

The Lesbianna's Guide to Catholic School,
by Sonora Reyes

Transferred to a Catholic school, 16-year-old Yami Flores finds it hard to fake being straight when she falls for Bo, the only openly queer girl at school, but refuses to follow her heart until she learns to live her truth out loud.



Spells for Lost Things,
by Jenna Evans Welch

Dragged to Salem, Massachusetts, with her mostly absent mother to wrap up the affairs of an aunt she didn't know she had, Willow meets loner Mason who helps her unravel her family's ambiguous--and dangerous--history, while acting on their natural connection.

2024- 2025
South Carolina
Young Adult Book
Award Nominees



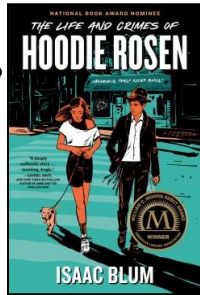
Students: To be eligible to vote for your favorite book, you must read at least three of the nominee titles. Voting takes place in February.



All media specialists should review titles and add them to their collection only if the titles meet the criteria established by District Board Policy and Library Media Center Policy & Procedure guidelines. Scan QR code for slideshow and book trailers.

Book summaries and images courtesy of Novelist Plus database:
www.scdiscus.org unless otherwise noted.

South Carolina Association of School Librarians,
PO Box 2442, Columbia, SC 29202
<http://scasl.net/awards/book-awards/>

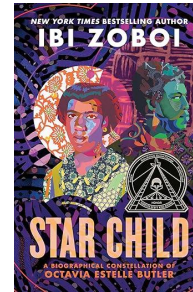


The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen,
by Isaac Blum

Moving to the quiet, mostly non-Jewish town of Tregaron, Hoodie Rosen falls for the daughter of the mayor who is trying to keep Hoodie's Orthodox Jewish community out of town. When antisemitic crimes turn deadly, he must choose between his first love and the only world he's ever known.

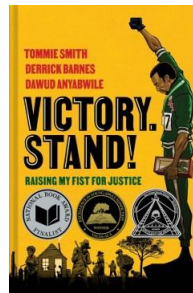
Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler,
by Ibi Zoboi

Through poems and prose, an acclaimed novelist paints a vivid portrait of science fiction visionary Octavia Butler, who was born into the Space Race, the Red Scare and the dawning of the Civil Rights Movement.



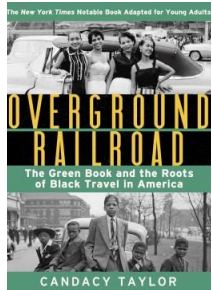
Victory, Stand! Raising My Fist for Justice,
by Tommie Smith

On October 16, 1968, during the medal ceremony at the Mexico City Olympics, Tommie Smith and John Carlos stood on the podium in black socks and raised their black-gloved fists to protest racial injustice inflicted upon African Americans.



Wrecked,
by Heather Henson

Told from different perspectives, almost-seventeen-year-old Miri skips school, rebuilds motorcycles, and befriends her new neighbor Fen to distract herself from knowing exactly what her dad Poe does for a living in the knobs of Kentucky.

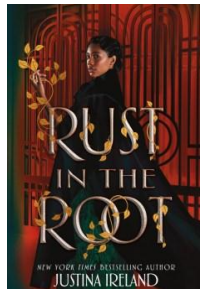


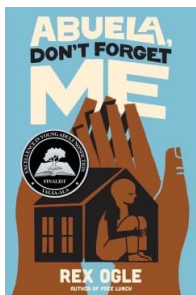
Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America,
by Candacy A. Taylor

This young reader's edition of the critically acclaimed adult book chronicles the history of the Green Book, published from 1936 to 1966, that listed the places that were safe for Black travelers..

Rust in the Root,
by Justina Ireland

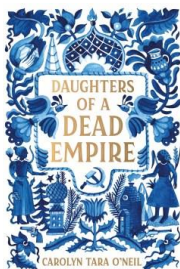
The author of the visionary New York Times bestseller *Dread Nation* returns with another spellbinding historical fantasy set at the crossroads of race and power in America.





