## The Willows Celebrations and Gala Season

# Voting for the 2020 Willow Winners is Finalized!

While the voting was down considerably from pre-COVID years, there were clear winners in all three categories. Winning authors and books will be announced May 26th at our virtual gala hosted by Wilfred Hunt School. While the Gala will be a virtual event, there will be recordings of it and these will be posted as soon as they can be following the event.

All schools that entered voting results were entered into a draw for a selection of books for the school libraries. Congratulations to the 3 winners! The early bird draw winner is Sutherland School in Saskatoon. The two other draw winners are Lake Lenore School in Lake Lenore and School in Holdfast.

#### **Book Grab Fund-raiser**

The Board of Directors of SYRCA Inc. -The Willow Awards - would like to thank the reading community for your participation in our Book Grab Fundraiser. It has been a great success! We appreciate the support that everyone across the province has offered our organization! There were individuals, school libraries and public libraries that took advantage of this opportunity to access great books at a small donation.

Thank you again for your support of The Willow Awards! We hope that you enjoy your books!

**Next year's finalists** were announced on the website <a href="https://willowawards.ca/">https://willowawards.ca/</a> We have another 30 wonderful titles that we know kids will love!

# The Willows will Celebrate 20 Years Beginning in the Fall of 2021

For anyone who has been following the Willows since the beginning it is hard to believe it has been 20 years – years of excitement, challenges, and perseverance. We will be providing details about the anniversary celebrations in June so plan to engage whether you are involved in a school, public, or special library. The endurance of the award program throughout these many years is a testament to the value of them in the community.

## ...and more!

We would love to see you participate in the various activities that we plan in the future. All of them are accessible to the whole province. For example, you can submit your launch ideas to win book prizes, apply to host the spring Gala, or take part in one of the many contests that we promote. Best of all, we hope that you will continue to encourage the children in your community to read the Willow finalists and vote for their favourites. To find out more about any of these, please visit our website at <a href="willowawards.ca">willowawards.ca</a>.

If you wish to be added to our regular mailing list for updates on the Willows and our various contests and activities, please send a message to <a href="https://willowawards.ca/contact-us/">https://willowawards.ca/contact-us/</a>.

Next month will include AGM announcements and a special announcement about the upcoming anniversary year!

Respectfully submitted, Judy Nicholson SLA Representative to SYRCA Inc Board