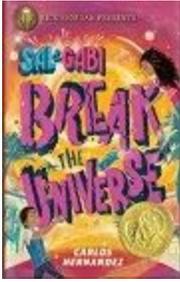
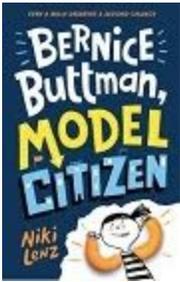
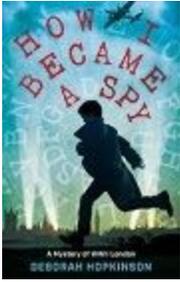
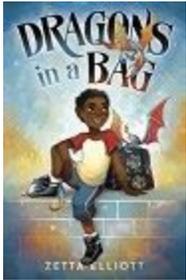
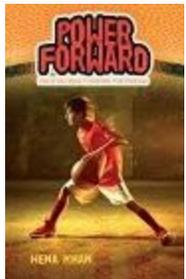
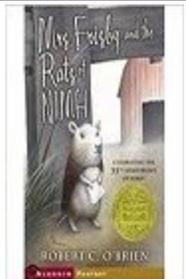
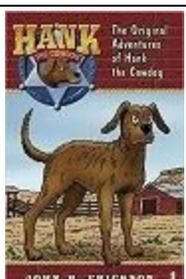


**Battle of the Books List 2021
Elementary**

	Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez	Pura Belpre Award
<p>Sal Vidón is a new student at the Culeco Academy for the Arts who dreams of a future as a famous stage magician. Gabi Real is student-body president and has her fingers in all the happenings at Culeco. She suspects Sal has a secret and discovers that in addition to his magic tricks he can actually tear holes in reality, allowing things to pass between universes. Gabi is focused, perceptive, and a no-nonsense journalist, which all comes across in her voicing. Sal is sarcastic at times, but also genuine and emotionally mature. Perez strikes the perfect balance, underscoring Sal's witty quips and keen observations with earnest moments that show his depth of caring. The book is set in Miami with multiple bilingual characters and the Spanish accents are varied and well done.</p>		
	Bernice Buttman Model Citizen by Niki Lenz	SSYRA
<p>When you're a Buttman, the label "bully" comes with the territory, and Bernice lives up to her name. But life as a bully is lonely. After her mom leaves her in a new town with her aunt (who is also a real live nun), Bernice decides to mend her ways and become a model citizen. If her plan works, she just might be able to get herself to Hollywood Hills Stunt Camp! But it's hard to be kind when no one shows you kindness, so a few cheesy pranks may still be up her sleeve</p>		
	How I Became a Spy by Deborah Hopkinson	SSYRA
<p>Bertie Bradshaw never set out to become a spy. He never imagined traipsing around war-torn London, solving ciphers, practicing surveillance, and searching for a traitor to the Allied forces. But when a young woman goes missing, leaving behind a coded notebook, Bertie is determined to solve the mystery. With the help of his friends and his trusty pup, Bertie must decipher the notebook in time to stop a double agent from spilling the biggest secret of all to the Nazis.</p>		
	Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere	SSYRA
<p>When Olga crosses paths with a weird creature and becomes the first kid to discover the species olgamus, she is ecstatic! What does an olgamus eat? How does it poop? Why does its burp sound like the word rubber? With her trusty observation notebook and the help of a librarian, a shopkeeper, and some friends, Olga sets out to do science—learning the facts about her smelly, almost-furry pal and searching for him when he goes missing.</p>		
	Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Pantelakos	SSYRA
<p>Nova and her big sister, Bridget, share a love of astronomy and the space program. They planned to watch the space shuttle Challenger launch together. But Bridget has disappeared, and Nova is in a foster home. While foster families and teachers dismiss Nova as severely autistic and nonverbal, Bridget understood how intelligent and special Nova is. Every day Nova is counting down to the launch and Bridget's hopeful return.</p> <p>SSYRA</p>		

	Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliot	SSYRA
<p>When Jaxon is sent to spend the day with a mean old lady his mother calls Ma, he finds out she's not his grandmother—but she is a witch! She needs help delivering baby dragons to a magical world where they'll be safe. There are two rules when it comes to the dragons: don't let them out of the bag and don't feed them anything sweet. Before he knows it, Jax and his friends have broken both rules! Will Jax get the baby dragons delivered safe and sound? Or will they be lost in Brooklyn forever?</p>		
	Power Forward by Hena Khan	SSYRA
<p>Fourth grader Zayd Saleem has some serious hoop dreams. He's not just going to be a professional basketball player. He's going to be a star. A legend. The first Pakistani-American kid to make it to the NBA. He knows it deep in his soul. It's his destiny. There are only a few small things in his way. His mom and dad don't get it. They want him to practice his violin way more than his jump shot. When he gets caught blowing off his violin lessons to practice, Zayd's parents lay down the ultimate punishment: he has to hang up his high tops and isn't allowed to play basketball anymore. As tryouts for the Gold Team approach, Zayd has to find the courage to stand up for himself and chase his dream.</p>		
	Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Universe by Kwame Mblia	Coretta Scott King
<p>Seventh grader Tristan Strong feels anything but strong ever since he failed to save his best friend when they were in a bus accident together. All he has left of Eddie is the journal his friend wrote stories in. Tristan is dreading the month he's going to spend on his grandparents' farm in Alabama, where he's being sent to heal from the tragedy. But on his first night there, a sticky creature shows up in his bedroom and steals Eddie's notebook. Tristan chases after it--is that a <i>doll</i>?--and a tug-of-war ensues between them underneath a Bottle Tree. In a last attempt to wrestle the journal out of the creature's hands, Tristan punches the tree, accidentally ripping open a chasm into the MidPass, a volatile place with a burning sea, haunted bone ships, and iron monsters that are hunting the inhabitants of this world. Tristan finds himself in the middle of a battle that has left black American folk heroes John Henry and Brer Rabbit exhausted. In order to get back home, Tristan and these new allies will need to entice the god Anansi, the Weaver, to come out of hiding and seal the hole in the sky. But bartering with the trickster Anansi always comes at a price. Can Tristan save this world before he loses more of the things he loves?</p>		
	Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brien	Classic
<p>Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse with four small children, is faced with a terrible problem. She must move her family to their summer quarters immediately, or face almost certain death. But her youngest son, Timothy, lies ill with pneumonia and must not be moved. Fortunately, she encounters the rats of NIMH, an extraordinary breed of highly intelligent creatures, who come up with a brilliant solution to her dilemma. And Mrs. Frisby in turn renders them a great service.</p>		
	The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog	Classic
<p>It's a tough job, but somebody's got to do it. Guts, glory, danger, and sacrifice are all in a day's work for Hank the Cowdog, Head of Ranch Security. While investigating a murder on the ranch, Hank finds himself the number-one suspect. He resigns and heads for the hills to become an outlaw. A band of ruthless coyotes are happy to teach Hank the trade. Will Hank be forced to raid his own ranch? Hank sings "How Do I Do It?" and Rip and Snort sing "Me, Just a Worthless Coyote" in this hilarious adventure for the whole family.</p>		