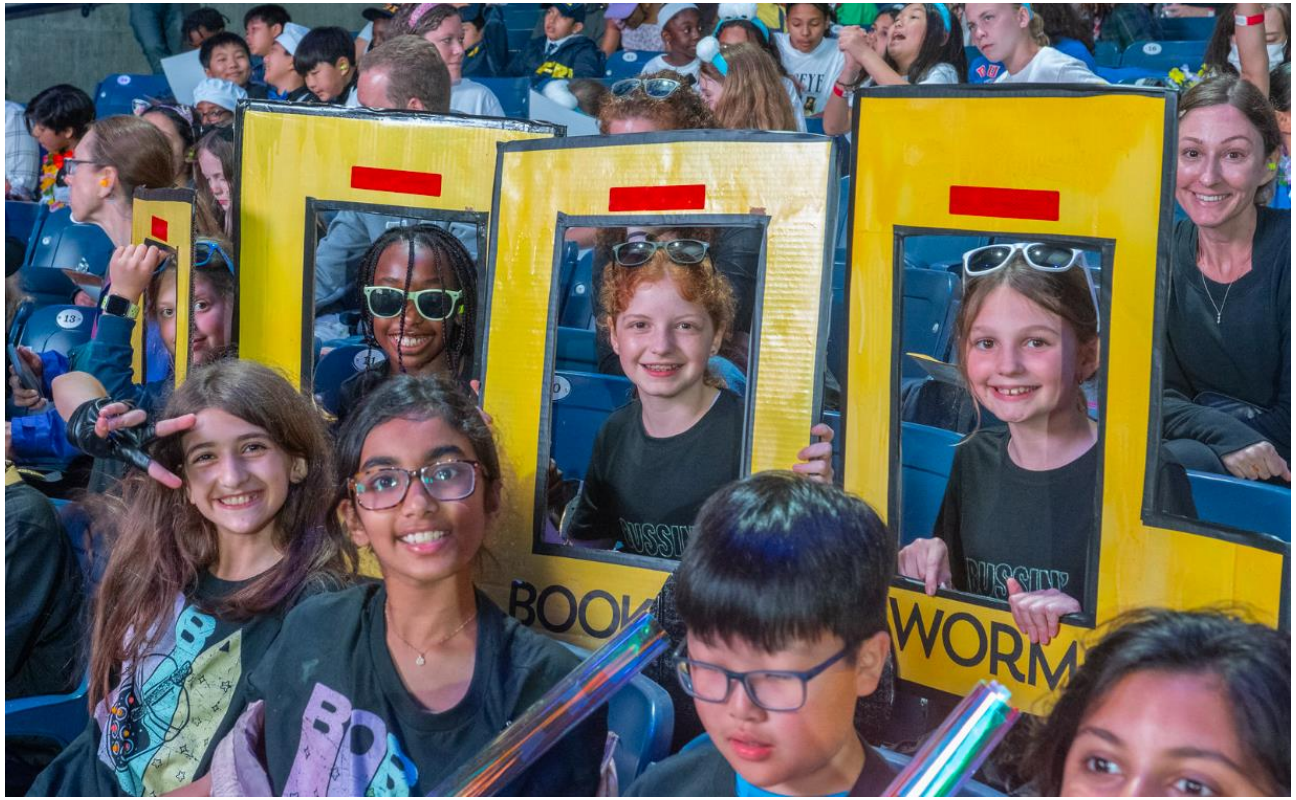
20th BATTLE OF THE BOOKS at MERRIWEATHER (2027)



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS at Merriweather Post Pavilion
20TH ANNIVERSARY

HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Howard County Public School System

Presenting Sponsor

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
— Meeting students where they dream —

BOB 20th Anniversary – Merriweather!



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
at Merriweather Post Pavilion
20TH ANNIVERSARY



What is Battle of the Books?

- A+ Partners in Education (HCLS and HCPSS) academic competition for Howard County 5th grade students
- An exciting, fun opportunity to read great books, work with a team, and be creative
- Teams include:
  - Three to five students from the same school
  - One adult coach
- Teams read **12** pre-determined books and compete at Merriweather Post Pavilion in April
- All participants receive certificates.

Goals for Students

- Build teamwork skills
- Learn good sportsmanship skills
- Read different genres (example, science fiction, graphic novels, nonfiction, etc.)
- Increase reading comprehension
- Have fun!

I heard the message from HcLibrary all year that BoB is about growing our reading skills, enjoying books with peers, and practicing together.

It would have been fun to keep score, but we understand BoB is so much more than that (our team kept score for ourselves).

