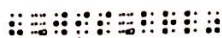


---

ame

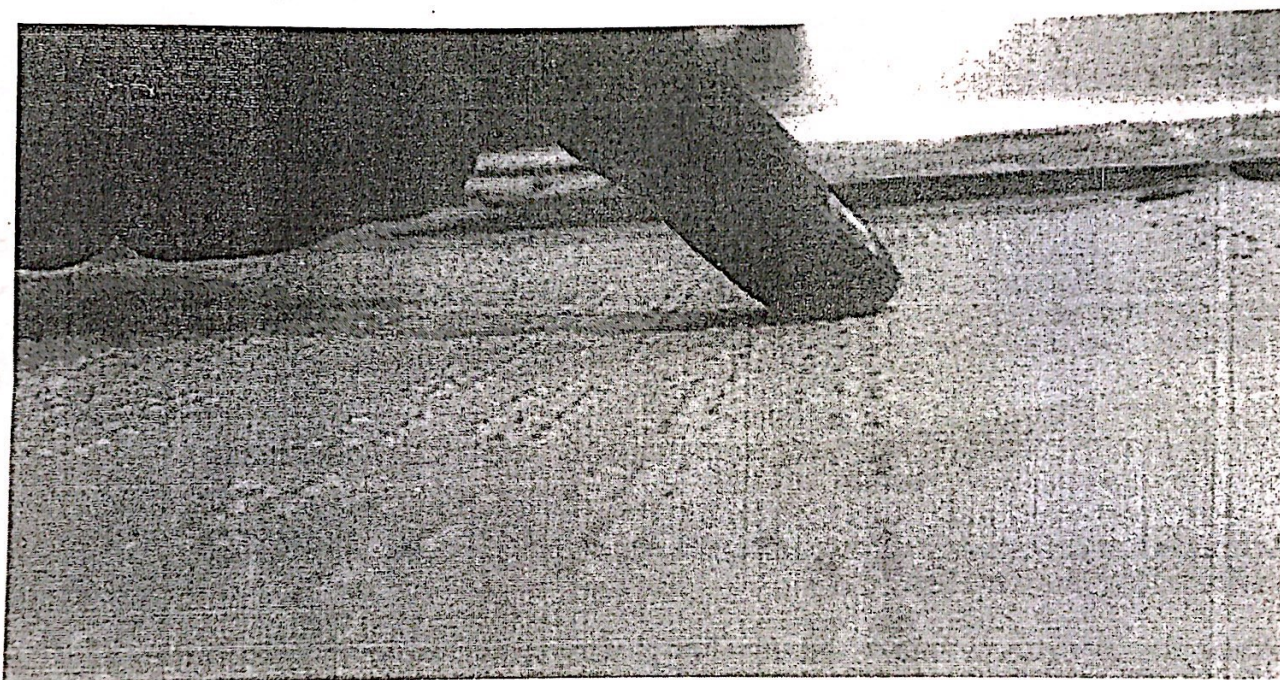
# WISCONSIN BRAILLE



Volume 20, Issue 3

Fall 2019

---



## Fall Into Braille Reading With 2019 Book Project



## OUR OFFERINGS FOR YOU THIS YEAR ARE

### **Benji, the Bad Day, and Me** by Sally J. Pla

Nothing seems to be going well for Sammy today. His little brother knows what that's like. This tender story captures the challenges and joys of being a sibling, and offers readers a way to manage their own bad moods. The story embraces neurodiversity and reminds us that on those really bad days, you can always count on your family to be there for you. Reproduced in **print/braille** for ages 4-8.

### **The Case of the Mixed-up Mutts** (The Buddy Files, book 2)

by Dori Hillestad Buttler

This is the second installment in a trilogy for early readers. The golden retriever, King continues to search for his first family. What has happened to them? Before he can solve that, he has another case. Two dogs, Muffin and Jazzy, have been switched! How can Buddy get Muffin and Jazzy back to their real owners? Ages 7-10.

