# Illinois Reading Council Journal

AMANDA GORMAN 1/20/21

Son Ehow we've we defered & withessed a nation that is with BROKEN but simply UNEINISHED WE the successors of a Country & a Time where a SKIEN BLACK GIRL descended from SLAVES & RAISED by a SINGE MOTHER CAN DREAM of

> HERSELF RECITING for ONE

BECOMING

only to find

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175



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## About the Cover Artist

### **Neil Shapiro**

Originally from Kansas City Missouri, I can't remember a time when I wasn't drawing. I interned at Hallmark Cards after graduating high school, and went on to attend Art Center College of Design, where I received my BFA. After a long career in advertising art direction, creating award-winning campaigns for clients like McDonald's, Gatorade, and Cap'n Crunch, I went back to school and got a Master's in Illustration from Syracuse University. My illustration clients have included the *Chicago Tribune, The Nation, Kansas City Magazine*, Chelsea Books, and Red Rock Press, and I was the supervising designer of a 102' public mural celebrating the history of my neighborhood.



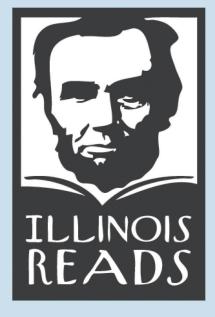
I'm especially proud of the work I've been creating over the last couple of years: both *The Jazz Alphabet*—my personal look at 26 jazz greats from A to Z—and my portraits of heroes who have made a deep impression on me. Currently, I'm at work on *The Jazz Alphabet 2–The Flip Side*. I live in Chicago with my wife Maureen Gorman and our dog Ruka.

http://neilshapiroillustration.com/index.asp

*Front Cover:* "Amanda Gorman, 1/20/21" *Back Cover:* "Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 1933-2020"

You can find more artwork by Neil Shapiro on pages 10, 25, and 68.

## **ILLINOIS READS** READING STATE OF MIND



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Illinois Valley Community College 815 North Orlando Smith Rd **Oglesby**, Illinois 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Everyone is invited to attend the 2022 Illinois Reads Book Festival. Many authors will be present. Bring your books and have them signed at this event! Books will also be available for purchase from Anderson's Bookshops.

Visit our website for more information www.illinoisreads.org

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