Thank you for not cancelling Friday's BoB. The rain was unfortunate, but the overall party environment was lots of fun!

- 2023 BOB Coach
- 2025 – BOB in the news





Where and when?

Friday, April 23 or 30

tentative until Jan

Begins at 7 pm and ends between 10 and 11 pm

Merriweather Post Pavilion

RAIN OR SHINE

What are the details?

- Every HCPSS school has the opportunity to be represented by at least one team.
- Each team must have 3-5 members AND an adult coach.
- Team members will work together during the Battle.
- Coaches supervise their team during the Battle.
- Academic integrity will be expected.
- Each question is worth 2 points.
- Two bonus questions will be worth 4 points.



Registration

Coaches need the following information to register:

- For each team member:
  - student name
  - parent phone number
  - parent email address that is checked regularly
- For each coach:
  - coach name
  - phone number
  - email address that is checked regularly
  - mailing address
- Team name
- School name

Registration

- Each team can register up to 5 members. Alternates not permitted.
- In order to compete, at least 3 team members must participate in the Battle.
- Thanks to our generous sponsors, each team receives one set of books to keep.



Coaches



- Build team spirit and encourage good sportsmanship among your team members
- Set up regular meetings with your team
- Encourage and reward students
- Convey information from HCLS to team members and their parents
- Respond to communications from HCLS in a timely manner



How does it work?

- A moderator asks questions about the books.
- The Battle includes at least one question about each book.
- Questions read to the entire group.
- Each team has 30 seconds to discuss their thoughts and determine an answer.
- Teams answer using a paper score sheet and pencil
- All questions answered by selecting the correct title and author pairing from the resource sheet.
- Collecting and scoring answers to be shared in March logistics meeting.
- Correct answers read aloud after answers are collected.



Sample types of questions

- Direct quote from a character in the book.
- Question or statement about something that happens in the book.
- Passage taken directly from a book.
- Question about something from an illustration or picture.

ALL PARTS of the books distributed to teams MAY be considered for questions. More details in Nov meeting.

Scoring and awards

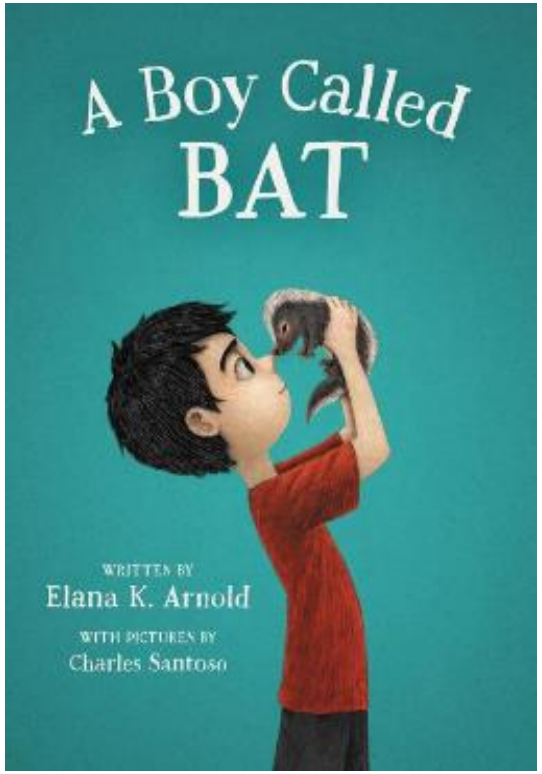


- Teams answering 95% or more correctly will get a gold medal (one medal per person) and trophy for the school. If multiple teams from the same school win Gold, only one trophy will be awarded.
- Teams scoring 90-94% will get a silver medal (one medal per person).

Additional award categories include:

- Best Team Name
- Best Team Costume
- Best Team Spirit
- Best Team Poster
- More to come for 2027

*Click on the enclosed links to view the book trailers and bios for all titles.