### **The Case of the Missing Family** (The Buddy Files, book 3)

by Dori Hillestad Buttler

This book completes the trilogy. King, the golden retriever, has settled in with his new family, but he's never given up on finding his first family. One night he sees people taking things out of his old house and loading them into a van. What's up? He is a brave, funny and loyal dog. Will he finally solve this mystery? Ages 7-10.

(Note: if these two books interest you, you might also like to order the first book from this same series, The Buddy Files: The Case of the Lost Boy. You can find it in our composite EBAE listing.)

### **Daniel Finds a Poem** by Micha Archer

What is poetry? Is it morning dew? Is it crisp leaves crunching? Could it be a cool pond? Maybe poetry is all of these things...and more. Daniel is on his way to creating his own poem after visiting his animal friends. This story celebrates the poetry found in the world around us. Ages 4-8.

### **Dreamers** by Yuyi Morales

What if you started a new life in a new country where no one spoke your language and you felt alone and ignored? What if you had to make that new place your home? What if you found that home in a world of books? The New York Times Book Review said "Dreamers is a paean to libraries, to reading and writing and creativity." Reproduced in **print/braille** for ages 4-8.

### **Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington** by Jabari Asim

Born into slavery, Booker T. Washington could only dream of learning to read and write. After his emancipation, he journeyed 500 miles to attend Hampton Institute with only 50 cents in his pocket. Working his way through school, he eventually became a legendary educator of freedmen. For grades 4-6, this book is a winner of several awards, including the Parents' Choice Award.



**Fresh-Picked Poetry: A Day at the Farmers' Market** by Michelle Schaub  
Experience a day at a farmers' market with food, fun and a fresh harvest, delightfully captured in poetry! Reproduced in **print/braille** for grades K-3.

**Hair Love** by Matthew Cherry  
This book celebrates the bond between dads and daughters. Zuri needs an extra special hair style for an extra special day, and calls upon her dad to assist. Comb in hand, he tackles Zuri's non-compliant hair to create the perfect look. Reproduced in **print/braille** for ages 4-8.

**Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race.**  
by Margot Lee Shetterly with Winifred Conkling  
Katherine, Dorothy, Mary and Christine, all African American women, were good at math. Really good! It was their understanding of numbers, their intelligence, their hard work and their persistence that caused NASA to hire them to do the math that would essentially send the United States into the space race for the very first time. For grades 4 - 7.

**Night Owl** by Toni Yuly  
Night owl loves the nighttime! He can see everything, but when he doesn't see Mommy Owl, he starts to listen...With language that emphasizes sound words and listening skills, this is a reassuring bedtime story for little night owls everywhere! Reproduced in **print/braille** for preschoolers through Grade 1

**Our Very Own Dog** by Amanda McCardie  
There's nothing more exciting than getting a dog! Join Sophie's new family as they prepare their home for her and introduce her to life as a beloved pet! This is the perfect book for anyone who's getting a new dog or for anyone who would like to! For grades 1-2 reproduced in **print/braille**.

**She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World** by Chelsea Clinton  
This book celebrates thirteen American women who helped shaped our country through their tenacity. Harriet Tubman, Helen Keller and Sonia Sotomayor are among the women highlighted; women who, despite great obstacles, achieved their dreams through persistence. **Grades 3-6.**

**She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History** by Chelsea Clinton  
In this companion book to the previous one, the reader is introduced to a group of incredible women who have shaped history across the world. Scientist Marie Curie and human rights' activist Malayla Yousafzai are among those women, past and present, who persisted. **Grades 3-6.**

**White Cane Day** by Kristin Grender (Wisconsin TVI and O&M instructor)  
Can you name all of the holidays that are celebrated in the United States? Did you forget to name White Cane Day? Yes, White Cane Day. It has been a national holiday since 1964! In 2011 President Barack Obama declared that White Cane Day would also be called Blind Americans Equality Day. Two great reasons to celebrate on October 15! For all grades who want to celebrate this great day, reproduced in **print/braille**.

**You Are New** by Lucy Knisley  
With humor, honesty, and sweetness, award-winning author, Lucy Knisley celebrates the joys of a new baby in the family and the timeless gifts of new beginnings. Reproduced as a **print/braille** book for preschoolers to Grade 2.



