

# VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Biography • Historical Fiction • U.S. History

1989

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.

# 1989 JEFFERSON CUP AWARD:

Hamilton, Virginia. **Anthony Burns: the Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave.** Knopf, 1988.

## 1989 HONOR BOOKS:

Freedman, Russell. **Buffalo Hunt.** Holiday, 1988.

Meltzer, Milton. **Benjamin Franklin.** Watts, 1988.

Reit, Seymour. **Behind Rebel Lines: the Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy.** HBJ, 1988.

## 1988 Jefferson Cup Award:

Freedman, Russell. **Lincoln: a Photobiography.** Clarion, 1987.

## 1987 Jefferson Cup Award:

Rostkowski, Margaret. **After the Dancing Days.** Harper & Row, 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.

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

### 1989 JEFFERSON CUP AWARD

**Anthony Burns: the Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave**  
by Virginia Hamilton  
Knopf, 1988. Grade 7 up.

Born into slavery in ante-bellum Virginia, Anthony Burns secured his place in history when he fled to Boston in 1854. After a few short months of freedom, he was arrested, tried and returned to slavery--all under the questionable legality of the Fugitive Slave Law. His incarceration and trial provoked a storm of controversy and abolitionist activity which led to demonstrations, riots, and violence. In re-telling the daily events of the trial, the author effectively portrays the political tensions which brought the nation to a fever pitch in the years before the Civil War. After much suffering, Anthony Burns obtained his freedom and fulfilled his dream of becoming a preacher, only to die of consumption at the age of 28. Virginia Hamilton's stunning accomplishment is both a scholarly biography and a passionate drama of one man's struggle for freedom.

## HONOR BOOKS

Freedman, Russell. **Buffalo Hunt.** Holiday, 1988. Grades 4-7.

Beautiful, full-color reproductions of contemporary artists illustrate this history of the relationship between the Plains Indians and the buffalo. The author's vivid account details the uses the Indians had for every part of the animal, and how the fabric of their society disintegrated with the disappearance of the buffalo.



### HONOR BOOKS (Continued)

Meltzer, Milton. Benjamin Franklin: the New American. Watts, 1988. Grades 6-9.

Incorporating Benjamin Franklin's own words from primary source materials, Meltzer presents an engagingly human portrait of America's best known self-made man. This disarmingly frank chronological account of Franklin's various endeavors from printer to scientist to statesman captures the essence of a complex personality in a readable forthright style.

Reit, Seymour. Behind Rebel Lines. HBJ, 1988. Grades 5-8.

Using original source material including Edmond's memoirs, Reit has created an enthralling biography of a fascinating woman who posed as a man and served in the Union Army. Edmonds' exploits as a Union spy (in a variety of disguises) are engagingly detailed in a tightly written, fast paced style.

### ...AND ALSO WORTH NOTING

Boyne, Walter. The Smithsonian Book of Flight for Young People. Atheneum, 1988. Grade 7 up.

This history of human flight "from man's oldest dreams...to the present jet age" combines a clear, concise text with nearly one hundred illustrations to tell the story of how the dream became a reality.

Cleary, Beverly. A Girl from Yamhill: a Memoir. Morrow, 1988. Grades 6-12.

The beloved children's author tells her own story of growing up on a farm and, later, in Portland with events both funny and poignant. Children will especially enjoy the glimpses of Ramona in the young Beverly.

Cooney, Barbara. Island Boy. Viking, 1988. Preschool-Grade 3.

"At first there was just the island" until the Tibbitts family makes it their home. It is Matthais, the youngest of 12 children, whose life from childhood to old age is entwined with that of the New England island.

Fisher, Leonard Everett. Monticello. Holiday, 1988. Grades 3-7.

Thomas Jefferson, architect as well as president, spent 40 years building his home, a structure unique in American architecture. This handsomely designed 'biography' of the house describes the planning, construction, and history of Monticello.

Henry, Joanne Landers. Log Cabin in the Woods: a true story about a pioneer boy. Four Winds, 1988. Grades 4-6.

Oliver Johnson's memories form the basis of this month-by-month account of his boyhood activities on a clearing farm in the wilderness of early 19th century Indiana.

Hotze, Sollace. A Circle Unbroken. Clarion, 1988. Grades 6-9.

Captured by the Dakota Sioux in 1838 and brought up as the chief's daughter, Rachel Porter is returned by force to a life with a widowed father she barely remembers. His disapproval of her Indian upbringing complicates her adjustment and influences her decision to return to her Sioux family.

Houston, Gloria. The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree. Dial, 1988. Grades 1-4.

When young Ruthie's papa is delayed in returning home from the war on Christmas Eve 1918, she and her mother must undertake a late night expedition to cut the perfect balsam for their Appalachian mountain community.



Marrin, Albert. The War for Independence: the Story of the American Revolution. Atheneum, 1988. Grades 5-12.

This action-packed and highly readable account captures all of the excitement and drama of the American Revolution for young readers.

Pearson, Gayle. The Coming Home Cafe. Atheneum, 1988. Grades 6-9.

Driven to despair by her family's sinking fortunes in the Depression, 15 year old Elizabeth impulsively leaves home with Eddie, a hobo, in order to find work. Gritty realistic description and authentic historical detail make Elizabeth's saga a compelling read.

Perez, N.A. Breaker. Houghton, 1988. Grades 7-12.

After his father is killed in a mining accident, 14 year old Pat is forced to go to work in the coal mine breaker. This riveting story graphically conveys the harsh conditions of life in an early 1900's Pennsylvania mining community.

Tessendorf, K.C. Barnstormers and Daredevils. Atheneum, 1988. Grades 6-9.

Numerous pictures illustrate this story of the intrepid young men and women who roamed the United States in surplus biplanes during the 1920's. They performed daring aerobatics and crowd-pleasing stunts, risking life and limb to introduce America to the wonders of flight.

Winter, Jeanette. Follow the Drinking Gourd. Knopf, 1988. Grades 2-4.

Told in a few poetic words (and the lines of the song) and with highly dramatic illustrations, the author conveys the fear, dread and hope of slaves following the Underground Railroad to freedom in Canada.

#### 1989 JEFFERSON CUP COMMITTEE

Lindsay Ideson, Chair

Diana Berry

Lisa Brantley

Suzanne Blackwell

Diane Deuel

Gloria Nottingham

Edie Richards

#### 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 1990 Jefferson Cup Award:

Author.....

Title.....

Publisher.....

Date.....

Type of work (circle one)

History

Biography

Historical Fiction

Please send your suggestions to the 1990  
Chair of the Jefferson Cup Committee:

Diana Berry  
Special Services Division  
Virginia Beach Public Library  
930 Independence Blvd.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

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### 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.