

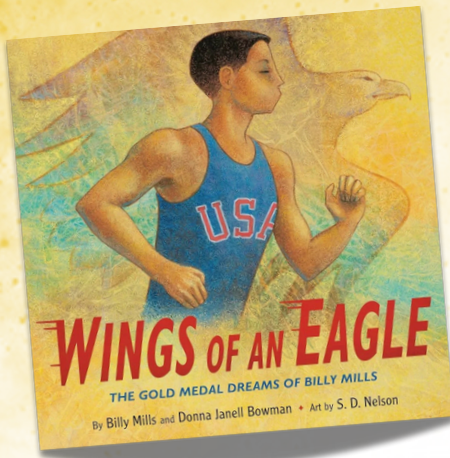


Young Readers One Book

2025

Dear Third Grade Teachers,

In partnership with United Way's Black Hills Reads program and the SD Statewide Family Engagement Center, the South Dakota Humanities Council has selected a book for the Young Readers One Book program to share with children across the state. The 2025 Young Readers One Book selection is *Wings of an Eagle: The Gold Medal Dreams of Billy Mills*, co-authored by Billy Mills and Donna Janell Bowman and illustrated by S.D. Nelson.



Please give a copy of *Wings of an Eagle: The Gold Medal Dreams of Billy Mills* to every third grader in your class. On **September 15**, a video of co-authors Billy Mills, Donna Janell Bowman, and illustrator S.D. Nelson will be available for you to view at any time. We recommend watching this video with your class, as there are several different literacy activities you can do throughout the video that are led by the authors/illustrator. The video is around 45 min long, and it can be found at <https://bit.ly/UWBHStory2025>.

For lesson plans and a supplemental digital guide to the book, scan the QR code to the right. A Writing Activity Guide is also included with the books for families to do with their learners at home. These activities are fun and easy, don't require much time, and encourage families to engage and connect with their learners through literacy. Please encourage your learners and their families to try them out!



Students can meet the author in person during the 2025 Young Readers One Book Festival September 26-28. Visit unitedwayblackhills.org/young-readers-one-book/ to learn more.

Thurs, Sept. 15

Go to unitedwayblackhills.org/young-readers-one-book/