The following two books are bound in a single volume:

**Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers: The story of Ada Lovelace**

by Tanya Lee Stone

In the early nineteenth century lived Ada Byron, a young girl with a wild and wonderful imagination. Ada was tutored in science and math. This book celebrates the brilliant woman who imagined computers 100 years before they existed and is, today, recognized as the first computer programmer. Grades 4 - 7.

**Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain**

by Cheryl Bardoe

When her parents forbade her to study math, when a professor discovered that the homework being sent to him was a woman and when Sophie tackled a math problem that male scholars said would be impossible to solve... nothing stopped Sophie. Her unshakable determination solved problems of vibration which have made it possible for engineers to build the Eiffel Tower, modern skyscrapers and lengthy bridges of today. Grades 4-7.

Please remember to **submit your order by December 15, 2019** at the latest, using the accompanying order form; send it only to the address on the form. You may continue to order print/braille books for early readers in either contracted or uncontracted braille.

Teachers, please work with your school librarians to make them aware of our project and answer any questions they may have. Likewise, please alert the parents with whom you work about our project, especially those who do not have ready access to school libraries; this group may well include the parents of preschool blind children. You should receive your books in the spring of 2020 before school dismisses for summer vacation. Many thanks for using our service!

Special Book Project Committee Members,

Sandy Adams, Cindy Collins, Leanette Dieck, Mary Ann Damm, Marilyn Harmon,

Alison McKee

Email contact: [adamssandra454@gmail.com](mailto:adamssandra454@gmail.com) (new email address)

Please Join Us For Our Next Board Meeting

Milwaukee Central Public Library

814 W. Wisconsin Ave

Old Board Room

October 26, 2019

10:00-2:30

Our meetings are always open to the public.



**Wisconsin Braille Inc.  
Special Book Project Order Form  
Fall, 2019**

Check here if you have ordered from us in the past. \_\_\_\_\_ Customer ID (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: All orders will be sent in hard copy, contracted braille. If you prefer uncontracted braille for print/braille books, please indicate this after each title you order.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Benji, the Bad Day, and Me** by Sally Pla (print/braille) -- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **The Case of the Mixed-Up Nuts** by Dori Hillestad Butler
- \_\_\_\_\_ **The Case of the Missing Family** by Dori Hillestad Butler
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Daniel Finds a Poem** by Micha Archer
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Dreamers** by Yuyi Morales (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington** by Jabari Asim
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Freshed-Picked Poetry** by Michelle Schaub (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Love** by Matthew Cherry (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race**  
by Margot Lee Shetterly
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Night Owl** by Toni Yuly (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Our Very Own Dog** by Amanda McCardie (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World** by Chelsea Clinton
- \_\_\_\_\_ **She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History** by Chelsea Clinton
- \_\_\_\_\_ **White Cane Day** by Kristin Grender (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **You Are New** by Lucy Knisley (print/braille) \_\_\_\_\_

The following two books are produced in one braille volume:

\_\_\_\_\_ — **Who Says Women Can't Be Computer Programmers: The Story of Ada Lovelace** by Tanya Lee Stone; — **Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain** by Cheryl Bardoe

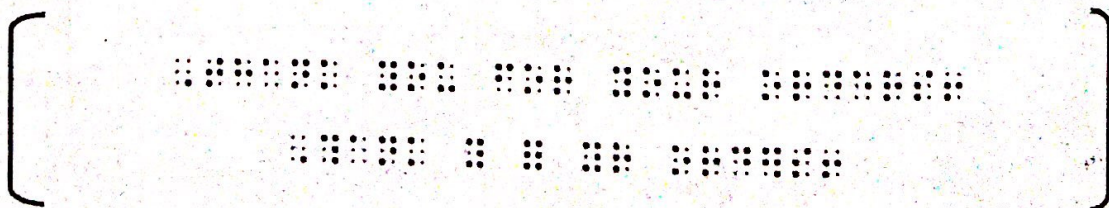
**Additional books from previous years:** You may order from our composite lists if you are a current member or a new member of Wisconsin Braille. (See composite lists on our web site: [www.wisbrl.org](http://www.wisbrl.org)).

