



## 2024-2025 NCTA PRE-APPROVED MINI-GRANT SETS

The “Pre-Approved Mini-Grant Set” is one of the options you may choose for your Mini-Grant. This option allows you to select one grade-level appropriate “Pre-approved” set of items that Pitt NCTA has already identified as being useful for educators. For more about this option (or if you would like to customize your own list of materials for your Mini-Grant), please read the NCTA Mini-Grant Information Sheet available at: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/minigrants.html>

Here is a listing of the materials contained in each of the grade-appropriates “Pre-Approved” sets:

### SET A: FOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

**Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections are being written to assist you in teaching the Freeman Award books. Check for updates at: <http://nctasia.org>**

Book/Korea: *Every Falling Star: The True Story of How I Survived and Escaped North Korea* by Sungju Lee (2017 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$7.99 in paperback]

Publisher: Amulet Paperbacks; Reprint edition

Date: 2017

ISBN-10: 1419727613

[Curriculum Connections and Culture Notes available at:

<https://www.nctasia.org/award/every-falling-star/>]

Book/Korea: *Banned Book Club* by Kim Hyun Sook and Ryan Estrada (2020 Freeman Book Award of Note) [\$11.59 paperback]

Publisher: Iron Circus Comics

Date: 2020

ISBN-10: 194582042X

[Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at:

<https://www.nctasia.org/award/banned-book-club/>]

Book/Taiwan: *The Astonishing Color of After* by Emily X.R. Pan (2018 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$6.99 paperback]

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Date: 2019 (paperback)

ISBN-10: 0316464015

[Curriculum Connections and Culture Notes available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/the-astonishing-color-of-after/>]

Book/China: *When China Ruled the Seas: the Treasure Fleet of the Dragon Throne, 1405-1433* by Louise Levathes [\$15.66 paperback]  
Publisher: Oxford University Press  
Date: 1997 (paperback; revised edition)  
ISBN-10: 0195112075

Graphic Novel/China: *Tiananmen 1989: Our Shattered Hopes* (2020 Freeman Book Award Honorable Mention) [\$17.25 hard cover]  
Publisher: IDW Publishing (June 16, 2020)  
Date: 2020  
ISBN-10: 1684056993

Book/Japan: *GO: A Coming of Age Novel* by Kazuki Kaneshiro (2018 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$9.17 paperback]  
Publisher: Amazon Crossing  
Date: 2018  
ISBN-10: 1542046181  
[Resources for use with this book located on our website:  
<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/teaching-go-book-discussion-and-workshop-resources>]  
[Curriculum Connections and Culture Notes available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/go-a-coming-of-age-novel/>]

Documentary/Japan: *Day of the Western Sunrise* by Daliboka Films and Pittsburgh director Keith Remink. Comes with Toolkit written by NCTA alums. [\$40.00]  
<http://daliborkafilms.com>

## **SET B: FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL**

**Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections are being written to assist you in teaching the Freeman Award books. Check for updates at: <http://nctasia.org>**

Book/Japan: *The Night Parade* by Kathryn Tanquary (2017 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$9.50 paperback]  
Publisher: Sourcebooks Jabberwocky, reprint edition  
Date: 2017  
ISBN-10: 149262327X

Book/Japan: *Beyond Me* by Annie Donwerth-Chikamatsu (2020 Honorable Mention Freeman Book Award) [\$8.99 paperback]  
Publisher: Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books; Reprint edition  
Date: 2021

ISBN-10: 1481437909

[Curriculum Connections available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/beyond-me/>]

Book/Japan: *How Do You Live?* By Genzaburō Yoshino (2021 Of Note, Middle School Literature) [\$7.73 paperback]

Publisher: Algonquin Young Readers

Date: 2023 edition

ISBD-10: 164375307X

Book/China: *Bronze and Sunflower* by Cao Wenxuan (2017 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$9.99 paperback]

Publisher: Candlewick Press

Date: 2019 reprint edition

ISBN-10 : 1536206377

[Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/bronze-and-sunflower/>]

Book/China: *The Emperor's Riddle* by Kat Zhang (2017 Freeman Book Award of Note) [\$7.81 paperback]

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, Aladdin reprint edition

Date: 2018

ISBN-10: 148147863X

[Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/the-emperors-riddle/>]

Book/China: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution* by Ji-li Jiang [\$6.99 paperback]

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint Edition (January 30, 2018)

Date: 2018 edition

ISBN-10: 9780064462082

Book/Korea: *When My Name was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park [\$7.69 paperback]

Publisher: Clarion Books; Reprint edition

Date: 2012

ISBN-10: 0547722397

Book/Korea: *Brother's Keeper* by Julie Lee (2020 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$8.99 paperback]

Publisher: Holiday House

Date: 2022 edition

ISBN-10: 0823444201

[Curriculum Connections available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/brothers-keeper/>]

Book/Korea: *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park [\$12.68 paperback]

Publisher: Rock the Boat  
Date: 2022 edition  
ISBN-10: 0861541863

Graphic Novel/Vietnam: *Saving H'non: Chang and the Elephant* (2023 Honorable Mention, Graphic Novels) [\$11.51]  
Publisher: Dial Books  
Date: 2023  
ISBN-10: 0593406729

### **SET C: FOR ELEMENTARY/INTERMEDIATE LEVEL**

**Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections are being written to assist you in teaching the Freeman Award books. Check for updates at: <http://nctasia.org>**

Book/Japan: *The Phone Booth in Mr. Hirota's Garden* by Heather Smith (2019 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$14.95 paperback]  
Publisher: Orca Book Publishers  
Date: 2025 edition  
ISBN-10: 1459835700  
Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/the-phone-booth-in-mr-hirotas-garden/>

Book/Japan: *A Bowl Full of Peace: A True Story* by Caren Stelson (2020 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$17.53 hardcover]  
Publisher: Carolrhoda Books  
Date: 2020  
ISBN-10: 154152148X  
[Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/a-bowl-of-peace-a-true-story/>]

Book/China: *Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean: Remembering Chinese Scientist Pu Zhelong's Work for Sustainable Farming* by Sigrid Schmalzer (2018 Freeman Book Award Winner) [\$9.95]  
Publisher: Tilbury House Nature Books  
Date: 2020 edition  
ISBN-10: 0884486354  
Curriculum Connection Notes available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/moth-and-wasp-soil-and-ocean/>

Book/China: *Eighteen Vats of Water* (2022 Freeman Book Award Winner, Children's Literature) [\$14.99 hardcover]  
Publisher: Creston Books  
Date: 2022  
ISBN-10: 1954354061

Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/eighteen-vats-of-water/>

Book/Vietnam: *My Grandfather's Song* by Phùng Nguyên Quang and Huỳnh Kim Liên  
(2023 Freeman Book Award Winner: Children's Literature) [\$10.49 hardcover]

Publisher: Make Me a World

Date: 2023

ISBN-10: 059348861X

Book/Korea: *The Turtle Ship* by Helena Ku Rhee (2018 Freeman Book Award Winner)  
[\$14.50 or \$18.95]

Publisher: Lee & Low Books; Standard Edition

Date: 2018

ISBN-10: 1885008902

[Culture Notes available at: <https://www.nctasia.org/award/the-turtle-ship/>]

Book/Korea: *When Spring Comes to the DMZ* by Uk-Bae Lee (2019 Freeman Book  
Award Honorable Mention) [\$9.99 hardcover]

Publisher: Plough Publishing House

Date: 2019

ISBN-10: 0874869722

[Culture Notes and Curriculum Connections available at:  
<https://www.nctasia.org/award/when-spring-comes-to-the-dmz/>]