

# Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award Committee

Ad Hoc

## Purpose:

The committee publicizes the Young Adult book award, publishes information about voting and nominating procedures, establishes criteria for book eligibility, tabulates votes and nominations, and announces the winner.

### Dodie Ownes, Co-chairperson

13450 W. 26th Ave.  
Golden, CO 80401  
dodie.ownes@gmail.com

### Kristin Roper, Co-chairperson

Athmar Park Branch,  
Denver Public Library  
1055 South Tejon St.  
Denver, CO 80223  
W - 720-865-0230  
kroper@denverlibrary.org  
kristin.ropers@gmail.com

### Kate Farrell

215 4th Ave.  
Deer Trail, CO 80105  
C - 720-839-7250  
farrellmkate@gmail.com

### Sharon Nehls

385 Overlook Drive  
Boulder, CO 80305  
H - 303-494-5778  
C - 303-906-8427  
snehls@comcast.net

### Pam Lowe

Standley Lake Library, Jeffco  
303-235-5275  
pamela.lowe@jeffcolibrary.org

### Candace Skoff

Brighton High School  
5226 Cody St.  
Arvada, CO 80002  
303-655-4215  
CSKOFF@sd27j.org

### Sarah Pauly

Horizon Community Middle School  
3981 S. Reservoir Rd.  
Aurora, CO 80013  
W - 720-886-6228  
C - 913-226-2351  
spauly@cherrycreekschools.org

**Committee Members  
continued on next page**

**Budget  
\$800.00**

## Charges

- Work with three representatives each from CCIRA, CLAS, CAL and one chair selected from the committee. The position of chair is rotated among organizations, and is usually one of the outgoing committee members (i.e. rotating off the committee).
- Promote and publicize the Blue Spruce Book Award so that all schools, libraries and other interested agencies in Colorado will actively encourage young adults to participate by reading a variety of quality books, by nominating their favorite books and then by voting for their favorite books.
- Determine the current year's winner of the Blue Spruce Award from the ballots received and present an award to the winning author(s).
- Submit award information to CCIRA's Operations and Events Manager not later than January 3.
- Determine and publicize the Blue Spruce nomination list.

## Timeline

**August:** Attend a planning meeting. If you are a new committee chairperson, meet with the prior committee chair to review past committee procedures and activities and to receive the committee records.

**January:** Meet to count ballots received, declare the winner of the current year's Blue Spruce Award and arrange for the presentation of the award. Invite the winning Blue Spruce author, or if he/she declines, one of the nominated authors, to speak at one of parent organization conferences.

**February:** Report at the CCIRA Board of Director's Meeting and encourage participation. Prepare nominations list from the titles submitted by Colorado students and mail postcards to all Colorado secondary schools, libraries, college reading departments, booksellers, and library associations by March 1.

**May:** Send letters to participating schools and libraries to announce the winner(s) and to express appreciation for participation. Submit an End-Of-Year Report to the CCIRA President by May 15.

### Ongoing:

Publicize this award in local newspapers, journals and/or newsletters and conferences of involved organizations through local school districts, libraries, and book dealers.

Coordinate committee members' presentations of the nominated titles at parent organization conferences.

Submit publicity form to Dana Plewka.

## Required Meetings

### Chairperson:

**February:** CCIRA Annual Conference & Board of Directors' Meeting

**April & August:** Leadership Meetings

### Committee:

**August/January:** Committee meets two times each year to perform necessary tasks and to continue discussion of Blue Spruce mission.

### Conference Presentations:

CCIRA, CLAS, CTLC, CAL, RMCLC

# Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award Committee

Ad Hoc

**Monica Techau**

monitechau@gmail.com

**Michele Warner, Executive  
Committee Liaison Member**

809 Table Mountain Ct.

Windsor, CO 80550

970-686-9363

bmwarner1227@comcast.net

## **Background Information:**

The Blue Spruce Award Committee was formed by secondary educators, who were certain that readers (and non-readers) don't quit reading after sixth grade. In June, 1984, a small group of goal-oriented teachers and librarians assembled to recognize and promote reading among Colorado's teenagers. The committee is composed of representatives from CCIRA, Colorado Language Arts Society, and the Colorado Association of Libraries. All of these organizations provide financial support. Each year, the committee makes one award from a list of twenty titles, nominated and voted on by the students. Adults do not nominate or vote.

