



Joyce D. Bantugan (APIA 2024)

YUKO SHIMIZU

Japanese American

Illustrator and Author

CALDECOTT Honor Books (2021, 2025)

Born: 1965 (Tokyo, Japan)

Yuko is a multi-award-winning illustrator who grew up in the United States and Japan. When young, she wanted to draw manga but her parents did not want her to study art. After studying advertising and marketing, Yuko returned to illustration and eventually received two Caldecott Honor Books for *The Cat Man of Aleppo* (2020) and *Up, Up, Ever Up! Junko Tabei: A Life in the Mountains* (2024). She often reminds people that she is *not* the Yuko Shimizu who created Hello Kitty. In 2024, illustrator and author Yuko Shimizu was inducted into the Society of Illustrators Hall of Fame.