



Pam Munoz Ryan born in 1951 in Bakersfield, California, is an American author and the 2018 U.S. nominee for the international Hans Christian Andersen Award. She is author of *Echo*, a Newbery Honor book and the recipient of the Kirkus Prize. She has written over forty books, including the novels *Esperanza Rising*, *Becoming Naomi Leon*, *Paint the Wind*, *The Dreamer* and *Mananaland*. She is the author recipient of the National Education Association's Civil and Human Rights Award, the Virginia Hamilton Literary Award for Multicultural Literature, and is twice the recipient of the Pura Belpré Medal and the Willa Cather Award.

She was raised in Bakersfield, California, (formerly Pam Bell) holds a bachelor's and master's degree from San Diego State University and lives near San Diego with her family. Many of her stories reflect her half-Mexican heritage.

She worked as an early childhood teacher for the Escondido, California school district for three years before starting her family. After her four children were born, she became the director of an early childhood program and went back to school to get her master's degree in Post-secondary Education with the intention of teaching children's literature in college. When she finished her graduate program, she became interested in writing ("Pam").

"Pam." Pam Munoz Ryan, www.pammunozryan.com/about-apm-munoz/. Accessed 25 Mar. 2023.

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Becoming Naomi Leon



2005 Schneider Family Book Award

Call number: JF RYA

Naomi and Owen are happy at Avocado Acres Trailer Rancho until the day the children's mother arrives. After being gone so long that they don't recognize her, Skyla enters their lives, and everything changes.



The Dreamer



2011 Pura Belpre Award

Call number: JF RYA

A fictionalized biography of the Nobel Prizewinning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who grew up a shy child, ridiculed by his father, but who became one of the most widely-read poets in the world.



Echo



2016 Newbery Honor 2016 Odyssey Honor 2015 Kirkus Prize

Call number: JF RYA

Lost in the Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and finds himself entwined in a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Three children find themselves caught up in the same thread of the twentieth century, tied together by the music of the same harmonica.



Esperanza Rising 🦬



2002 Pura Belpre Award for Writing
2021 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards
for Older Children

Call number: JF RYA

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp.