



1991

The Jefferson Cup honors a distinguished biography, historical fiction or American history book for young people. The Virginia Library Association's Children's and Young Adult Round Table (CYART) has presented the award annually since 1983. Through the award, CYART seeks to promote reading about America's past, encourage writing of U.S. history, biography and historical fiction for young people, and recognize authors in these disciplines.

1991 JEFFERSON CUP AWARD

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

*by Russell Freedman
Clarion, 1990. Grades 5-9.*

The Great Depression left a scar on the economic and social life of the United States. The recurrence of that Depression is still a tangible fear in the minds of those who lived through it. Also tangible is the image of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the man to whom the country turned for hope, help, and understanding.

Yet, when he was born, the pampered only child of elderly parents, he seemed the least likely to be the one who would understand the burdens and cares of the dispossessed and the millions who stood in bread lines, rode the rails, or simply scratched their way through another year of drought, bank failure, unemployment, and starvation. Roosevelt did understand. He understood because through no fault of his, in the midst of a busy and productive life, he was made helpless by polio. He thought that governments have a responsibility to help their citizens through rough times.

This view of government made Roosevelt much reviled among the rich privileged classes, but made him much beloved by millions who depended upon him and the government to help them. He never again stood unaided after his attack of polio, but the American people saw him as a powerful, charismatic president -- the only one they elected for four consecutive terms -- whose social conscience cast a long shadow upon the political life of the United States.

In this full biography, Russell Freedman brings Roosevelt and his times to life. Through skillful writing, meticulous research and telling photographs, the reader understands the complexity of the times and the power of this most fascinating and many faceted man.

HONOR BOOKS

OTHER BELLS FOR US TO RING

by Robert Cormier Delacorte, 1990. Grades 5-12.

A shy and introspective only child, Darcy's only close relationship has been with her parents until she moves to a new town and meets precocious and friendly Mary Kathleen.

Not only is Mary Kathleen enterprising and flamboyant, she is also Catholic. Catholicism holds mystery for Darcy whose interest is piqued when she and Mary Kathleen spy on saintly Sister Angela who is performing "miracles" in the church courtyard.

Later, when impulsive Mary Kathleen sprinkles Darcy with holy water and pronounces her a Catholic, Darcy wonders if she really has become one. Before she can question Mary Kathleen further, her friend mysteriously disappears. To add to Darcy's anxiety and loneliness, her father enlists to fight in World War II and is shortly thereafter reported missing in action.

A private encounter with Sister Angela, the return of her father, and a tragic revelation about the abrupt disappearance of Mary Kathleen move Darcy from the safe and concrete world of the child into the ambiguities and paradoxes of adulthood.

TRUE CONFESSIONS OF CHARLOTTE DOYLE

by Avi Orchard Books, 1990. Grades 5-8.

"Not every thirteen-year-old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial, and found guilty". So begins Avi's rousing historical novel, which tells the story of Charlotte and her fateful voyage on the Seahawk in 1832. Ignoring several ominous warnings, Charlotte boards the ship and soon finds herself caught in a mutinous conflict between the brutal, unbalanced Captain Jaggery and the ship's long-suffering crew. Charlotte's loyalties are initially with the heartless but "gentlemanly" captain. When she sees the captain's madness revealed in horrifying detail, she risks her life to side with the crew.

WORTHY OF SPECIAL NOTE

VIETNAM, WHY WE FOUGHT: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler Knopf, 1990. Grades 5-12.

The Hooblers have written penetrating step by step analysis of how the U.S. became involved, escalated, and ultimately withdrew, from the

most divisive war in the 20th century. They dissect the conflict with precision, giving thoughtfulness to new terminology, maps, and photos.

The depth of comprehension of the war's geopolitical and personal complexities as well as its myriad of repercussions makes this book unprecedented in juvenile literature. The authors are especially sensitive to presenting the balance between the Vietnamese perspectives and motivations within a historical context, with those of the colonial French and the United States.

MARY CASSATT

by Susan E. Meyer Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1990. Grades 4-7.

American painter Mary Cassatt prevailed against societal norms, not only as a woman artist but also as the only American to be invited into the Impressionists group in Paris. Her strong personality, hard work and love of family are vividly portrayed for young people in this handsomely designed volume illustrated with contemporary photographs and many color plates.

CANYONS

by Gary Paulsen Delacorte, 1990. Grades 5-9.

Literally stumbling across the skull of an Indian boy who lived 100 years ago in the mountains of New Mexico, 15-year-old Brennan finds himself relentlessly pursuing the mystery of the Apache's murder. A link of psychic proportions joins the two boys as Brennan fights to return the skull to the sacred Indian burying ground in the canyon.

