



THE NEWSLETTER Vol. 8 • No. 4 • June 2017

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Vermont Department of Libraries Staff News



Tom McMurdo

Tom McMurdo was named Assistant State Librarian for Information and Access earlier this month. Tom will oversee State Library services, interlibrary loan, library technology, and technical services. Tom came to the Department of Libraries after starting the Vermont Digital Newspaper Project at the University of Vermont. He has served as Collections and Digital Initiatives Librarian at the Department of Libraries since November 2012. As Collections & Digital Initiatives Librarian, Tom was the de facto manager of information and access services for portions of the last two years, so this is natural move that provides continuity in the Department and for the Vermont library community.

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The Department of Libraries is pleased to welcome **Kristen Stehel** to the team as the new Consultant for Library Technology. Kristen earned her BA in Art Teaching from the University of Utah, and her MLIS from Emporia State University. She has volunteered and worked for public and government libraries in various roles of increasing responsibility for the past 16 years, and is thrilled to begin work for the Vermont Department of Libraries. In her spare time, Kristen enjoys hiking, biking, skiing, and cooking.

Executive Assistant to the State Librarian **Cherie Yaeger** received the Department of Libraries' 2017 Public Service Recognition Award. She was honored along with other public service recognition awardees at a lunch with Governor Phil Scott on May 8. Congratulations, Cherie!

Letters about Literature Winners Honored in Montpelier



Six Vermont students received accolades for their writing on May 26.

[Read the full article](#)

Vermont Youth Book Award Winners Announced



The 2017 winners of the three Vermont youth book awards have been chosen!

[Read the full article](#)

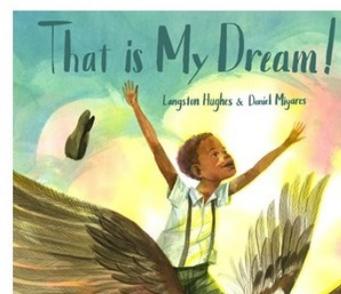
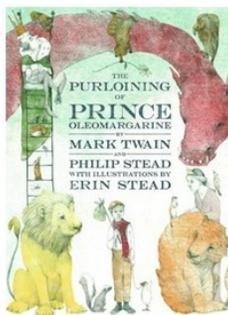
Bringing Resources to Light



Join us each month as we illuminate a fantastic resource (or two) from Vermont Online Library. This episode: The Small Business Resource Collection (<http://vtonlinelib.org/smallbusiness.php>).

[Read the full article](#)

Cass's Picks: Youth Book Reviews



Youth Services Consultant Cass Mabbott shares two of her favorite new titles coming out this fall.

[Read the full article](#)

ONLY COMPLETE ARTICLES BEYOND THIS POINT

Vermont's 2017 Letters about Literature State Winners Honored in Montpelier



Level 1 winner Cariah Rosberg reading her letter to the audience.

On Friday, May 26, six Vermont students and their families visited the State House in Montpelier to be recognized for their achievements in Vermont's state Letters about Literature competition.

Now in its 24th year, the Library of Congress' Letters about Literature writing contest challenges students in grades 4-12 to write a letter to an author of their choice about how one of that author's works changed their worldview. Eligible letters following the basic contest guidelines are entered into a state competition, where they are read and scored by a panel of Vermont literacy experts. The state winners for each level then move on to the national competition.

Over 250 students from all over Vermont entered this year's state competition, which was facilitated by the Department of Libraries and sponsored by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and gifts to the Library of Congress Center for the Book. Three winners (one from each level of judging: grades 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12) and three runner-ups were selected for this year's competition, and these six students were honored at the May 26 ceremony. After remarks by Youth Services Consultant Cass Mabbott and State Librarian Scott Murphy, the three winners read their letters aloud.

Winners and runner-ups received cash prizes and certificates, and got an opportunity to tour the State House after the ceremony. Congratulations to our student winners!



Left to right: McKenna Smith, Eva Tobias, Isabella Giesing, Eva Frazier, Cariah Rosberg, and Maggie Kirby.

