Culturally-Specific Book Awards:

American Indian Youth Literature Award (American Indian Library Association)
The award was established as a way to identify and honor the very best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians. Books selected to receive the award will present American Indians in the fullness of their humanity in the present and past contexts. Award is presented every 2 years.

Américas Book Award (Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs)
http://www.claspprograms.org/americasaward
To encourage and commend authors, illustrators and publishers of quality children’s and young adult literature that portray Latin American, Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States and to provide teachers with classroom recommendations for classroom use.

Arab American Book Award (Arab American National Museum)
http://arabamericanmuseum.org/bookaward
A literary program created to honor books written by and about Arab American.

Asian Pacific American Award for Literature (American Pacific American Librarians Association)
http://www.apalaweb.org/awards/literature-awards/
The goal of the is to honor and recognize individual work about Asian/Pacific Americans and their heritage, based on literary and artistic merit.

Carter G. Woodson Book Awards (National Council for the Social Studies)
https://www.socialstudies.org/awards/woodson/winners
The most distinguished books appropriate for young readers that depict ethnicity in the United States. This award is intended to “encourage the writing, publishing, and dissemination of outstanding social studies books for young readers that treat topics related to ethnic minorities and race relations sensitively and accurately.”

Children’s Africana Book Awards (CABA)
Presented annually to the authors and illustrators of the best children’s and young adult books on Africa published or republished in the U.S. The awards were created by Africa Access and the Outreach Council of the African Studies Association (ASA) to encourage the publication and use of accurate, balanced children’s materials about Africa.

Coretta Scott King Award and Honor (ALA)
http://www.ala.org/rt/emiert/cskbookawards
Given annually to outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values.
Pura Belpré Award (ALA)
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/belpremedal
Named after Pura Belpré, the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library is presented annually to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portraits, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.

Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children’s Book Award (Texas State Univ.–San Marcos)
Texas State University College of Education developed the award to honor authors and illustrators who create literature that depicts the Mexican American experience.

Stonewall Book Awards (ALA)
http://www.ala.org/rt/glbtrt/award/stonewall/honored
The first and most enduring award for GLBT books.

Additional Book Awards:
ALSC (Association for Library Service to Children) Notable Book Awards
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb
As applied to children's books, notable should be thought to include books of especially commendable quality, books that exhibit venturesome creativity, and books of fiction, information, poetry and pictures for all age levels (birth through age 14) that reflect and encourage children's interests in exemplary ways.

Mildred L. Batchelder Award (ALA)
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/batchelderaward
Given to the most outstanding children’s book originally published in a language other than English in country other than the United States, and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States.

Schneider Family Book Award (ALA)
http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award
The award honors an author or illustrator for a book that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.

Additional Resources:

American Indians in Children’s Literature (americanindiansinchildrensliterature.net): A blog by Debbie Reese (Nambe Pueblo). Reese provides a wealth of resources for selecting children’s literature about American Indians that is culturally authentic, accurate, and free from bias.

Cooperative Children’s Book Center, School of Education, University of Wisconsin.
“Publishing Statistics on Children's Books about People of Color and First/Native Nations and by People of Color and First/Native Nations Authors and Illustrators.” https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pcstats.asp.
International Children’s Digital Library (en.childrenslibrary.org): An Internet resource of bilingual picture books and picture books in languages other than English.

Lee and Low Publishers Blog, “The Open Book.”
Check out this blog for diverse literature, and a lot of book ideas. The left hand table of contents make this blog easy to negotiate for a myriad of topics.

Lin, Grace. “What do you do when you realize classic books from your childhood are racist?” NPR, August 11, 2017.
https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/realize-classic-books-childhood-racist

Paper Tigers (www.papertigers.org): Sponsored by Pacific Rim Voices, this website provides excellent information on books from and about the Pacific Rim and South Asia. Check out the book reviews, essential reading list, interviews with book creators, and more.

Reading Out (www.readingout.org): A searchable online database for LGBTQ young readers and their allies.

Teaching Tolerance (www.tolerance.org): A project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, Teaching Tolerance offers lesson plans, bibliographies, and other curriculum materials for teaching respect for and appreciation of diversity. It also offers resources for parents, teens, and children. Use the website’s search feature to locate specific types of materials.


Recommended Texts:


Seale, Doris, & Beverly Slapin. A Broken Flute: The Native Experience in Books for Children and Young Adults. AltaMira Press, 2006


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