THE BUCK STOPS HERE: THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

by Alice Provensen Harper & Row, 1990. All ages.

A book to delight all ages with its colorful period tableaux depicting the history of the presidents of the United States. In entertaining detail the book provides a perspective on America's past -- its art, architecture, fashion, ideas and values -- through marvelous symbols and pictures tucked artistically within the tableau of each presidential term.

The rhyming couplets add another dimension to the already colorful book and the author suggests the rhymes may aid in remembering the president's names and the order in which they served.

...ALSO WORTH NOTING

SHAKER INVENTIONS

by **Nancy Bolick and Sallie Randolph** Walker, 1990. Grades 4-7

From the circular saw to a pill-making machine, the Shakers invented many labor saving devices to help them live in cleanliness, order, purity, good health, hard work, simplicity, and avoidance of waste. They wanted the time to worship God.

MANY LIVES OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

by **Mary Pope Osborne** Dial Books for Young Readers, 1990. Grades 4-7

Franklin's formal education ended at age ten, but he used his love of reading to become a printer's apprentice, writer, publisher, merchant, inventor, scientist, educator, politician, statesman, militia colonel, postmaster, general, diplomat, and peacemaker. The many lives of Benjamin Franklin helped to shape the character of America.

OREGON TRAIL

by **Leonard Everett Fisher** Holiday House, 1990. Grades 4-7.

A vivid, exciting, dramatic depiction of the lifestyles, motives, and hardships of the thousands of fur traders, missionaries, and families who endured the grueling 2000 miles west along the Oregon Trail.

GREAT MONKEY TRIAL: SCIENCE VERSUS FUNDAMENTALISM IN AMERICA

by **Tom McGowan** Watts, 1990. Grades 5-9.

On a hot and humid July in 1925 John Scopes went on trial in Dayton, Tennessee, accused of teaching evolution in a public high school. The significance of the trial went far beyond the wrangling of small-town controversy. The trial's outcome would influence whether public schools would be free to teach scientific fact or would have to be confined by religious doctrine.

MORNING GLORY WAR

by **Judy Glassman** Dutton, 1990. Grades 4-7.

World War II is raging across the ocean, but in Brooklyn it's school as usual and movies on Saturday afternoon for eleven-year old Jeannie. Then suddenly the war begins to touch Jeannie's life. In a school letter writing project to service men, her pen pal turns out to be a dreamboat who thinks she is at least 16 years old.....

TEAMMATES

written by **Peter Golenbock**, designed & illustrated by **Paul Bacon**
Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990. Grades 1-5.

Jackie Robinson's entrance into the major leagues as the first black baseball player is presented in this quiet but dramatic book that addresses the pain of prejudice, and the courage of two men who stood against it.

Previous Jefferson Cup Award Winners

- 1990 SHADES OF GRAY, by Carolyn Reeder
- 1989 ANTHONY BURNS: THE DEFEAT AND TRIUMPH OF A
FUGITIVE SLAVE, by Virginia Hamilton
- 1988 LINCOLN: A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY
by Russell Freedman
- 1987 AFTER THE DANCING DAYS
by Margaret Rostkowski
- 1986 SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL
by Patricia MacLachlan
- 1985 IN THE YEAR OF THE BOAR AND JACKIE ROBINSON
by Bette Bao Lord
- 1984 WHO SPEAKS FOR WOLF?
by Paula Underwood Spencer
- 1983 THE JEWISH AMERICANS: A HISTORY OF THEIR OWN
WORDS, by Milton Meltzer

1991 Jefferson Cup Award Committee

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Children's and Young Adult Round Table of the Virginia Library Association

JEFFERSON CUP AWARD

Purpose:

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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 present, or fiction that 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.

Nominations:

The following groups or individuals are encouraged to nominate titles for consideration:

1. Each VLA region
2. Publishers
3. Librarians
4. Children -- nominations submitted through their librarians.

Selection:

The Jefferson Cup Committee selects the winning book. The committee has 8 members: a chairperson, selected by the previous year's committee; six individuals from throughout the state, selected by the current chair; and the outgoing chairperson of CYART.

Nomination Form

My nomination for the 1992 Jefferson Cup Award:

Author: _____

Title: _____

Publisher: _____

Publication Date: _____

Category (circle one): History Biography Historical
Fiction

Please send completed form to:

Caroline Parr

Chairperson, 1992 Jefferson Cup Committee

Central Rappahannock Library

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Fredericksburg, VA 22401