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NLA Statement on Golden Sower Awards Chapter Book List

September 29, 2021

As you may have seen by now, the Golden Sower list of 2022-2023 Chapter Book Nominees contains 11 titles instead of the usual 10. This change came about following a set of circumstances which will be explained below.

For those that may not know, the Golden Sower nominees are chosen through the efforts of a group of volunteer readers from across the state. One of these readers objected to the inclusion of one title ([The List of Things That Will Not Change](#) by Rebecca Stead) due to LGBTQIA+ content. An almost-final list was released prematurely on social media and following commentary, the title was replaced on the final list with [Stella](#) by McCall Hoyle, the first alternate. That substitution was made without consulting the full Golden Sower Committee.

The Nebraska Library Association Executive Board became aware of the issue. Following discussion between many of the individuals involved, we have determined that we should return this title to the selection. With that, we are offering 11 titles for 2022-2023.

The Nebraska Library Association does not condone censorship, and stands with the American Library Association, Nebraska School Librarians Association, and American Association of School Librarians in that regard.

The American Library Association has materials available on [responding to materials challenges](#) and other [Intellectual Freedom](#) topics such as [The Freedom to Read Statement](#).