

Audiobook Awards and Recognition

Audiobooks and the American Library Association: committee members are urged to seek out titles from diverse publishers that are available for library distribution.

American Library Services for Children division (ALSC) names selected titles as **Notable Children's Recordings** (NCR), annotated list of recorded music, storytelling and audiobooks for children birth through age fourteen. Since 1977.

Young Adult Library Services Association division (YALSA) selects the **Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults**, an annotated list of spoken word titles with teen appeal for ages 12-18, which may include adult titles of interest to young adults. Since 1991.

A title may appear on both the NCR list and Amazing Audios, and because of different release date requirements, could appear on both NCR & Amazing Audio in two different years.

Jointly administered by ALSC & YALSA, the **Odyssey Award** recognizes excellence in audiobook production for children and young adults, considering titles produced for the entire age range of birth through age 18. A single title is named as winner, and honor titles may be named. Since 2008.

The **Listen List**, administered by the Reference and User Services Association's (RUSA) Collection Development and Evaluation Section (CODES) since 2008, serves as a selection list and listeners' advisory tool for adult audiobooks. Twelve titles released in the past year are named to the list, along with three "Listen-alike" titles for each of the twelve; these listen-alikes may be recent or backlist titles.

Audiobook Industry Awards: Industry awards are given to titles that have been submitted by publishers to be evaluated, and often include a submission fee. Only the submitted titles are evaluated, and winners may include titles that are not available to libraries.

The Audies are awarded by the Audio Publishers Association in 25+ categories that recognize every genre and age group, as well as recognition for design, marketing, and production. Since 1996.

The Grammys: The National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences has named one Adult Spoken Word Album Grammy-winner each year since 1959. The Children's Spoken Word Album Grammy was awarded from 1994-2011, but a spoken word children's title may be named Best Children's Album.

Media Recognition: Consumer magazines and professional journals review audiobooks and highlight audio topics of interest in feature articles, as well as compile annual "Best" lists.

AudioFile was founded in 1992 as a consumer magazine devoted to audiobooks, with reviews of hundreds of audiobooks for all ages and across genres, with feature articles on audiobooks. AudioFile's "Earphones Award" is comparable to a starred review, the "Golden Voice" award recognizes narrators that have made a lasting contribution to the medium, and the magazine also names multiple titles in a yearly "Best in Audiobooks" list.

Booklist, published by the American Library Association, reviews both adult & youth audiobooks in every issue, with a "recommended for purchase" philosophy. Occasional feature articles on audiobooks. Compiles a yearly "Editors' Choice" list and names one adult and one youth "Top of the

List” audio each year. Since 2008, Booklist had recognized an exemplary narrator as the year’s “Voice of Choice.”

Library Journal’s “Best Audiobooks” list contains adult titles, as well as classics and crossover titles of interest to teens. Adult audiobooks are regularly reviewed

Publishers Weekly provides print and online industry news and reviews relating to audiobook publishing and a yearly “Listen-Up Award” list, which often contains children’s and teen titles.

School Library Journal and **The Horn Book** include children and young adult audiobook reviews, as well as occasional audiobook features.

Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA) reviews audiobooks for young adults ages 12 – 18, and features occasional audiobook columns.