



This award is presented annually by the Children's and Young Adult Round Table of the Virginia Library Association for distinguished books written for young people in the fields of American history, biography, or historical fiction.

1988

1988 JEFFERSON CUP AWARD:

Freedman, Russell. Lincoln: A Photobiography.
Clarion, 1987.

1988 HONOR BOOKS:

Freedman, Russell. Indian Chiefs. Holiday, 1987.
Morrow, Liza Ketchum. West Against the Wind.
Holiday, 1987.

Taylor, Mildred. The Friendship. Dial, 1987

1987 Jefferson Cup Award:

Rostkowski, Margaret. After the Dancing Days.
Harper, 1986.

1986 Jefferson Cup Award:

MacLachlan, Patricia. Sarah, Plain and Tall.
Harper & Row, 1985.

1985 Jefferson Cup Award:

Lord, Bette Bao. In the Year of the Boar and Jackie
Robinson. Harper & Row, 1984.

1984 Jefferson Cup Award:

Spencer, Paula Underwood. Who Speaks for Wolf?
Tribe of Two Press, 1983.

1983 Jefferson Cup Award:

Meltzer, Milton. The Jewish Americans: A History in
Their Own Words. Harper & Row, 1982

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The purpose of the award is to encourage the writing of quality books for young people in the fields of U.S. history, biography and historical fiction; to give recognition to authors in these disciplines and to promote the reading of books which illustrate America's past.

Children's/Young Adult Round Table

of the

Virginia Library Association

1988 JEFFERSON CUP AWARD

Lincoln: A Photobiography
by Russell Freedman
Clarion, 1987. Grades 6-12

Drawing upon Lincoln's own words and other original sources of the times, Freedman moves beyond the legend of Lincoln to examine the man. Carefully researched details balanced with amusing personal anecdotes reveal an enigmatic personality of sharp contrasts. The keenly focused chronological account begins with his boyhood, traces his career as a young lawyer and aspiring politician, and relates his courtship and marriage to Mary Todd. The coherent and concise narrative skillfully explains the complex issues and personal struggles that Lincoln faced as president, climaxing with his tragic assassination. The book's beautifully crafted design, carefully chosen photographs and prints, and simple yet eloquent prose create a portrait of Lincoln that rises square and tall like Lincoln himself.

HONOR BOOKS

Freedman Russell. Indian Chiefs. Holiday, 1987.
Grades 6-12

Illustrated with haunting full-page photographic portraits, Freedman's moving text features the stories of six western Indian chiefs, who each in his own way resisted the intrusion of the white man into his tribal lands. Each of the six well-written biographies uses quotations, maps and vivid character sketches to trace the cultural conflict between the white man and Native American.

HONOR BOOKS continued

Murrow, Liza Ketchum. West Against the Wind. Holiday, 1987. Grades 6-9.

It is 1850 and 14-year-old Abigail Parker is traveling west from Missouri with her family by wagon train. Hoping to find her father, who is panning for gold in California and has lost contact with the family, Abby and her family overcome the adversities of an unkind wilderness trail. A brilliant portrait of pioneer life with a strong, realistic and likeable female protagonist.

Taylor, Mildred. The Friendship. Dial, 1987. Grades 4-6.

Growing up in rural Mississippi in 1933, Cassie Logan and her young black friends, witness elderly black Tom Bee's struggle for dignity as he refuses courageously to be intimidated by white folks' expectations. The classic racial confrontation climaxes in a frightening and emotionally charged scene.

...AND ALSO WORTH NOTING

Beatty, Patricia. Charlie Skedaddle. Morrow, 1987. Grades 5-8

A young tough from the Bowery, filled with glorious visions of war, joins the Union Army as a drummer boy. Panic-stricken, he deserts, during his first battle. Guilt-ridden and shame-faced, he seeks refuge in the Virginia mountains, where he proves his courage.

Climo, Shirley. A Month of Seven Days. Thomas Crowell, 1987. Grades 4-7.

When 12-year-old Zoe learns that her father, a Confederate soldier, is planning a visit, she tries ingeniously to chase off the Yankee soldiers occupying their Georgia farm by conjuring up spirits and ghosts.

Faber, Doris & Harold. We the People: The Story of the United States Constitution Since 1787. Scribner, 1987. Grades 7-12.

