

2017 Notable Children's Recordings

28 Days: Moments in Black History that Changed the World. Live Oak Media. 800-788-1121. Ages 7-10

A full cast of narrators performs twenty-nine poems celebrating Black History with accompanying music, sound effects, and historical recordings creating a riveting listen.

Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln. Weston Woods. 800-243-5020. Ages 7-12
Nicol Zanzarella and Trevor Murphy expertly tell the story of Lincoln's life. Special sound effects, background music, and author and illustrator notes enhance the listening experience.

Anna and the Swallow Man. Listening Library. 800-793-2665. Ages 12 and up (*2017 Odyssey Award Audiobook*)

Allan Corduner's gentle narration guides this dark journey of a young girl and the mysterious man she befriends in the harsh environment of World War II Poland.

Arf. Weston Woods. Ages 8-12

Jim Frangione expertly personifies the confident dog Bowser, providing much levity in this murder mystery.

Arriba Abajo. Salsana. www.123andres.com All ages

1 2 3 Andrés imparts the joy of language, music, and movement in a bilingual (English and Spanish) collection of songs that is storytime and classroom-friendly.

As Brave as You. Simon & Schuster. 800-223-2336. Ages 8 and up

Guy Lockard brings ebullience and poignancy to this funny, resonant story of two brothers and the questions, big and small, that they face over the summer at their grandparents' home.

Beetle Boy. Recorded Books. 877-732-2898. Ages 8-12

With distinct characterizations and humor, M.G. Leonard narrates her book about a boy, beetles, and the mysterious disappearance of his father.

The Cat Who Came in Off the Roof. Listening Library. Ages 6-12

A rollicking performance by Katherine Kellgren lets the listener enjoy the adventures of shy Mr. Tibble and the unusual Miss Minou.

Dream On, Amber. Recorded Books. Ages 8-12 (*2017 Odyssey Honor Audiobook*)

Laura Kirman becomes this spirited tween in a dynamic performance that highlights Amber's humor, heart, and multicultural heritage.

Feel What U Feel. Furious Rose Records. www.lisaloeb.com All ages

Exploring various emotions, Lisa Loeb's soothing voice invites children to "Feel What U Feel."

Ghost. Simon & Schuster. Ages 10-14 (*2017 Odyssey Honor Audiobook*)

With authentic and humorous characterizations, Guy Lockard expertly performs this story of a boy who finds his purpose on the track team.

Grayling's Song. Recorded Books. Ages 10 and up

With a flair for character vocalization and a beautiful singing voice, Katherine Kellgren takes the listener on Grayling's magical quest.

Groovy Joe: Ice Cream and Dinosaurs. Weston Woods. Ages 3-6

Mixing narrative with song, Eric Litwin presents an engaging story of a dog who loves ice cream and learns to share with his dinosaur friends.

The League of Beastly Dreadfuls: The Dastardly Deed (Book 2). Listening Library. Ages 8 and up

Rosalyn Landor deftly captures a wide range of sound effects and characters, from bats to shapeshifters, in this lively fantasy tale.

Mama's Nightingale. Recorded Books. Ages: 5-12

Robin Miles interprets this heartwarming immigration story in a simple, believable voice, that perfectly captures a tender mother-daughter relationship.

My Pen. Live Oak Media. All ages

Christopher Myers' dazzling vocalizations and masterful art come together with brilliant sound effects to create an immersive sensory experience.

The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi. Weston Woods. Ages 10-14

Jason Culp's steady narration makes vivid the story of Mossad's mission to capture notorious Nazi fugitive, Adolf Eichmann.

Nimona. HarperAudio. Ages 12 and up (*2017 Odyssey Honor Audiobook*)

A villain, a hero, a shapeshifting teen tell a story of adventure, danger...and science! This full cast production brings to life the story, reminiscent of radio dramas.

The Playground Zone. School Time Music. www.alphabetrockers.com All ages

The Alphabet Rockers' infectious hip hop songs feature empowering messages that will have everyone up and dancing.

Raymie Nightingale. Listening Library. Ages 10-14

Jenna Lamia's distinctive voices for Raymie and her friends infuse this audiobook with humor and heartbreak, making for a memorable listen.

Saddle Up: A Western Adventure Album. Okee Dokee Music. www.okeedokee.org (503) 293-9498 All ages

From jackalopes to shooting stars, The Okee Dokee Brothers take listeners on a musical adventure across the Continental Divide. Accompanying DVD visually expands upon the listening experience.

Save Me a Seat. Weston Woods. Ages 8-12

Vikas Adam and Josh Hurley's expert and authentic vocalizations humorously relay the story of the unlikely friendship between two outsiders.

Stick and Stone. Weston Woods. Ages 4-7

Maxwell Glick's concise, expressive, and clear voice beautifully narrates this sweet and humorous tale of friends lost and found. Bonus song enhances the story experience.

Storms. Live Oak Media. Ages: 6-9

Dion Graham combines excellent narration with dramatic sound effects to inform and engage early readers. Vivid photos, riddles, and quizzes enhance this read-along.

Unbound: A Novel in Verse. Weston Woods. Ages 8-14

Bahni Turpin's lyrical interpretation of righteous Grace and her cruel Missus are the heart of this poetic tale of an enslaved family who seeks freedom in the Great Dismal Swamp.

Where Are You Going, Baby Lincoln? Listening Library. Ages 6-9

In an installment of Tales from Deckawoo Drive, Lorna Raver narrates this story of Baby Lincoln's Necessary Journey, bringing Kate DiCamillo's inimitable style to life in an engaging way.

Wolf Hollow. Listening Library. Ages 10 and up

Emily Rankin's intimate narration carries the listener along on 12-year-old Annabelle's haunting journey through a web of lies in a small Pennsylvania town in the shadow of WWII.

2017 Notable Children's Recordings Committee

Marianne Martens, chair, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

Sue Conolly, Center for Teaching through Children's Books, Arlington Heights, Ill.

Suzanne Fuchs, Bismarck, N.D.

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Mitch Self, McWhirter Elementary School, Webster, Texas

Cindy Vanderbrink, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo, Ohio