



Delaware Diamonds 2025- 2026



The purpose of this award program:

- to encourage young readers in Delaware to become better acquainted with quality literature
- to expose students to recent books
- to honor favorite books and authors
- to broaden students' awareness of literature as a lifelong pleasure

To be eligible to vote, a kindergarten, first, or second grade student must read or listen to 8 of the 12 nominated books. A third through fifth grade student must read or listen to 5 of the 10 nominated books, and a sixth through twelfth grade student must read or listen to 3 of the 10 nominated books.

Consider adding these titles to your summer reading lists!

For questions, contact:

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Elementary 24-25 Winners	Author(s)
Grades K-2 Building a Dream	Darshana Khiani
Grades 3-5 Champion Chompers	Linda Ashman

Elementary 25-26 Nominated Books	Author(s)
Grades K-2 Carla's Glasses Is This a Tiger? Pepper & Me Safe Crossing A Sky That Sings Snow Steps Springtime Storks: A Migration Love Story Stella & Marigold Walking Trees When Isaac Hears Rain Wind is Dance Worm's Lost & Found	Debbie Herman Elina Ellis Beatrice Alemagna Kari Percival Anita Sanchez & George Steele, Emily Mendoza (illus.) Karen Latchana Kenney Carol Joy Munto Annie Barrows, Sophie Blackall (illus.) Marie-Louise Gay Julie Thompson Debra Kempf Shumaker Julie Wellerdiek
Grades 3-5 Shine On Luz Véliz! Frankie D, Vegan Vampire Birds on the Brain The Home We Make The Incredible Octopus	Rebecca Balcárcel Sally & Brian Dutra Uma Krishnaswami Maham Khwaja Erin Spencer

Skybound! Pedro's Yo-Yos Swinging Into History Poetry Comics Make a Pretty Sound	Sue Ganz-Schmitt Rob Peñas Karen L. Swanson Grant Snider Traci N. Todd
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Secondary 24-25 Winner	Author(s)
Shipwrecked! Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor	Martin Sandler
Secondary 25-26 Nominated Books	Author(s)
Eb & Flow Who Got Game: Basketball: Amazing but True Stories The Love Report Not Nothing The Worlds We Leave Behind Hope's Path to Glory Plague-Busters! Medicine's Battle with History's Deadliest Diseases If We Tell You The Moonlit Vine A Long Time Coming	Kelly J. Baptist Derrick Barnes Beka Gayle Forman A.F. Harrold Jerdine Nolen Lindsey Fitzharris & Adrian Teal Nicola Dahlin Elizabeth Santiago Ray Anthony Shepard