

**\*Each student must read THREE books from the list below:**

***The Lines We Cross* by Randa Abdel-Fattah. Realistic Fiction. 2017.** In Australia, Michael's parents lead an anti-immigrant movement whilst Mina's family are Afghani immigrants. The pair's mutual attraction raises problems of family and identity.

***Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson. Realistic Fiction. 2009.** A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school, a year that brings her great struggle and, ultimately, growth.

***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou. Nonfiction; memoir; classic. 1969.** Angelou chronicles her childhood in 1930s rural Arkansas, including trauma she endured and the strength she gained from her grandmother and other elders.

***A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah. Nonfiction; memoir. 2007.** In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them.

***Going Bovine* by Libba Bray. Adventure fiction. 2009.** Cameron Smith, a disaffected sixteen-year-old, is diagnosed with "mad cow" disease and sets off on a road trip with a video gaming dwarf and a yard gnome in hopes of finding a cure.

***The Jade Peony* by Wayson Choy. Historical fiction. 1998.** In pre-WWII Vancouver, Liang, the daughter of Chinese immigrants, befriends a retired railroader who encourages her to tap dance, while her brothers also discover their identities.

***My Losing Season* by Pat Conroy. Nonfiction; memoir. 2002.** The author reflects on his days at a South Carolina military college. He recalls his love of basketball and its value to him as a means of self-expression.

***The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas. Adventure fiction; classic. 1844.** Edmond Dantes, a young sailor who is falsely imprisoned, escapes, and assumes a new identity on the island of Monte Cristo.

***The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank. Nonfiction; memoir; classic. 1945.** The journal of a Jewish girl describes the joys and torments of daily life through two years spent in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of Holland.

***The Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman. Fantasy. 2013.** When a middle-aged man returns to his childhood home in Sussex, England, for a funeral, he remembers eerie childhood events relating to the neighbor girl who promised to protect him.

***A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines. Historical Fiction. 1994.** This novel explores the unlikely friendship and respect that arises between two African American men, one a teacher and the other an inmate on death row.

***Symptoms of Being Human* by Jeff Garvin. Fiction. LGBTQ. 2016.** Riley is a genderfluid teen who, at the suggestion of their therapist, begins an anonymous blog about their trans experiences and frustrations. When their blog goes viral, Riley begins to attract attention--both good and bad. (Content warnings for online/offline bullying and homophobic/transphobic slurs.)

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. Realistic fiction. 2003.** Christopher, a mathematically gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secrets about his mother.

***My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins & Fenway Park* by Steve Kluger. Realistic fiction. 2008.** Told in alternating perspectives, this is the humorous and touching story of ninth-grade best friends T.C. and Augie's most excellent year of friendship and discovery.

***Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster* by Jon Krakauer. Nonfiction, memoir. 1997.** A definitive account of the deadliest season in the history of Mount Everest; a step by step journey from Kathmandu to the mountain's deadly summit.

***Girl in Translation* by Jean Kwok.** *Fiction. 2010.* Follows the life of a girl and her mother who emigrate from Hong Kong to Brooklyn.

***Diary of a Reluctant Dreamer* by Alberto Ledesma.** *Graphic memoir. 2017.* A heartfelt, humorous, realistic first-person account of life as an undocumented immigrant in an American city.

***March Books II and III* by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell.** *Graphic memoir; historical nonfiction. 2015.* A graphic novel of John Lewis' first-person experiences in the civil rights movement. A continuation of *March Book I*.

***We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart.** *Mystery. 2014.* Summering on her family's private island off the coast of Massachusetts with her cousins and a special boy named Gat, Cadence struggles to remember what happened during her fifteenth summer.

***How it Went Down* by Kekla Magoon.** *Realistic Fiction. 2015.* This book focuses on the aftermath of the shooting death of a black teenage boy. The author assumes 18 different perspectives within the community, exploring the ramifications of racism and violence.

***Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen* by Christopher McDougall.** *Nonfiction; sports. 2009.* An outsider who befriends the Tarahumara Indians, leading to a running event between the tribesmen and American athletes, including an ultramarathoner, a surfer, and others.

***The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness* by Sy Montgomery.** *Nonfiction. 2015.* National Book Award Finalist. Naturalist Montgomery joyously recounts her adventures with octopuses and their wonders.

***One of the Good Ones* by Maritza Moulite and Maika Moulite.** *Fiction. 2021.* A sister investigates the memory of her teen sister who was murdered under mysterious circumstances after attending a social justice rally. LGBTQ. Trigger warning: police brutality.

***Run* by Ann Patchett.** *Realistic fiction. 2007.* Set over a period of twenty-four hours and exploring locations across Boston, *Run* explores the lives of a complex family and the lengths parents will go to keep their children safe.

***My Name is Asher Lev* by Chaim Potok.** *Classic fiction. 1972.* When his uncle dies, orthodox Jew Asher Lev, a loner with artistic aspirations, must return to his native Brooklyn, where his art causes conflicts with his family and community.

***Dodger* by Terry Pratchett.** *Adventure fiction. 2002.* In an alternative version of Victorian London, a seventeen-year-old Dodger, a cunning and cheeky street urchin, rises in life when he saves a mysterious girl, meets Charles Dickens, and foils Sweeney Todd.

***Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds** *Realistic fiction, novel in verse. 2017.* Determined to avenge his 19-year-old brother's death, 15-year-old Will wants to kill the person he's certain is the murderer, but it's a long way down in the elevator.

***X: A Novel* by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon.** *Historical fiction. 2015.* Recounts the childhood of civil rights leader Malcolm X to his imprisonment at age twenty, when he found the faith that would lead him towards activism and justice.

***Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz.** *Fiction. Romance. LGBTQ. 2014.* Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. The two of them begin a friendship that lasts a lifetime.

***Betsey Brown: A Novel* by Ntozake Shange.** *Historical fiction. 1985.* Betsey is an African American seventh-grader growing up in St. Louis. This novel is based closely on the history of the school desegregation and Civil Rights movements in America.

***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith. Classic. 1943.** A novel based in part on the author's life, this book charts the coming-of-age of Francie in a hardscrabble part of Brooklyn where Francie struggles and grows.

***The Scorpio Races* by Maggie Stiefvater. Fantasy. 2011.** Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races.

***Spinning* by Tillie Walden. Nonfiction, Graphic Novel. LGBTQ. 2017.** Tillie Walden's Eisner Award winning graphic memoir *Spinning* captures what it's like to come of age, come out, and come to terms with leaving behind everything you used to know.

***The Age of Miracles: A Novel* by Karen Thompson Walker. Science fiction. 2012.** Earth's rotation has suddenly begun to slow, posing a catastrophic threat to all life. How is young Julia supposed to know how to grow up facing such a harsh reality?

***Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein. Historical fiction. 2012.** In 1943, a British fighter plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France and the survivor tells a tale of friendship, war, espionage, and great courage.