Outstanding chapters on the controversies and compromises faced by the Founding Fathers highlight this comprehensive history of the U.S. Constitution from its inception to modern day.

Fisher, Leonard Everett. The Alamo. Holiday, 1987. Grades 3-6.

The history of the Alamo comes alive through the author's enthusiastic narrative style punctuated with fascinating personal information about heroes, known and unknown.

Fritz, Jean. Shh! We're Writing the Constitution. Putnam, 1987. Grades 3-6.

The drafting of the Constitution in 1787 is entertainingly and simply explained without sacrificing facts and details.

Gish, Lillian. An Actor's Life for Me! Viking, 1987. Grades 4-7.

The stage and screen actress recounts her childhood in a traveling theatrical troupe in the early 1900's. Anecdotal in format, Gish's account is both amusing and poignant.

Goble, Paul. Death of the Iron Horse. Bradbury, 1987. Grades 1-3.

The derailment of a Union Pacific Train in 1867 is told from a Native American point of view. Young Cheyenne warriors, using tomahawks and knives, destroy the iron trail of this thundering, smokebreathing threat to their homeland.

Harvey, Brett. Immigrant Girl. Holiday, 1987. Grades 1-4.

Set in 1910 on New York's Lower East Side the joyful story and expressive charcoal illustrations depict immigrant life as seen through the eyes of a 10-year-old Russian Jewish girl, Becky.

Hendershot, Judith. In Coal Country. Knopf, 1987. Grades K-2

Family life in a coal mining town from a child's perspective offers the reader poignant and vivid insights. Muted color illustrations convey the pervasiveness of grime and grayness.

Maestro, Betsy & Giulio. A More Perfect Union. Lothrop, 1987. Grades 2-4.

This complex event is simply told making it comprehensible for young children. The Maestros focus on the delegates' ability to compromise and their attention to detail, in establishing a government, which has lasted for 200 years. Pastel illustrations underscore details of this milestone in American history.

Meltzer, Milton. The American Revolutionaries: A History in their Own Words, 1750-1800. Crowell, 1987. Grades 6-12.

Letters, diaries, journals, newspapers and speeches are sources the author uses to depict life and events in the American colonies as they struggle to become the modern world's first democracy.

Randolph, Blythe. Amelia Earhart. Watts, 1987. Grades 7-9.

Amelia Earhart's disappearance while on a round-the-world flight in 1937 sparked a mystery with innumerable theories and added to the romance of her exploits as pilot. Randolph's well written account depicts Earhart as a courageous and fascinating woman.

1988 JEFFERSON CUP COMMITTEE

Susan McCarthy, Chair

Jo Brown

Susan Kaminow

Bunny Hare

Lillian Swain

Lindsay Ideson

Linda Yeatts

ELIGIBILITY

1. The book must be an original work published in the year prior to selection.
2. The book must be about U.S. history or an American person, 1492 to the present, or fiction which highlights the U.S. past.
3. Author must reside in the U.S.
4. The book must be especially published for young people.
5. The book must be accurate, informative, well researched, unbiased, literate and give a clear and interesting picture of the past.

SELECTION OF THE WINNERS

1. Selection of the winning book will be made by a special Jefferson Cup Committee composed of a chairperson (selected by the previous year's committee), six members from throughout the state (selected by the current chair) and one at-large member (the out-going chair of CYART.)
2. Each VLA region will be encouraged to send nominations for award candidates to the Jefferson Cup Committee members or directly to the Jefferson Cup Committee Chairperson.
3. Publishers are requested to submit books which they consider to be of high quality in the fields of American history, American biography or American historical fiction.
4. Although children do not have direct participation in the selection, librarians should attempt to pass on suggestions from children and they will be duly considered.
5. The award will be presented annually at the Virginia Library Association fall conference.

NOMINATION FORM

My nomination for the 1989 Jefferson Cup Award is:

Author.....

Title

Publisher.....

Date

Type of work (circle one):

History

Biography

Historical Fiction

Please send your suggestions to the 1989 Chair of
the Jefferson Cup Committee:

Lindsay Ideson
Jefferson Madison Regional Library
201 East Market Street
Charlottesville, VA 22901