



Department of Education and Information Support Services
School Library System

Diverse Books with Kathleen Odean



Kathleen Odean has been giving lively, well-received presentations on recommended new young adult books for two decades after working for 17 years as a youth librarian in public and school libraries. She chaired the 2002 Newbery Award Committee for *A Single Shard* and served on earlier Caldecott and Newbery committees. She has taught children's/YA lit as an adjunct at the University of Rhode Island and online at Mansfield University. Kathleen has reviewed for *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Teacher-Librarian* and *Kirkus*. She currently reviews children's and YA books for *The Providence Journal*.

The Best Diverse Young Adult Fiction of 2015-2022 (Grades 6-8) ~ January 4, 2023 ~ 9:00 - 10:30 am (Zoom)

The publishing world is rapidly expanding its offerings of diverse books for young people. In this online seminar, Kathleen will introduce outstanding fiction with diverse characters in terms of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and more for grades 6-8. She will suggest useful resources, and participants will have a chance to exchange ideas briefly with fellow educators. Each participant will receive a practical handout with additional titles, annotated lists, and resources.

Register: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=10057&H=1&I=4153342>

The Best Diverse Young Adult Fiction of 2015-2022 (Grades 9-12) ~ January 11, 2023 ~ 9:00 - 10:30 am (Zoom)

We are in an exciting golden age for diversity in young adult books. In this online seminar, Kathleen will introduce outstanding fiction with diverse characters in terms of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and more for grades 9-12. She will suggest useful activities and websites, and participants will have a chance to discuss books briefly with fellow educators. Each participant will receive a practical handout with additional titles, annotated lists, and resources.

Register: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=10057&H=1&I=4153343>

The Best Diverse Nonfiction and Poetry of 2015-2022 (Grades 6-12) ~ January 18, 2023 ~ 9:00 - 10:30 am (Zoom)

Nonfiction for young people has been improving for the last fifteen years. In the past few years it has also become increasingly diverse in many ways including content and authors. While not much poetry gets published for grades 6-12, more diverse voices are appearing in print. Kathleen will introduce excellent diverse nonfiction and poetry books for grades 6-12, highlighting useful related resources. Participants will exchange ideas briefly with fellow educators. Each participant will receive a practical handout with additional titles, annotated lists, and resources.

Register: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=10057&H=1&I=4153345>

For further information, please contact Carl Vitevitch at 631-286-0891