



OPLbery Club Award Guidelines

1. The Medal shall be awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published by an American publisher in the United States in English during the preceding year. There are no limitations as to the character of the book considered except that it be original work. Honor books may be named. These shall be books that are also truly distinguished.

SO—

- The book has to have been published in the current year.
- It has to have been published *first* in the United States—nowhere else.
- The book has to have been originally written and published in English.

2. The Award will only consider authors who are citizens of the United States or who live in the United States.

3. The Club will consider all forms of writing—fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.

4. Books to be considered are for children up to the age of 14.

5. "Distinguished" is defined as:

- Marked by eminence and distinction: noted for significant achievement.
- Marked by excellence in quality.
- Individually distinct.

SO—

This means that a book that is a true contender for the OPLbery Medal is one that STANDS OUT—that's really much, much better than most of what you usually read. There are lots of good books out there—but this book has to be EXTRAORDINARY.