The books chosen for a nomination list are nominated by secondary students throughout Colorado and reflect a wide range of reading levels, genres, and interests. Each of the books on the list had to meet the following criteria:

- 1) Books nominated may be fiction or non-fiction.
- 2) Books must currently be in print and published in the five years preceding the award year.
- 3) Only one title by each author will be on each year's ballot.
- 4) A nominated book may not appear on the ballot in consecutive years.
- 5) The author of the book must be a contemporary author.
- 6) The book need not have been written exclusively for a young adult audience.
- 7) The book must meet accepted standards of quality.
- 8) The book must not have appeared first as a movie or television show.
- 9) Last year's winning author may not have a title on the current year's nomination list.

The Blue Spruce book list, directions for voting, and for nominating selections are available on the Blue Spruce website:

**<http://www.coloradobluespruceaward.org>**

All ballots for the Blue Spruce Award must be submitted by the mid-January deadline announced each year on the website and on the postcards.

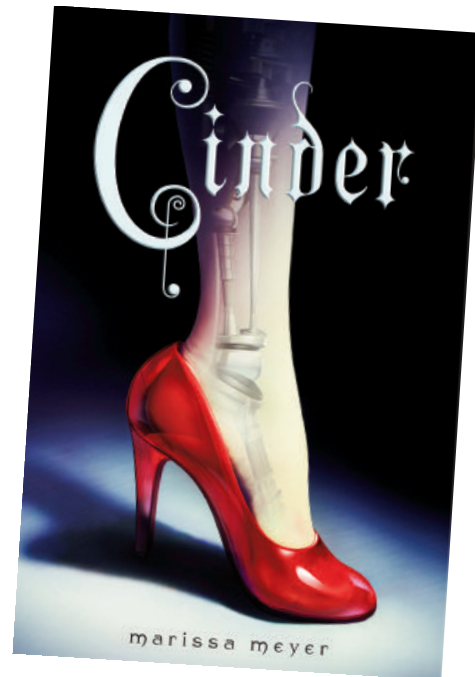
CCIRA  
COMMITTEES

# Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award Committee

Ad Hoc

## Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award Recipients

1985 <i>Tiger Eyes</i> By Judy Blume	1996 <i>Face on the Milk Carton</i> By Caroline Cooney	2006 <i>Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix</i> By J.K. Rowling	2011 <i>The Last Olympian</i> By Rick Riordan
1986 <i>The Bridge to Terabithia</i> By Katherine Paterson	1997 - 1998 <i>Downriver</i> By Will Hobbs	2007 <i>Eldest</i> By Christopher Paolini	2012 <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw</i> By Jeff Kinney
1987 <i>The Third Eye</i> By Lois Duncan	1999 <i>Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul</i> Edited by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hanson, and Kimberly Kirberger	2008 <i>Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince</i> By J.K. Rowling	2013 <i>The Lost Hero</i> By Rick Riordan
1988 <i>The Other Side of Dark</i> By Joan Lowrey Nixon	2000 <i>Holes</i> By Louis Sachar	2009 <i>Eclipse</i> By Stephanie Meyer	2014 <i>Divergent</i> By Veronica Roth
1989 <i>Eyes of the Dragon</i> By Stephen King	2001 <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i> By J.K. Rowling	2010 <i>The Hunger Games</i> By Suzanne Collins	2015 <i>Cinder</i> By Marissa Meyer
1990 <i>The Cradle Will Fall</i> By Mary Higgins Clark	2002 <i>The Lost Boy</i> By Dave Pelzer		
1991 <i>Pet Sematary</i> By Stephen King	2003 <i>A Walk to Remember</i> By Nicholas Sparks		
1992 <i>Changes in Latitude</i> By Will Hobbs	2004 <i>Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban</i> By J.K. Rowling		
1993 <i>Jurassic Park</i> By Michael Crichton	2005 <i>Eragon</i> By Christopher Paolini		
1994 <i>It</i> By Stephen King			
1995 <i>The Client</i> By John Grisham			



## The nominees for the 2016 Blue Spruce Book Award are...

<i>Impossible Knife of Memory</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> by Anthony Doerr	<i>Throne of Glass</i> by Sarah Maas	<i>Eleanor &amp; Park</i> by Rainbow Rowell
<i>The Tyrant's Daughter.</i> by J.C. Carlson	<i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> by John Green	<i>Big Little Lies</i> by Liane Moriarty	<i>The Winner's Curse</i> by Marie Rutkoski
<i>The Testing</i> by Joelle Charbonneau	<i>Unbroken: an Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive</i> by Laura Hillenbrand	<i>Snow Like Ashes</i> by Sara Raasch	<i>Belzhar</i> by Meg Wolitzer
<i>City of Heavenly Fire</i> by Cassandra Clare		<i>Falling Kingdoms</i> by Morgan Rhodes	<i>The Infinite Sea</i> by Rick Yancey

for more information go to [coloradobluespruceaward.org](http://coloradobluespruceaward.org)