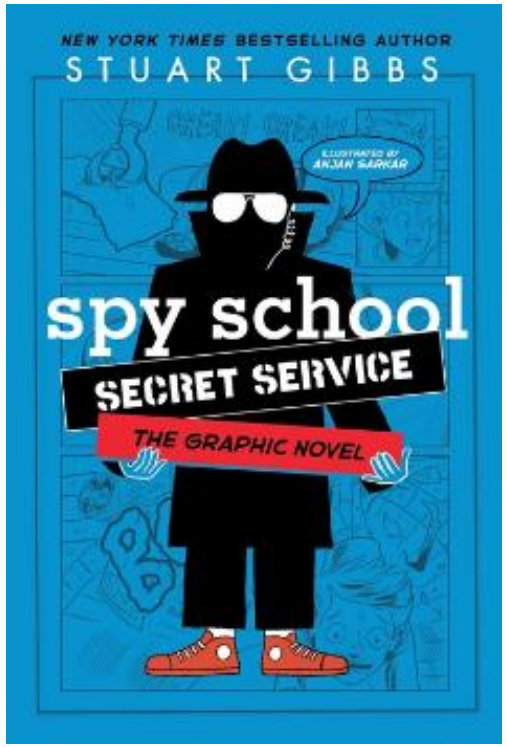
A Boy Called Bat

By Elana Arnold



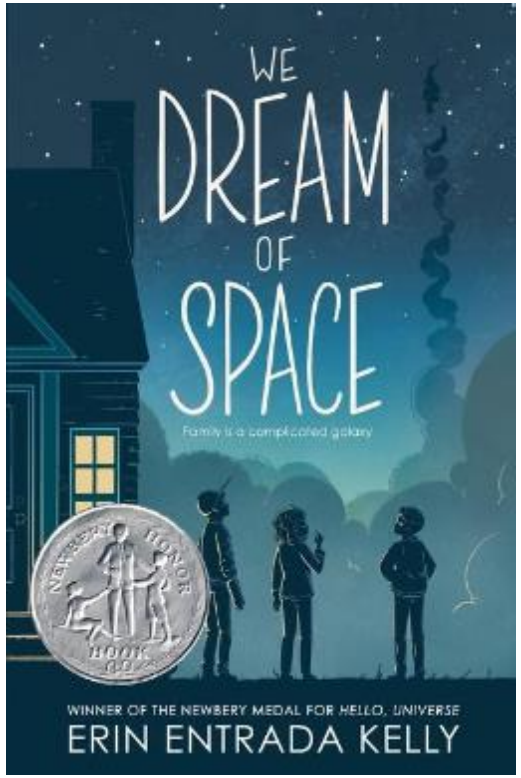
Connect the Stars

By Marisa De Los Santos



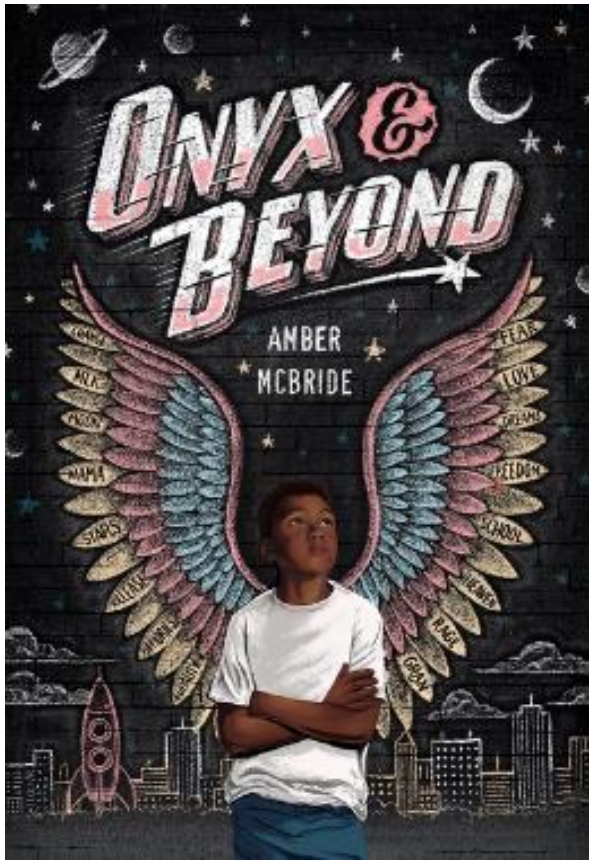
Spy School: Secret Service, the graphic novel

