

Biography

Illustrator Eric Velasquez was born in Spanish Harlem and he grew up in Harlem. He earned his BFA from the School of Visual Arts. Eric has been illustrating for over 30 years.

He has illustrated over 30 children's books, his first picture book "The Piano Man" by Debbie Chocolate, published by Bloomsbury won the Coretta-Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent. In 2010 Eric was awarded an NAACP Image award for his work in "Our Children Can Soar" which he collaborated on with 12 notable illustrators of children's literature. Eric also wrote and illustrated "Grandma's Records" and its follow up "Grandma's Gift" which won the 2011 Pura Belpre' Award for illustration and was also nominated for a 2011 NAACP Image Award. Eric's latest book "Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library" by Carole Boston Weatherford has gathered rave reviews, and has also won the 2018 Walter Award from the WNDB organization as well as the SCBWI's The Golden Kite Award and The International Latino Award Honor.

Eric Velasquez lives and works in New York. He teaches book illustration at FIT (The Fashion Institute of Technology) in NYC. For more information please visit his web site EricVelasquez.com