The WNBA Pannell Award

Since 1983, the Women’s National Book Association (WNBA) has awarded one of the most prestigious honors in children’s bookselling: the WNBA Pannell Award.

Given annually at BookExpo America’s Children’s Book and Author Breakfast, the WNBA Pannell Award recognizes bookstores that enhance their communities by bringing exceptional creativity to foster a love of reading in their young patrons.

Every year a panel of publishing professionals selects two winners of the award — one general bookstore and one children’s specialty bookstore.

Each of the winners will receive a $1,000 check and a framed signed original art piece from a children’s book illustrator.

Anyone Can Make a Nomination

The bookstore nominations can come from customers, sales reps, store personnel, or anyone who has been impressed with the work of a particular independent bookstore.

You do not need to be a member of the WNBA to nominate a bookstore.

The Process

- Bookstores nominations must be received by February 3, 2020.

- The WNBA Pannell Award chair will then reach out to all nominated bookstores to request a formal electronic submission.

- Submissions should include a description of programs, events, activities, goals, and any contributions to the bookseller’s local community that focus on connecting kids to the love of reading. Photos, media coverage, letters from customers, and other
supplementary material may be included in the submission.

- Once the WNBA Pannell Award jurors have reviewed all submissions, the winning bookstores will be notified by phone. (All submitting bookstores will also receive a call.)

Read the [2020 WNBA Pannell Award Nominations Press Release](#).

### Nominate a Bookstore

To nominate a bookstore for the WNBA Pannell Award, you can either submit your nomination form through online submission below or by email.

- **Click to complete the online nomination form.**
- **Email: WNBAPannell@gmail.com.** Please include:
  - Name, email address, and phone number of person making the nomination
  - That person’s connection to the nominated bookstore (ex. customer, employee, sales rep, etc.)
  - Bookstore name, address
  - The contact information for the bookstore owner/manager
  - A brief statement outlining the reasons for nominating the bookstore

Nominations must be received by Monday, February 3, 2020.

### WNBA Pannell Award History

The WNBA established the WNBA Pannell Awards to recognize and publicly applaud the work of booksellers who stimulate, promote, and encourage children’s and young people’s interest in books.

Lucile Micheels Pannell, a founding member of one of the WNBA chapters, was born in the late 1800s. A model bookwoman, her career included teaching in a one-room schoolhouse, working as a librarian, and then managing the Hobby Horse Bookshop in Chicago’s Carson Pirie Scott department store from 1943 to 1953.

Lucile loved reading to children and introducing them to the world of books. Chicago schools sponsored field trips to the Hobby Horse Bookshop because children and teachers loved visiting with Lucile to listen to stories and learn about the world of books.

This award is our way to honor Lucile’s special role in the WNBA’s history.
Join the WNBA Today

Find a local chapter or become one of our National Network members!

Become a WNBA Member

Women's National Book Association | newsletter@wnba-books.org | https://wnba-books.org/