You are welcome to suggest books for next year's production on the back of this form.

**By December 15, 2019 send order to this address:**

Wisconsin Braille Inc., Membership Chair, 557 Milky Way, Madison, WI 53718  
Your order will be forwarded on to the OSCI Braille Program for production.

**Please remember, your membership in Wisconsin Braille, Inc. will go a long to help us cover our operating expenses. Many thanks for your consideration.**





## Who is Responsible for the Bounty of the Special Book Project?

By Alison McKee

Every fall families, teachers and librarians, who order braille books from the Wisconsin Braille Special Book Project, are recipients of the generosity of the Glen Stacey Fund. Many have wondered who Glen Stacey was, and how the fund got started. This short piece comes to you as an answer to those questions.

Glen Leroy Stacey was one of the 11 children of Philo and Maud Stacey (6 boys and 5 girls). The family lived in Rewey and Glen was born in 1920. In 1928 Glen was involved in an automobile accident that resulted in blindness. Three years later, in the Fall of 1931, Glen's family enrolled him in the Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped. (Today we know this as

the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.) Glen continued to go to school in Janesville until the age of 16.

Unfortunately, at the age of 19, Glen was involved in another automobile accident. This one took his life.

Almost 50 years later, in 1988, the Glen Stacey Fund was created as part of a bequest from the estate of Glen's oldest sister, Leone Kuhe, and her husband Emil Kuhe. Their thoughtful gift has benefited many blind and visually impaired students at the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and throughout the state of Wisconsin, since that time. Wisconsin Braille is just one of its recipients.







## *Have You Seen Luis Velez?*

by Catherine Ryan Hyde

Reviewed by Cindy Collins

A New York Times bestselling author has written a novel with a blind woman as one of the main characters. Her name is Mildred Gutermann, and she is a German Jew, now in her 90's, who narrowly escaped the Holocaust. She has been alone in her New York City apartment since her companion/caretaker disappeared apparently without a trace a few weeks ago.

Raymond Jaffe lives in the same apartment building. He is a teenager who feels like he doesn't "belong". His mother has daughters by her second husband who seem to take priority over Raymond. His father lives with his new wife who isn't especially happy when Raymond visits every other weekend. He is an outcast at school. At the beginning of this novel, he is about to have his best (and only) friend move away, and on the last morning he has with his friend, he meets Mildred. She asks him the question that is the title of the book. "Have you seen Luis Velez?"

In spite his cold families, Raymond has a big heart, which, so far, has only

opened to a stray cat hiding in the basement of an abandoned building. When he realizes that the missing Luis Velez used to check up on "Millie" and take her to the bank and the grocery store, he steps up to the plate to help her out. He also decides to figure out what happened to Luis Velez. There are 21 Luis Velezes in the NYC area, so he meets many men with the same name. Some are friendly, some are not.

Within the story, the reader discovers that Millie has her apartment organized to accommodate for her blindness, and Raymond learns a new way of thinking to not interfere with her accommodations. A beautiful friendship develops.

One review states, "A master of making a heartwarming tale feel authentic and socially urgent, Hyde deftly sketches the plights of Raymond and Millie, weighting their friendship with worries and regrets that echo as true".

This book is available at [Audible.com](https://www.audible.com) and is in the process of being brailled by the Library of Congress.



# Building A Braille Library for Wisconsin Students

By Alison McKee

The fall issue of our *Wisconsin Braille* newsletter is customarily dedicated to promoting braille literacy by offering parents, teachers, and school librarians an opportunity to order free books for the braille reading children they know and serve. Our offerings, by no means, constitute the only free resource you, as parents, teachers and educators, can draw from in order to fill your child's/students bookshelves with good braille reading material. *Literacy cannot be adequately nourished with the few offerings that are listed in this newsletter.* Braille reading children, just like their print reading peers, need access to many good braille books *simultaneously* in order to develop good reading habits and skills.

