Virginia Hamilton, author of *M.C. Higgins the Great*, published by Macmillan Publishing Company, Inc., and Gerald McDermott, adapter and illustrator of *Arrow to the Sun, A Pueblo Indian Tale*, published by the Viking Press were announced respectively to be the winners of the John Newbery Medal and the Randolph J. Caldecott Medal, awarded by the Children's Services Division of the American Library Association for the most distinguished books for children published in the United States in 1974.

The announcement was made by Bette J. Peltola, chairperson of the Newbery-Caldecott Awards Committee of the Children's Services Division of ALA, and Associate Professor, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, in the Monroe Room of the Palmer House in Chicago, Illinois, during the Midwinter Meeting of the American Library Association. Daniel Melcher, who is sponsor of the awards, and is the son of the late Frederic G. Melcher, original donor of the awards, was present and spoke at the announcement ceremony.

The presentation of the medals will take place at the Newbery-Caldecott Wilder Awards dinner during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in July 1975.

Virginia Hamilton, a resident of Yellow Springs, Ohio, is the author of several books of fiction and biography for young readers. Among her previous books is *The Planet of Junior Brown*, a Newbery Honor Book. *M.C. Higgins the Great* is the-
story of a boy growing up on Sarah's Mountain, where his family has lived for generations.

The Caldecott Medal winner, Gerald McDermott, lives in a small town in the Hudson River Valley. Besides creating books, Gerald McDermott is also a filmmaker. A special interest of his is the graphic interpretation of mythology which is shown in this adaptation and illustration of a Pueblo Indiana tale.

Newbery Honor Books are *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James and Christopher Collier, published by Four Winds Press; *Philip Hall Likes Me, I Reckon Maybe* by Bette Greene, published by the Dial Press; *The Perilous Gard* by Elizabeth Pope and published by Houghton Mifflin Company; and *Figgs & Phantoms* by Ellen Raskin, published by E.P. Dutton & Company, Inc.

*Jambo Means Hello: Swahili Alphabet Book*, illustrated by Tom Feelings, with text by Muriel Feelings, published by The Dial Press, was selected as a Caldecott Honor Book.

The John Newbery Medal has been awarded annually since 1922 to the author of the most distinguished contribution to literature for children published in the United States during the previous year.

The Randolph J. Caldecott Medal has been awarded annually since 1938 to the illustrator of the most distinguished picture book for children published in the United States during the previous year.

Selection of the medal winners and the Honor Books is made by a committee of twenty-three members of the Children's Services Division from nominations submitted by children's librarians and school librarians in the United States.