



Book of the Year Award – Selection Rubric

Themes/Appeal	Features diverse and timely themes that offer fresh perspectives on subject matter and that demonstrates universal appeal to readers across many age ranges, leaving a lasting impact on the reader
Innovation	Elevates and advances the concept of “graphic literature” as a whole; offers an inventive and original take on the artwork and/or story elements of a graphic novel; title demonstrates appeal beyond its intended age range
Accuracy & Authenticity	Features authentic, compelling, and relevant characters, settings, and other story elements that are appropriate to the title’s subject matter and themes (for nonfiction titles, this includes historical accuracy)
Overall Story Quality	Features an original, compelling, entertaining, and well-constructed story that keeps the reader continuously engaged
Overall Art Quality and Design	Features original and compelling artwork, including title covers, that feel essential to one another and work in tandem to create a more engaging reading experience; removing elements of the story or artwork would fundamentally change the experience of reading the book
Educational Potential	Offers a variety of viable opportunities for classroom/educational use across a range of ages and content areas; readily accessible to educators as a teaching tool