It takes a bit of ingenuity to build a braille library for students at school, but it is not impossible. First, consult with the school librarian and ask her/him to assign a specific shelf or shelves for braille books. Ask that the shelves be easy to access and possibly no higher or lower than the student's shoulder level. (Students need to be able to wiggle their little fingers between the covers of individual books in order to read book titles.)

Once your shelving has been secured, start the process of filling them with a wide selection of braille books. (Hint: School librarians can be reluc-

tant to take on a specialized collection of books. Assure them that you will order the books, manage their shelving and create a check-out process for your student to use.)

Braille reading students should have, at a minimum I would suggest, ten books to choose from each time they go, with their peers, to the school library. They need to be enticed to read and a circulating library, designed just for them, is just such an enticement.

I have found that the best place to start building your student's library is to register them, as users, with existing braille libraries. Once your student is registered with those libraries work with their circulation managers to establish a "use pattern." Most braille libraries, like all other libraries, allow patrons to check out more than one book at a time. I usually ask the circulation managers at braille libraries to be sure that, from their large collection, my student has at least five books checked out to them at a time. Working with the circulation manager from these larger libraries, I establish a list of age and interest appropriate materials to be sent to school for the student. Each time a book is returned to the larger braille lending library, from the school based braille library, a new title is immediately sent out to the school library creating a circulating

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



school library. To get started with this process contact the two braille lending libraries listed here:

***Braille Library and Transcription Services, Inc.***

Website: <https://bltsinc.org>  
Email: [office@bltsinc.org](mailto:office@bltsinc.org)  
Phone: 608-233-0222  
Mailing Address: 6501 Watts Rd.,  
Suite 149, Madison, WI 53719

***National Library Service***

Website: [loc.gov/nls/](http://loc.gov/nls/)  
Email: [braille@loc.org](mailto:braille@loc.org)  
Phone: 1-888-657-7323

(They also offer free braille magazines that may be kept by the subscriber.)

Another resource for helping build a braille library is to contact the agencies listed below and register your braille reader. These agencies offer free braille books that may be kept permanently.

***American Action Fund  
Free Braille Books for Children***

Website: <https://actionfund.org>  
Phone: (410) 659-9315  
Email: [actionfund@actionfund.org](mailto:actionfund@actionfund.org)

***Braille Institute***

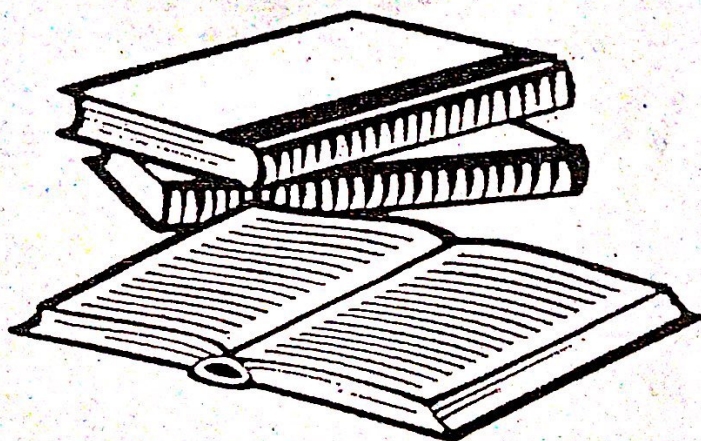
Website: [brailleinstitute.org](http://brailleinstitute.org)  
Phone: 1-800-272-4553  
Email: [specialcollection@brailleinstitute.org](mailto:specialcollection@brailleinstitute.org)

***Seedlings Braille Books for Children: Angel Book Program***

Website: [seedlings.org](http://seedlings.org)  
Email: [info@seedlings.org](mailto:info@seedlings.org)  
Phone: 1-800-777-8552

***American Printing House for the Blind: APH Braille Tales***

Website: [aph.org](http://aph.org)  
Email: [cs@aph.org](mailto:cs@aph.org)  
Phone: 1-800-223-1839



With these few resources on board it will be just a short wait and your braille reader will have a wonderful selection of braille books to read!

---

The purpose of this newsletter is to disperse information. Wisconsin Braille Inc. does not endorse or vouch for the reliability of any of the persons, organizations, or products appearing in this publication.