



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EBMA NAMES ASHLEY BRYAN WINNER OF THE
38TH ANNUAL JEREMIAH LUDINGTON MEMORIAL AWARD**

October 10, 2016 – The Educational Book and Media Association (EBMA) today announced that Ashley Bryan is the recipient of the 2016 Jeremiah Ludington Award. The award, named after EBMA’s founder, is presented annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the educational book business. Past winners include David Wiesner, Brian Selznick, Russell Friedman, Jon Scieszka, Kevin Henkes, Sharon Draper, and Pam Muñoz Ryan.

A beloved author and illustrator, Ashley Bryan has written and/or illustrated over fifty works for children, including *Beautiful Blackbird*, *Let It Shine*, and *Freedom Over Me*. He has received the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, the Lee Bennet Hopkins Award for Poetry, and the Coretta Scott King Award. He has been a May Hill Arbuthnot lecturer, a nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen Award, and the recipient of both the Coretta Scott King—Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award and the Dartmouth College Social Justice Award for Lifetime Achievement.

“The EBMA board and membership are proud to present this year’s Ludington Award to Ashley Bryan,” said Jill Faherty, EBMA President. “Ashley is a master storyteller whose unique and inspired poetry and prose, painting and collage skillfully share important stories with young readers.”

Mr. Bryan will accept the Ludington Award at EBMA’s annual conference in St. Petersburg, FL in February, 2017. As part of the award, EBMA will present a \$2,500 check to the charity of Mr. Bryan’s choice.

EBMA is an association of over 30 wholesalers and 80 publishers who are reputable and authoritative suppliers of educational paperbacks, pre-bound books, and other materials to the school and library market. For more information about EBMA and the Ludington Award, visit www.edupaperback.org.

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