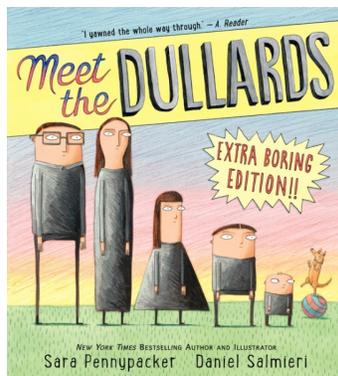
Level 1 Winner: Cariah Rosberg, Middlesex
Level 1 Runner-Up: McKenna Smith, Bradford

Level 2 Winner: Eva Frazier, Hinesburg
Level 2 Runner-Up: Eva Tobias, Burlington

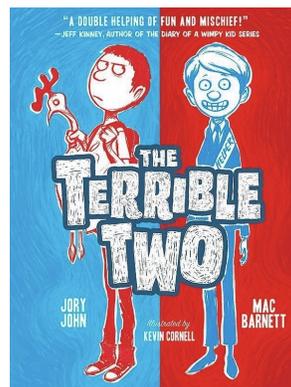
Level 3 Winner: Maggie Kirby, East Montpelier
Level 3 Runner-Up: Isabella Giesing, Bradford

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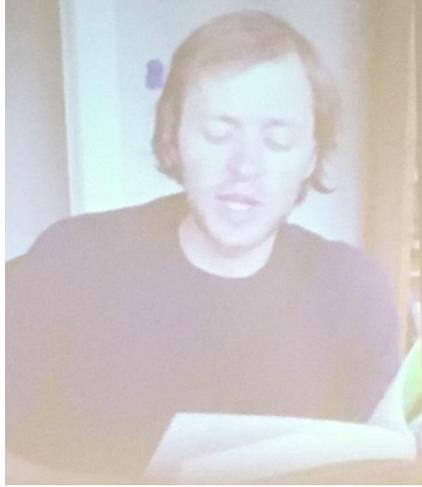
2017 Winners of Vermont's Youth Book Awards Revealed



The Red Clover Book Award is given to the picture book receiving the most votes from Vermont students in grades K-4. This year, *Meet the Dullards* by Sara Pennypacker (illustrated by Daniel Salmieri) came out on top! Check our [our website](#) for more information about the Red Clover Book Award!



The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award is given to the middle-grade title deemed the best by Vermont students in grades 4-8. It was a very close race this year, but *The Terrible Two* by Jory John and Mac Barnett (illustrated by Kevin Cornell) finished first!



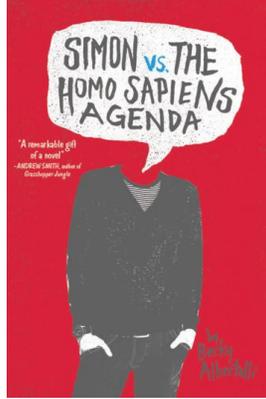
*Author Mac Barnett reads from **The Terrible Two** over Skype at the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award Ceremony.*

The 2017 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award Ceremony was held on Thursday, June 8, in Judd Hall at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center. Students from all over Vermont attended to see winning author Mac Barnett receive his award (a painting by Vermont artist Diana Dunn) virtually via Skype, hear Mr. Barnett speak, and ask him questions. Also honored was fifth-grader Harper Robinson of Dothan Brook School (Hartford, VT) who created the winning entry in the art contest celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award.



Left to right: Youth Services Consultant Cass Mabbott, Harper Robinson, and Dorothy Canfield Fisher Reading Committee Chair Hannah Peacock.

Visit [our website](#) for more information about this award!



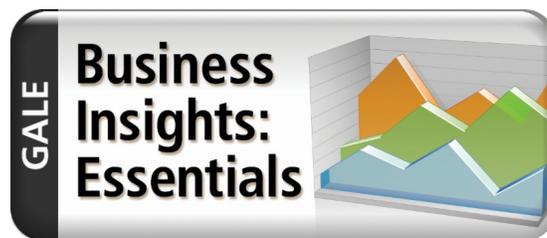
The Green Mountain Book Award, Vermont's high school book award, is given to the nominee receiving the most votes from Vermonters in high school and beyond. We are pleased to announce that *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* by Becky Albertalli was this year's winner. For more information about the Green Mountain Book Award, visit [our website!](#)

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Bringing Resources to Light

Join us each month as we illuminate a fantastic resource (or two) from Vermont Online Library. This episode: The Small Business Resource Collection (<http://vtonlinelib.org/smallbusiness.php>).

