

2021 Forest of Reading® Winners Announced at Wednesday's Virtual Edition of the Forest of Reading Awards

Readers across the country voted for favourite Canadian titles in readers' choice award program

NEWS RELEASE

STRICT EMBARGO UNTIL MAY 19, 2021 AT 2 PM EST

TORONTO, ON (May 19, 2021) – The Ontario Library Association (OLA) and the Forest of Reading are excited to announce the winners of the 2021 Forest of Reading Awards, presented at the Forest of Reading Award ceremonies, a three-day, free digital event, streamed on [Curio](#) in partnership with [CBC Books](#), hosted by Ali Hassan.

Today's Forest of Reading Award Winners are:

- Silver Birch Express Award® Winner: ***Peter and Ernesto: Sloths in the Night*** by Graham Annable (Published by First Second, Distributed by Raincoast Books)
- Silver Birch Fiction Award® Winner: ***The Jigsaw Puzzle King*** by Gina McMurchy-Barber (Dundurn Press)
- Yellow Cedar Award: ***Trending: How and Why Stuff Gets Popular*** by Kira Vermond and Clayton Hanmer (Owlkids Books Inc.)

Yesterday, we announced the winners of the Blue Spruce Award, the Red Maple Award, and the White Pine Award. Tomorrow on May 20, the winners of the French-language Forest of Reading programs (Le prix Peuplier, Le prix Mélèze, and Le prix Tamarac) will be announced.

Since October, over 270,000 children have read nominated books, which include Canadian fiction and non-fiction books by English and French-language authors, and almost almost 100,000 voted this year, an impressive number with many readers and students learning at home.

The Forest of Reading consists of ten programs distinguished by age group and reading level, each with ten nominated titles. The English school-aged programs are Blue Spruce, Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch Fiction, Yellow Cedar, Red Maple, and White Pine. French literature is celebrated through the Peuplier, Mélèze, and Tamarac programs. The adult program, Evergreen, celebrates excellence in Canadian literature. There are 100 nominated titles with ten books in each program.

We recognize the major support from our sponsors and partners: Tinlids Inc., CBC Books, and the Government of Canada.

Follow the conversation [#ForestofReading](#) and [#IReadCanadian](#).

About the Ontario Library Association: The [Ontario Library Association \(OLA\)](#) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with 5,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA enables members to advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading® program.

About CBC Books: Home to *Canada Reads*, *Writers & Company* with Eleanor Wachtel, *The Next Chapter* with Shelagh Rogers, *Canada Writes* and the CBC Literary Prizes, CBC Books connects Canadians with books, encouraging a shared love of reading and writing. For book news, writing challenges, reading lists, book recommendations and more, visit [CBCbooks.ca](#).

About Tinlids: [Tinlids Inc.](#) is the official wholesaler for the 2021 Forest of Reading program.

Media and program contacts:

[Meredith Tutching](#)

Director, Forest of Reading
Ontario Library Association
416.363.3388 x222

[Lauren Hummel](#)

Manager, Marketing and Communications
Ontario Library Association
416.363.3388 x227