MATURE READERS (grades 9-12)

Blackman, Malorie. **Boys Don’t Cry**. 2010. You’re waiting for the postman - he’s bringing your A level results. University, a career as a journalist - a glittering future lies ahead. But when the doorbell rings it’s your old girlfriend; and she’s carrying a baby. Your baby. You’re happy to look after it, just for an hour or two. But then she doesn’t come back... (Realistic fiction)

Brooks, Kevin. **iBoy**. 2010. Sixteen-year-old Tom Harvey was an ordinary Londoner until an attack causes fragments of an iPhone to be embedded in his brain, giving him incredible knowledge and power, but using that power against the gang that attacked him and a friend could have deadly consequences. (SF, gang & Internet fiction)

Bros gol, Vera. **Anya’s Ghost**. 2011. Anya, embarrassed by her family and lacking confidence in her body and her social skills, finally finds a friend after falling down a well, but quickly learns there are drawbacks to having a ghost for a friend. (Graphic novel)

Crowley, Cath. **Graffiti Moon**. 2011. Told in alternating voices, an all-night adventure featuring Lucy, who is determined to find an elusive graffiti artist named Shadow, and Ed, the last person Lucy wants to spend time with, except for the fact that he may know how to find Shadow. (Artists & graffiti fiction)


Geda, Fabio. **In the Sea There Are Crocodiles**. 2011. One night before putting him to bed, Enaiatollah’s mother tells him three things: don’t use drugs, don’t use weapons, and don’t steal. The next day he wakes up to find she isn’t there. Ten-year-old Enaiatollah is left alone in Pakistan to fend for himself. (Biographical fiction)

Handler, Daniel. **Why We Broke up: Novel**. 2011. (art by Maira Kalman) Sixteen-year-old Min Green writes a letter to Ed Slater ton in which she breaks up with him, documenting their relationship and how items in the accompanying box, from bottle caps to a cookbook, foretell the end. (Romance fiction)

Horowitz, Anthony. **The House of Silk**. 2012.In London, 1890, Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson try to stop the fine arts dealer Edmund Carstairs from being hara ssed only to find themselves mixed up in murder plots and an international conspiracy linking the worst criminals to the highest levels of government. (Crime & mystery fiction)

Maberry, Jonathan. **Rot & Ruin**. 2010.In a post-apocalyptic world where fences and border patrols guard the few people left from the zombies that have overtaken civilization, fifteen-year-old Benny Imura is finally convinced that he must follow in his older brother’s footsteps and become a bounty hunter. (Zombies & survival fiction)

Obrecht, Téa. **Tiger’s Wife**. 2011. Natalia, a young doctor on a medical mission to an orphanage in the Balkans, ponders the mystery of her beloved grandfather’s recent death. She finds the answers she seeks in the story of an abused deaf-mute woman in the village of his childhood who formed a bond with a tiger that escaped from the zoo following the German bombardment in 1941. (Realistic fiction)

Robbins, Alexandra. **The Geeks Shall Inherit the Earth: Popularity, Quirk Theory, and Why Outsiders Thrive After High School**. 2011. The stories in this book beautifully demonstrate things we know intrinsically: being popular is not always the same as being liked, that high school is more rigid and conformist than the military, and that the people who are excluded and bullied for their offbeat passions and refusal to conform are often the ones who are embraced and lauded for those very qualities in college and beyond. (Non-fiction)

Winter, Kathleen. **Annabel**. 2011. A child born neither fully boy nor fully girl in Labrador, Canada, in 1968, is raised as Wayne by his parents, even though his mother and midwife/neighbor, the only person outside the family to know the truth, secretly nurture his feminine side, and it is not until he is able to leave his hometown and settle in St. John that he has the freedom to explore his dual identity. (Gender issues fiction)
PANDA AWARDS 2012-2013 SHORTLISTS
(Books are listed in alphabetical order by author)

YOUNGER READERS (preschool-grade 2)

Barnett, Mac. Extra Yarn. 2012. Annabelle lives in a black and white world until she finds a box full of beautiful colored yarn. Bringing color into her world, changes begin until the evil archduke "who was very fond of clothes", wants her never-ending box of rainbow yarn for his own. Australian import infused with humor and ingenuity.


