

Press Release – Embargoed until 7.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd November 2011.

School Library Association Information Book Award 2011.

The School Library Association is celebrating the award of the first Information Book Award on Wednesday 2nd November with an event at the Free Word Centre in London. The **SLA Information Book Award** is an annual event celebrating information books, and is designed to support school libraries and to reinforce the importance of non-fiction whilst highlighting the high standard of resources available.

Between August and mid October, schools were able to cast their vote for their favourite Information Book in the SLA's Information Book Award. The SLA and the sponsors of the Information Book Award were keen that schools and their students should have a say in the final decision. Each school could vote online for their favourite book in each category (Under 7s, 7-12 and 12-16) and for their overall favourite.

Marlene Johnson, Managing Director of Hachette Children's Books, congratulates the authors and illustrators, saying, 'we are very proud to be sponsoring the inaugural SLA Information Book Award, and to support school libraries and students. The SLA Award is a great way to highlight the variety and excellence of the books and information out there, and, through the feedback of students and librarians, to celebrate the very best exponents of the art of creating great non-fiction.'

Chris Brown, Chair of the judges said, "This Award is the only children's books award to focus solely on Information Books. It is a celebration of the fantastic skills being applied in the creation of the very best of such books for our young readers. It is intended also to highlight and emphasise the immense value, in this 'Information Age', of the organisation and breadth of coverage being achieved and brilliantly conveyed in the very best books."

Winners in each category are –

Under 7s - *The Great Big Book of Families* by Mary Hoffman, illus Ros Asquith. Frances Lincoln ISBN 9781845079994

7-12 - *Animals at the Edge* by Jonathan and Marilyn Baillie. Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749694814

12-16 - *How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients* by Adrian Dingle. Scholastic ISBN 9781407117911

Overall Winner - *How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients* by Adrian Dingle. Scholastic ISBN 9781407117911

Children's Choice winners are –

Under 7s - *My Very First Art Book* by Rosie Dickins and Sarah Courtauld, illus Gus Gordon. Usborne ISBN 9781409522850

7-12 - *The Murderous Maths of Everything* by Kjartan Poskitt, illus Rob Davis. Scholastic ISBN 9781407103679

12-16 - *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare* by Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk. Templar ISBN 9781840111583

Overall Winner - *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare* by Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk. Templar ISBN 9781840111583

The complete shortlist for 2011 is

Under 7s

- *Let's Ride a Bike* by Ruth Walton. Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749688578
- *My Very First Art Book* by Rosie Dickins and Sarah Courtauld, illus Gus Gordon. Usborne ISBN 9781409522850
- *The Great Big Book of Families* by Mary Hoffman, illus Ros Asquith. Frances Lincoln ISBN 9781845079994

7-12

- *Animals at the Edge* by Jonathan and Marilyn Baillie. Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749694814
- *How the World Works* by Christiane Dorion, illus Beverley Young. Templar ISBN 9781848771895
- *The Murderous Maths of Everything* by Kjartan Poskitt, illus Rob Davis. Scholastic ISBN 9781407103679

12-16

- *How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients* by Adrian Dingle. Scholastic ISBN 9781407117911
- *Stories about Surviving Gangs and Bullying* by Michaela Miller. Franklin Watts ISBN 9781445100722
- *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare* by Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk. Templar ISBN 9781840111583

Notes for editors

About the School Library Association

The School Library Association is an independent charity that believes that every pupil is entitled to effective school library provision. The SLA is committed to supporting everyone involved with school libraries, promoting high quality reading and learning opportunities for all. Website: www.sla.org.uk

About the Award sponsors

The School Library Association is grateful for sponsorship from Hachette Children's Books and Peters Bookselling Services to make this award possible. The SLA Information Book Award is run entirely on sponsorship kindly donated by friends and supporters of the Award. No money is taken from the SLA budget so all staff time, the cost of the judging, prizes for the winners and the final award ceremony must be covered by the sponsors' donations.

Hachette Children's Books is one of the most successful children's publishers in the UK, with an excellent track record in creating bestselling and award winning books for children of all ages and interests. Our four imprints, Franklin Watts, Hodder Children's Books, Orchard Books and Wayland together form a dynamic list of top quality picture books, fiction and non-fiction. Website: www.hachettechildrens.co.uk

Peters Bookselling Services offers a variety of services to support libraries, schools, nurseries and schemes. Website: www.peters-books.co.uk

Award website - www.sla.org.uk/information-book-award.php

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