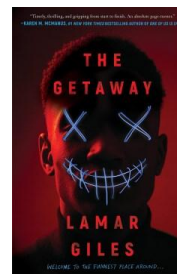
Abuela, Don't Forget Me,
by Rex Ogle

Rex Ogle's companion to *Free Lunch and Punching Bag* weaves humor, heartbreak, and hope into life-affirming poems that honor his grandmother's legacy..



Daughters of a Dead Empire,
by Carolyn Tara O'Neil

Set during the height of the Russian Revolution and told in alternating voices, sixteen-year-old Evgenia--a peasant and proud member of the Bolshevik party--agrees to help a seventeen-year-old bourgeois girl traverse the war-torn countryside in search of safety, but Anna is harboring a secret that could cost them their lives.



The Getaway,
by Lamar Giles

Jay discovers that **the** mountain resort where he lives and works with his friends and family is also a doomsday oasis for **the** rich and powerful who expect top-notch customer service even as **the** world outside **the** resort's walls disintegrates.

Ain't Burned All the Bright,
by Jason Reynolds

A smash up of art and text that viscerally captures what it means to not be able to breathe, and how the people and things you love most are actually the oxygen you most need.



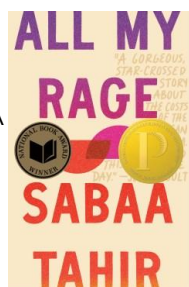
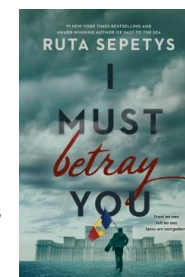
Dead Flip,
by Sara Farizan

Eighteen-year-olds Cori and Maz, once inseparable best friends, reunite to solve the mystery of what happened to their other friend Sam--who disappeared five years ago and has now returned, not having aged at all.



I Must Betray You,
by Ruta Sepetys

In a country governed by isolation, fear, and a tyrannical dictator, seventeen-year-old Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer, but he decides to use his position to try to outwit his handler, undermine the regime, and give voice to fellow Romanians.



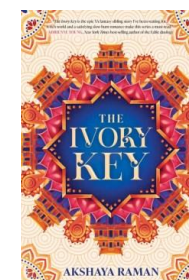
All My Rage,
by Sabaa Tahir

A family extending from Pakistan to California, deals with generations of young love, old regrets, and forgiveness.



The Do-Over,
by Lynn Painter

Stuck in some sort of time loop that forces her to live through the worst Valentine's Day ever, over and over again, Emilie Hornby wonders what will happen when the universe stops doling out do-overs when something good starts to come out of her nightmare.

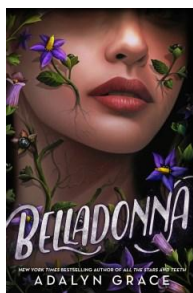


The Ivory Key,
by Akshaya Raman

Four estranged royal siblings, each harboring secrets and conflicting agendas, must learn to work together as they search for the Ivory Key--a thing of legend that will lead to a new source of magic.

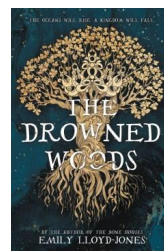
Belladonna,
by Adalyn Grace

Making an alliance with Death himself--the very man she hates most--to solve a murder by poisoning, 19-year-old Signa Farrow is shown that their connection may be more powerful than she dared imagine.



The Drowned Woods,
by Emily Lloyd-Jones

The last living water diviner, 18-year-old Mererid joins forces with her old handler to bring down the very prince who abused them both and, with a ragtag group of allies, sets out to topple a kingdom.



Lawless Spaces,
by Corey Ann Haydu
While a highly publicized sexual assault case threatens to destroy her and her mother, sixteen-year-old Mimi Dovewick tries to understand their tense relationship by reaching out to the women of her maternal line through the journals they all kept.

