



NBDCS
The Book Council



27 May 2011

Scholastic Asian Book Award 2011: Winners

The winners of the **Scholastic Asian Book Award 2011** were announced during the Awards Presentation Ceremony on **27 May 2011**.

The awards were presented by H.E. Dr. Jose Ramos-Horta, Nobel Peace Prize Winner and Author of *The Lost World of Timor-Leste*, President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

The National Book Development Council of Singapore and Scholastic Asia jointly launched the Asian children's book prize. The award, called the Scholastic Asian Book Award (SABA), will recognise Asians and children's writers of Asian origin who are taking the experiences of life, spirit and thinking in different parts of Asia to the world at large. The award would also promote the understanding of the Asian experience and its expression in innovative and creative forms.

The objectives of the SABA are as follows:

- To recognise excellence in fiction in Asian stories for children
- To showcase the diversity of literary talent within Asia
- To encourage and inspire more Asian-themed books and stories

The award carries a cash prize of S\$10,000 and the winning manuscript may be considered for publication by Scholastic Asia.

Scholastic Asian Book Award 2011

Winning Manuscript

Book Uncle and Me (Novel) by Uma Krishnaswami

1st Runner up

The Girl Mechanic of Wanzhou (Novel) by Marjorie Sayer

2nd Runner up

The Mudskipper (Novel) by Ovidia Yu Tsin-Yuen

Judging Committee:

Chairman: Mr. Nury Vittachi, Hong Kong

Ms. Aline Pereira, USA

Mr. John McKenzie, New Zealand

Ms. Anushka Ravishankar, India

Ms. Kelly Sonnack, USA

About the NBDCS:

National Book Development Council of Singapore (NBDCS) is a non-profit umbrella body inaugurated in 1969 to promote literary arts and publishing through a variety of interesting and innovative programmes. Its current objective is to establish and develop Singapore as the Asian centre for publishing and the literary arts.

About Scholastic

Scholastic, founded in 1920, is the largest children's publisher and distributor in the world.

For further enquiries, please contact:

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11 May 2011

Scholastic Asian Book Award 2011: Shortlist

The National Book Development Council of Singapore is pleased to announce the shortlisted works for the Scholastic Asian Book Award 2011.

The shortlisted titles are **not** listed in order of merit:

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|---|-----------------------|
| 1) <i>The Mudskipper</i> | Ovidia Yu Tsin-Yuen |
| 2) <i>Kingfisher</i> | Chee Siew Hoong |
| 3) <i>The Last Hero of Orion</i> | Farooq Jamil Alvi |
| 4) <i>Kam's Schoolfish Rolls</i> | Sue Flotow |
| 5) <i>Book Uncle and Me</i> | Uma Krishnaswami |
| 6) <i>The Kumquat Code</i> | Yat-Yee Chong |
| 7) <i>The Zone</i> | Kate Whitehead |
| 8) <i>The Girl Mechanic Of Wanzhou</i> | Marjorie Sayer |
| 9) <i>These Enchanted Woods</i> | Margaret Lim Hui Lian |
| 10) <i>Backyard Banzai Chicken Warriors</i> | Kimi Takazawa |

The Scholastic Asian Book Award is presented annually to recognise Asians and writers of Asian origin who are taking the experiences of life, spirit and thinking in different parts of Asia to the rest of the continent and to the world at large. The award would also promote the understanding of the Asian experience and its expression in innovative and creative forms.

The objectives of the award are to recognise excellence in fiction with Asian stories for children, to showcase the diversity of literary talent within Asia, and to encourage and inspire more Asian books.

The Scholastic Asian Book Award will be awarded to an unpublished manuscript in English (either an original work of fiction or a translation from any work of fiction written in any Asian language) targeted at children of ages 6 to 12 years written by writers in Asia or of Asian origin. The authors may have been previously published.

The best manuscript will also win a prize of S\$10,000. The manuscript will also be considered by Scholastic Asia for publication.

A total of 144 manuscripts were submitted, out of which 10 entries are from USA, 33 entries from India, 22 from Philippines, 19 entries from Malaysia, 6 entries from Hong Kong, 48 entries from Singapore, 3 entries from Vietnam and 1 entry each from South Korea, Myanmar and Germany.

The inaugural Scholastic Asian Book Award will be awarded on 27 May 2011, at the Asian Festival of Children's Content, in Singapore.

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