



Sonia Lynn Sadler illustrated *Seeds of Change* (Lee & Low, 2011), a seminal work of environmental stewardship for children. For this work she received both the Coretta Scott King John Steptoe Award for New Talent and a Green Earth Book Award Honor. Sadler had leapt into the world of children's literature with a passion for diversity and social justice. Her illustrations captured a world that appealed to children and adults alike. In her art, she used many techniques but was known for her colored scratchboard. Sadler wrote that her "interest in color and pattern comes from watching the women in my family work with fabric." A promising second career had opened up for her (she had already made her mark in the fashion industry). Sadly, she was diagnosed with cancer which claimed her life in 2013. In her honor, the Sonia Lynn Sadler Award will be given annually to an up and coming illustrator with one or more of the following criteria.

Sonia Lynn Sadler Award Guidelines

- An illustrator who is starting out in the field of children's books (no more than 5 published books).
- An illustrator who creates literature that addresses environmental stewardship or other social justice themes in ways that are engaging for young audiences
- An illustrator who is from a diverse background.

Sonia Lynn Sadler Award Winner will receive:

- \$1,000 dollars
- Hotel accommodations, meals, and transportation within Salisbury, Maryland
- Entrance to the Salisbury University Children's and YA Books Festival
- Social media and public relations outreach

The award ceremony will take place during Salisbury University Children's and YA Books Festival. The festival will take place in April 2018. More details to follow on social media.

All are encouraged to send nominations of illustrators and the titles of their books to the SoniaLynnSadlerAward@gmail.com. More information can be found at www.slsaward.com.