

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Antonio  
January 20-25, 2006**

**Topic:** Proposed Audiobook Award

**Background:** Bill Ott, Editor & Publisher of Booklist, approached YALSA about the idea of establishing an audiobooks award for youth. The Board agreed via email in the summer of 2005 to pursue this idea and the Audiobooks Award Exploration Joint Taskforce was established with representatives from ALSC, Booklist, YALSA and audiobook publishers. The taskforce has put together

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**Charge:** To annually select the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States during the preceding year and, if desired, to also select honor titles.

**Committee Members:**

The committee will consist of nine members: four members appointed by ALSC; four members appointed by YALSA; a chair, whose appointment alternates between ALSC and YALSA divisions; and a consultant from the staff of Booklist.

Members serve a one-year term beginning immediately after Midwinter and ending after Midwinter of the announcement year. All members are required to attend all Odyssey Committee meetings held during the selection process. In the event a member is unable to complete her/his term, the President of the appropriate division shall appoint a replacement from among the members of either ALSC's Notable Children's Recordings or YALSA's Audiobooks Selection Committee, with the replacement serving double-duty until end of that cycle.

The chair is a voting member of the committee with all the rights and responsibilities of other members. In addition, the chair presides at all meetings of the committee and serves as a facilitator of both discussion and committee business. The chair has sole responsibility for

- May: By May deadline, the chair will assemble and send to committee members a list of all suggested titles that will be discussed at the Annual meeting. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- Annual Conference: The committee meets in three closed sessions to discuss all titles suggested up to May deadline.
- June - October: Committee members continue to listen and each month, at an agreed upon time, suggest titles for award consideration. The chair will compile and distribute to committee members, monthly cumulative master lists of titles suggested since Annual. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- October: **October 1:** Final date for producers to submit audiobooks for consideration.  
**October deadline:** From the list of suggested titles, committee members nominate up to three titles for the voting ballot; members write annotations for each title. Chair compiles list of all nominated titles and sends list to members.  
**October deadline –December deadline:** Committee members continue to listen and suggest titles for award consideration. The chair will compile and distribute master lists of newly suggested titles to committee members. Committee members will listen to all suggested titles in their entirety and maintain careful evaluative notes of the meritorious qualities of the work.
- December - Jan: **December deadline:** Committee members nominate three additional, and different, titles, with annotations, for the vo

ne:

All literary genres are eligible for consideration.

Audiobooks produced previously in another audio format are ineligible for consideration.

The audiobook must have been designated by its publisher as intended for either young adults or children, who are defined as persons up to and including eighteen; works for this entire age range are to be considered.

Audiobooks featuring single or full cast narration are eligible

Audiobooks previously published in another country are eligible presuming they have also been distributed in the United States during the preceding year.

“In English” means only audiobooks produced in English are considered, but this requirement does not limit the use of words or phrases in another language where appropriate in context.

If no title is deemed sufficiently meritorious, no award will be given that year.

The chair, with assistance from designated ALSC Title 4600 (41628056) Editor, Title 363826 (Edm) 51350 14 0 T

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eligible to be considered for nomination by members. Only those titles that have been nominated will be discussed at Midwinter and Annual Conference meetings, though a committee member may request that a suggested title be moved to the discussion list and thus treated as a nominated title. Furthermore, all nominated titles must be discussed. Publishers, authors, or editors may not nominate their own titles.

### **Voting Procedures**

Following discussion at Midwinter, balloting will begin. Members must be present to vote. Proxies will not be accepted.

### **Award Audiobook**

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or appointed to serve on award and media evaluation committees, and in the integrity of the officers or nominating committees responsible for selecting candidates. However, because of the nature of the work of such committees, those who serve on them must be especially sensitive to conflict of interest situations and the appearance of impropriety.

The purpose of this policy is to clas