The Américas Award is given in recognition of U.S. works of fiction, poetry, folklore, or selected non-fiction (from picture books to works for young adults) published in the previous year in English or Spanish that authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States. By combining both and linking the Americas, the award reaches beyond geographic borders, as well as multicultural-international boundaries, focusing instead upon cultural heritages within the hemisphere. The award is sponsored by the national Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP).

The Américas Award winners and commended titles are selected for their

1) distinctive literary quality
2) cultural contextualization
3) exceptional integration of text, illustration and design; and
4) potential for classroom use.

Award winners will be honored at a ceremony October 5, 2012 during Hispanic Heritage Month at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

2012 Américas Award Winners


Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People by Monica Brown; Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. Henry Holt and Company. 32 pages. 978-0805091984

2012 Américas Award Honorable Mention


2012 Américas Commended Title