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ARTS: Pam Munoz Ryan to receive Zarrow Award Friday

By James D. Watts Jr. Tulsa World May 1, 2018

New York Times best-selling author Pam Muñoz Ryan will be presented the Tulsa Library Trust's 2018 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature at a public event 7 p.m. Friday, at Hardesty Regional Library's Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St.

The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to receiving the award, which includes a \$7,500 cash prize and an engraved crystal book, Ryan will present awards to winners of the 2018 Young People's Creative Writing Contest.



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Ryan is the author of more than 40 books, including picture books, early readers and young adult novels. Her work is noted for how it encourages cultural awareness and the importance of believing in yourself.

Ryan began her career as a bilingual Head Start teacher and a director for an early childhood program. It was as she was working on a master's degree at San Diego State University that one of her professors urged her to pursue a career in professional writing.

Her first published book was "One Hundred Is a Family" in 1994. The American Library Association has recognized her twice as the best Latina author with the Pura Belpre Medal for "Esperanza Rising" (2002) and "The Dreamer" (2011), and her novel "Echo" was the recipient of the Kirkus Prize and the Newbery Honor in 2016.



The Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature gives formal recognition, on behalf of the Tulsa County community, to a nationally acclaimed author who has made a significant contribution to the field of literature for young adults.

Past winners include: Laurie Halse Anderson (2017), Gordon Korman (2016), Sharon Draper (2015), Jack Gantos (2014), Jim Murphy (2013), Jacqueline Woodson (2012), Kathryn Lasky (2011), Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (2010), Christopher Paul Curtis (2009), Louis Sachar (2008), Kate DiCamillo (2007), Sharon Creech (2006), Avi (2005), Susan Cooper (2004), Russell Freedman (2003), Richard Peck (2002), E.L. Konigsburg (2001), Jerry Spinelli (2000), Jane Yolen (1999), Cynthia Voigt (1998), Gary Paulsen

(1997), Walter Dean Myers (1996), Lois Lowry (1994), Katherine Paterson (1993), Madeleine L'Engle (1992) and S.E. Hinton (1991).

For more information: 918-549-7323, tulsalibrary.org.



Scene Writer James D. Watts Jr.

James writes primarily about the visual, performing and literary arts. Phone: 918-581-8478



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