lena de Grummond showing Robert Quackenbush and Werstein the de Grummond Archives (Southern Miss McCain Library and Archives)
References


Appendix

Southern Miss Medallion Recipients

1969: Lois Lenski
1970: Ernest H. Shepard
1971: Roger Duvoisin
1972: Marcia Brown
1973: Lynd Ward
1974: Taro Yashima
1975: Barbara Cooney
1976: Scott O’Dell
1977: Adrienne Adams
1978: Madeleine L’Engle
1979: Leonard Everett Fisher
1980: Ezra Jack Keats
1981: Maurice Sendak
1982: Beverly Cleary
1983: Katherine Paterson
1984: Peter Spier
1985: Arnold Lobel
1986: Jean Craighead George
1987: Paula Fox
1988: Jean Fritz
1989: Lee Bennett Hopkins
1990: Charlotte Zolotow
1991: Richard Peck
1992: James Marshall
1993: Quentin Blake
1994: Ashley Bryan
1995: Tomie de Paola
1996: Patricia MacLachlan
1997: Eric Carle
1998: Elaine Konigsburg
1999: Russell Freedman
2000: David Macaulay
2001: Virginia Hamilton
2002: Rosemary Wells
2003: Lois Lowry
2004: Jerry Pinkney
2005: Kevin Henkes
2006: Walter Dean Myers
2007: Eve Bunting
2008: Pat Mora
2009: Judy Blume
2010: David Wiesner
2011: T.A. Barron
2012: Jane Yolen
2013: Jon Scieszka
2014: Christopher Paul Curtis
2015: Paul O. Zelinsky
2016: Jacqueline Woodson