Klassen, Jon. I Want My Hat Back. 2011. Bear loses his hat and asks all the animals, one by one, if they have seen his red hat. With a slightly dark touch, much to Rabbit's eventual chagrin, Bear finds his hat.


Manuskin, Fran. The Tricky Tooth. 2011. Everyone in Katie Woo's class has lost a tooth -- her loose tooth refuses to budge, culminating in a visit to the tooth fairy in this short and lively four chapter book.

Modarressi, Mitra. Owlet's First Flight. 2012. Owlet awakens on a moonlit night and mama tells him it is time to take flight! Owlet, with his mother's help, experiencing overcoming obstacles, being brave, and having adventures.

Nesbitt, Kenn. More Bears. 2010. As the author writes the story, children demand more and more bear-tail highs with highly inventive names. In this very funny read aloud children, parents, and teachers will enjoy.

Padmanabahan, Manjula. I Am Different: Can You Find Me? 2011. Exploring differences through language and vibrant colors, this double-spread layout effectively presents 16 languages with short facts and a "Can you find me?" sentence with actual objects to find and identify. Unique, inclusive, and perfect for international schools!

Rasmussen, Halfdan. A Little Bitty Man and Other Poems for the Very Young. 2011. Translated from Danish, this colorful collection of poetry for very young children is a charming introduction to rhyme and humor in poetry.

Thomas, Jan. Is Everyone Ready for Fun? 2011. Chicken must lay down the law to his three cow friends who want to jump about on his couch! Funny, movement and multi-voiced orientation, will be a delight to read aloud.

Van Mol, Sine. Meena. 2011. Translated from the Dutch, the children of Fly Street fear their neighbor is a witch but when they meet her granddaughter and visit grandmother’s home, things change.

Weitzman, Jacqueline Preiss. Superhero Joe. 2011. Armed with a trash can lid and a blanket cape, Joe saves the day in this lively book which displays a combination of traditional and graphic illustrations.

MIDDLE READERS (grades 3-5)

Angleberger, Tom. DARTH PAPER STICKS BACK: An Origami Yoda Book. 2011. It is a dark time at Ralph McQuarrie Middle School. Dwight is suspended for being a troublemaker and Yoda asks Tommy and Kellen to save Dwight by creating a case file that proves Dwight is an asset to the school. (School fiction)

Applegate, Katherine. The One and Only Ivan. 2012. When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a home.

Barnett, Chris. A Little Bitty Man and Other Poems for the Very Young. 2011. Translated from Danish, this colorful collection of poetry for very young children is a charming introduction to rhyme and humor in poetry.

Boyce, Frank Cottrell. The Unfortnighted Coat. 2011. When two Mongolian brothers inexplicably appear one morning in Julie's sixth grade class, no one, least of all Julie, knows what to do with them. But when Chingis, the older of the two brothers, proclaims Julie as their “Good Guide” - a nomadic tradition of welcoming strangers to a new land - Julie must somehow navigate them through soccer, school uniforms, and British slang. (Refugees fiction)

Craig, Joe. LIFTERS. 2011. Adaq and Maya are siblings - urban professionals with a unique set of thieving skills. When Adaq lifts a package from his latest target, he has no idea what he's getting into. Before he can blink, the target is lying dead on the ground and he is running for his life. (Action/adventure)

Holm, Jennifer L. Squish. No. 1, Super Amoeba. 2011. Squish prefers to spend his time reading comic books starring Super Amoeba but has to attend elementary school with his friends Pod, who's a bit of a mooch, and Peggy, who's always happy and a bit naive. Once at school, they face more danger from bullies than most of the students. (Graphic novel)