By Stuart Gibbs



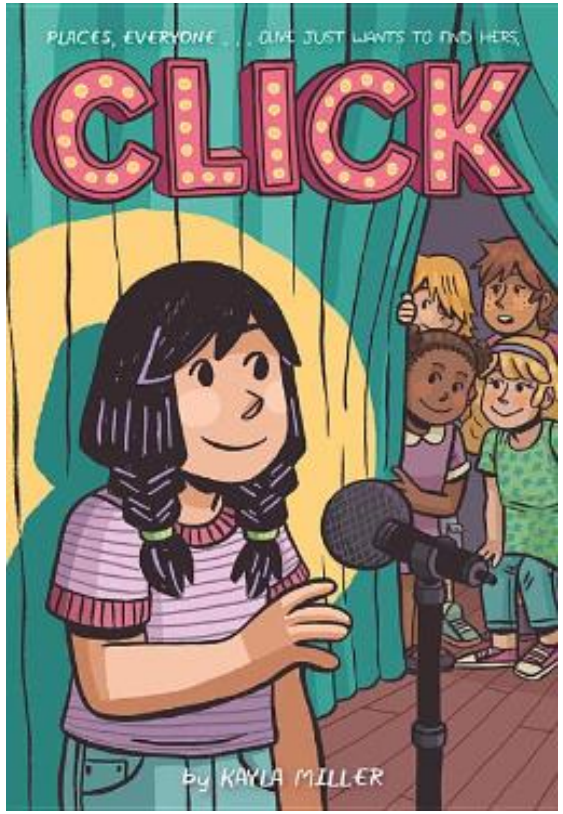
We Dream of Space

By Erin Entrada Kelly



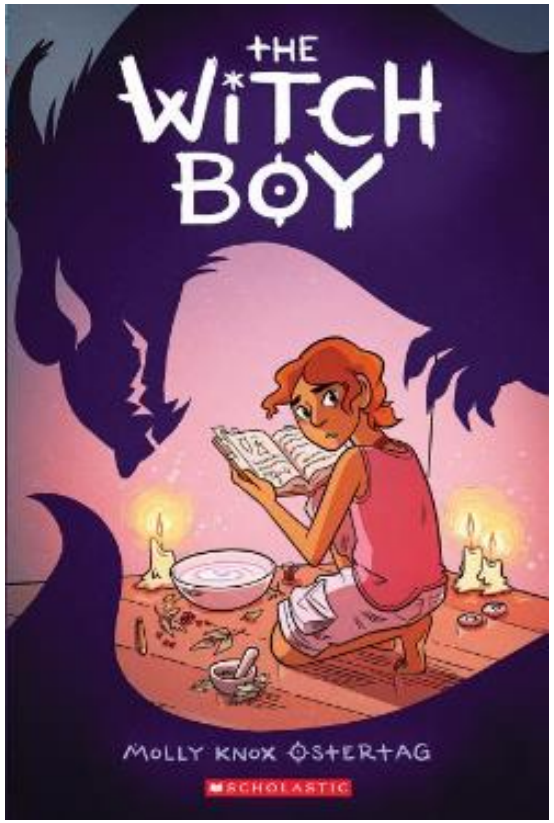
Onyx & Beyond

By Amber McBride



Click

By Kayla Miller



The Witch Boy

By Lee Knox Ostertag



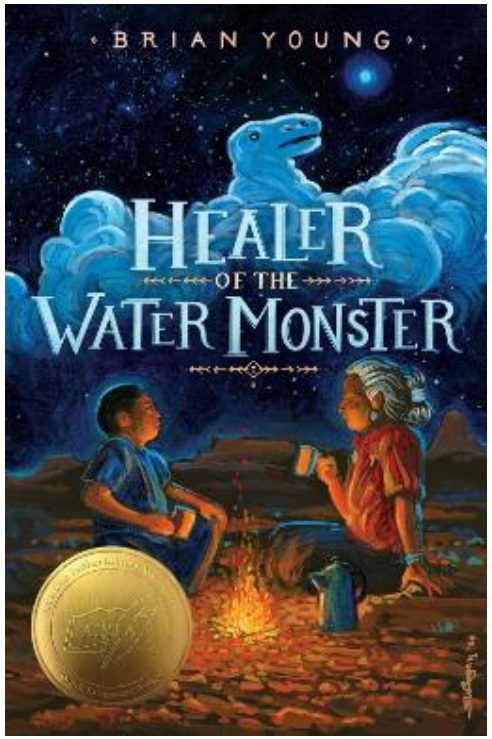
I Survived The California Wildfires

By Lauren Tarshis & Cassie Anderson



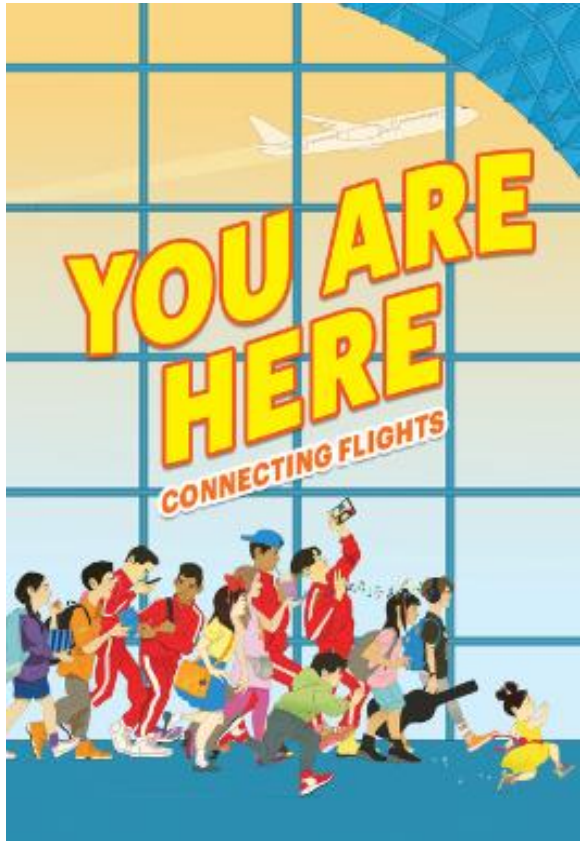
A Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall

By Jasmine Warga



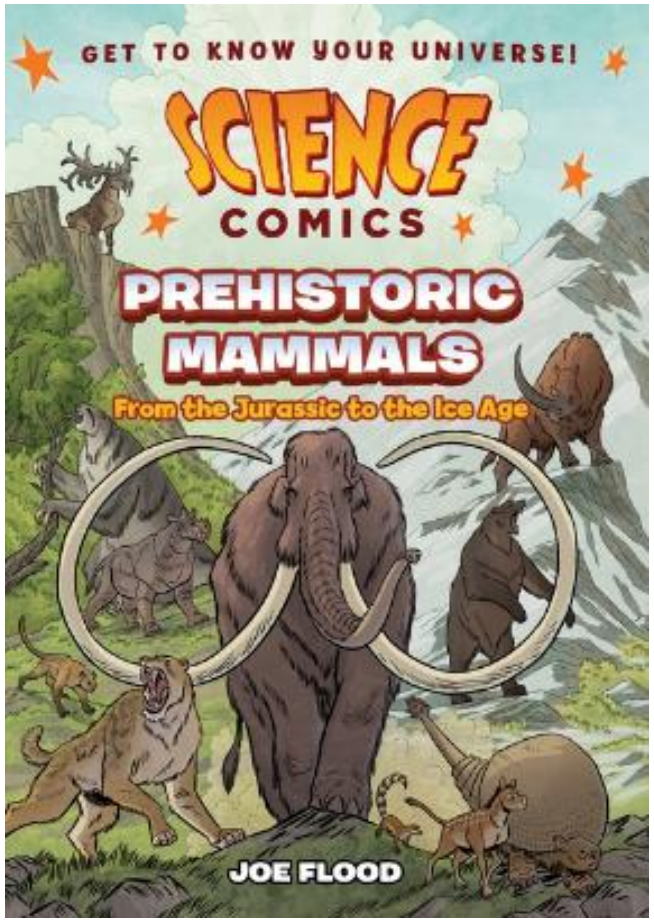
Healer of the Water Monster

By Brian Young



You Are Here: Connecting Flights

By Ellen Oh, Linda Sue Park, Grace Lin, and Minh Lê



Prehistoric Mammals: From the Jurassic to the Ice Age

By Joe Flood

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 14 –
Registration opens at 10 am and remains open until capacity is reached or November 4 at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first. (link to follow)

Nov 10 (7pm) –
Mandatory coach meeting via **Zoom** (recorded) – register Oct 9

Nov 16 (6 - 8 pm) –
Mandatory coach meeting at **Miller Branch** with book pick-up – register Oct 9

Nov 16 (6 - 8 pm) - Book pick-up at **Miller** - register Nov 8
Nov 20 (4 - 5 pm) - Book pick-up at **Miller** - register Nov 8
Nov 21 (11 am - 1 pm) - Book pick-up at **Miller** - register Nov 9
Feb 1, 2027 - Permission forms due and last day to change any team info

New! BOB open house - workshop sessions for teams to meet up at HCLS Branches
February 6 - March 27 (details will be released to registered teams)

March 31, 2027 - Mandatory logistics meeting via Zoom
April 2, 2027 - Upload team digital poster
April 10, 2027 - Live! BOB Author event - stay tuned for details (tentative)
April 23/30, 2027 - Battle of the Books event (tentative)

Sponsors

Thanks to our generous sponsors who make Battle of the Books possible:

Presenting Sponsor

Howard Community College

Platinum Sponsors

Friends & Foundation of HCLS
Merriweather Arts and Culture Center
Howard County Public School System



Info and registration at hclibrary.org/bob

Questions? Email bob@hclibrary.org