Public libraries help small businesses and entrepreneurs in many ways - including providing free access to Gale small business resources like *Business Insights: Essentials* and *Small Business Resource Center*.



Business Insights: Essentials helps entrepreneurs and business owners easily access detailed information on companies and industries. With the Company Finder, users can quickly find data on hundreds-of-thousands of companies worldwide (over 1000 in Vermont), including financial information, names of officers, number of employees, SWOT analysis, and market share reports. Users can compare this data across companies, and use the research to help develop a business plan.



If entrepreneurs in your community want help writing their business plan, point them towards the *Small Business Resource Center*. With over 250 real-life business plan examples, patrons can see how it's

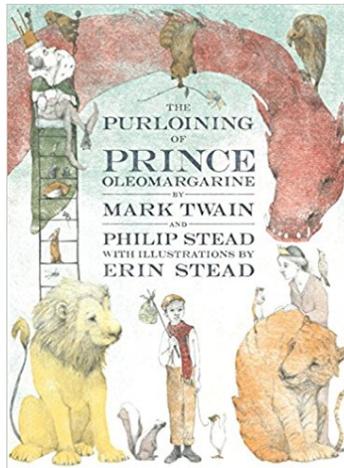
done, and discover tips for starting a small business, buying a business, and financing a business, among other topics (check out the "How To" menu). In the "Business Topics" menu, patrons will find information on women-owned businesses, e-commerce, internet marketing, risk management, and so much more.

Public libraries offer so much to our local business community. Consider surprising your local business owners and entrepreneurs by telling them about these 2 incredible resources - available for free from Vermont Online Library!

-Lara Keenan, Library Consultant for Governance and Management

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Cass' Picks: Youth Book Reviews



The Purloining of Prince Oleomargarine.

by Mark Twain and Philip Stead. Illustrations by Erin Stead.
Doubleday Books for Young Readers (available September 2017), ISBN 9780553523225, 152 pages, Younger Fiction, ages 8-12 years old.

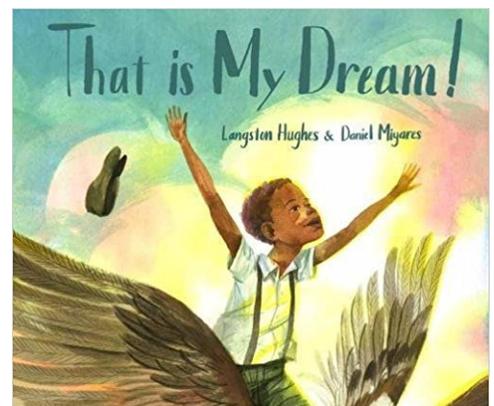
Award winners, Philip and Erin Stead, team up again to tell a never-published story found in Mark Twain's archive. Believed to be a story Twain told his kids, *The Purloining of Prince Oleomargarine*, has all the aspects kids will enjoy, a boy who can magically understand animals, a prince, a dragon, and incredibly lush illustrations. While the entire book is not yet available, I was able to review an abridged version and it promises to be wonderful.

Click [here](#) for a New York Times article about the book and the process of making it.

That Is My Dream!: A picture book of Langston Hughes's "Dream Variation".

by Langston Hughes & Daniel Miyares
Schwartz & Wade (available October 2017), ISBN 0399550178, Picture book.

Award-winning Miyares illustrates his interpretation of Langston Hughes' famous poem, "Dream Variation". As a young boy, Miyares, was inspired by this poem to be more empathetic about inequality and he hopes his version does the same for young people today. The gorgeous illustrations, alongside Hughes's words, make this a compelling read for children and adults alike.



-Cass Mabbott, Youth Services Consultant

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