Hopkins, Lee Bennett (Ed.). I Am the Book. 2011. An illustrated collection of poems that celebrates reading, featuring selections by Karla Kuskin, Jill Corcoran, Jane Yolen, and others. (Poetry)

Lin, Grace. Dumpling Days. 2012. Embarrassed that she and her two sisters are dressed in matching hot-pink dresses for a family visit to Taiwan, Pacy is a reluctant traveler. Once she arrives, Pacy begins to open up to new relationships, foods, and other new experiences. (Family life)

Markle, Sandra. Small Change for Stuart. 2011. In 1893 New York, thirteen-year-old Maks, a newsboy, teams up with Willa, a homeless girl, to clear his older sister, Emma, from charges that the stole from the brand new Waldorf Hotel, where she works. (Historical fiction)

Orr, Wendy. Lost: A Dog Called Bear. 2011. When Logan's dog runs away as he and his mother are moving to a new home after his parents separate, a girl named Hannah, who longs for a dog of her own, finds him. (Dogs/family)

ORDEAD READERS (grades 6-8)

Alban, Andrea. Anya's War. 2011. Anya Rosen moves with her family from Odessa to Shanghai in order to escape religious persecution from Adolf Hitler and the Nazis. But after Anya discovers a newborn baby abandoned in the middle of the street, and her hero, Amelia Earhart, goes missing, Anya fears that there is no safe place for her family. (Historical fiction)

Avi. City of Orphans. 2011. In 1893 New York, thirteen-year-old Maks, a newsboy, teams up with Willa, a homeless girl, to clear his older sister, Emma, from charges that they stole from the brand new Waldorf Hotel, where she works. (Historical fiction)


Detorie, Rick. The Accidental Genius of Weasel High. 2011. A typical boy in ninth grade draws comics and records his thoughts in his journal, describing life with his two parents, adolescent sister, and a bully. (Humor)

Dickinson, Matt. Mortal Chaos. 2012. When a butterfly starts a young rabbit, and the rabbit makes a horse rear, it starts a chain of events, over the course of one day, that will change people’s lives ... and end people’s lives. (Action)

Edginton, lan. The Sign of Four. 2010. A graphic novel adaptation of the Sherlock Holmes story in which the detective and his sidekick Dr. Watson become caught up in a treasure hunt after agreeing to help a woman learn the identity of her secret admirer. (Graphic novel)

Evanis, Lissa. Small Change for Stuart. 2011. Stuart Horton - ten years old and small for his age - moves to the dreary town of Beeton, far away from all his friends. And then he meets his new next-door neighbors, the unbearable Kingsley triplets, and things get even worse. (Mystery)

Fine, Anne. The Devil Walks. 2011. Raised in secrecy by a mother everyone thinks has gone mad, Daniel’s only link to his past is the intricately built model of the family home - High Gates. As Daniel is reunited with his Uncle Severn, his life starts to change, and not for the better. (Horror)

Meloy, Colin. Wildwood. 2011. True’s life shifts from ordinary to extraordinary when her baby brother is abducted by crows and she must embark into the Impassable Wilderness, a dense forest in the center of Portland, Oregon. (Fantasy)

Mesner, Kate. Eye of the Storm. 2012. Jaden's summer visit with her meteorologist father, who has just returned from spending four years in Russia conducting weather experiments not permitted in the United States, fills her with fear as she discovers that living at her father’s planned community Placid Meadows is anything but placid. (Adventure)

Morpurgo, Michael. Shadow. 2010. Never have Aman and his mother needed a friend more than when a younger spaniel appears in the mouth of their Afghan cave. As life in Afghanistan becomes more dangerous by the moment, Aman, his mother and Shadow find the courage to leave. But how far can Shadow lead them? (Realistic fiction)

Pitcher, Annabel. My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece. 2011. Narrated by ten-year-old Jamie, a stunning debut novel about the tragedy that tears apart his family after a terrorist attack, and how they rebuild their lives. (Realistic fiction)