



*Rochambeau & Memorial  
Middle Schools*

Grades 7 & 8

2016

Summer Reading Suggestions

June 2016

Dear Students Entering Seventh & Eighth Graders:

Welcome to Rochambeau & Memorial Middle Schools' 2016 summer reading program! One of our exciting school goals is to help you develop into lifelong readers. Reading enriches life in so many ways. It helps you create ideas, imagine possibilities, challenge positions, learn information, and connect to a variety of people and places. Of course it is also a lot of fun! This summer, in between camp and hanging out, your goal is to read **at least three books**. The following list has some great suggestions, but **your selections can come from anywhere**—you don't need to read books from this list. Feel free to browse a book store or library and find your own choices. There are also suggested websites inside this brochure to help you locate a great book. In the fall, we will be asking you to do two things:

1. Share a list of the books you most enjoyed reading.
2. Participate in a Summer Reading activity in your ELA/English class. This may be in the form of a discussion or book review.

Ultimately we hope that you discuss your summer reading books with family members and friends and create an important place in your life for reading.

Sincerely,  
Rochambeau & Memorial's Staff of Readers

## On the web

**American Library Association**, <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/booklists/members>

Young adult book lists ranging from Quick Picks for the Reluctant Young Reader to Popular Paperbacks.

**GuyRead.com** Web-based literacy program for boys. Books guys want to read.

**The Nerdy Book Club**, [nerdybookclub.wordpress.com](http://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com).

**Newbery Medal Home Page** <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberywinners/medalwinners> Newbery Medal winners, 1922-present.

**Nutmeg Book Award**, <https://sites.google.com/site/nutmegbookaward/> Nutmeg nominees & past winners.

## Discovery: the Real Stuff

### Big Ideas that Changed the World

Isabel Thomas

Read & marvel at the stories behind some of the world's most amazing discoveries that have made a sensation, from the first wheel to satellite navigation, the Model T Ford, & Edison's light bulb.

### Bombs over the Bikini

Connie Goldsmith

From 1946 until 1958, the military detonated sixty-seven nuclear bombs over the regions Bikini and Enewetak Atolls. The twelfth bomb, called Bravo, became the world's first nuclear disaster.

### Bugged: How Insects Have Changed History

Sarah Albee

There are about ten quintillion insects in the world--and some of them have affected human history in tremendous ways! For as long as humans have been on earth, we've co-existed with insects . . . for better or for worse. This book is told with fun and informative graphics.

### Courage Has No Color

Tanya Lee Stone

The True Story of the Triple Nickles: America's First Black Paratroopers.

### Sneaker Century

Amber Keyser

The fascinating history of sneakers! This insightful look at the history of sneakers traces the shoes from their humble origins in the Industrial Revolution to their current status as part of a multibillion dollar industry.

### A Volcano Beneath the Snow: John Brown's War Against Slavery Albert Marrin

Deeply religious, John Brown believed that God had chosen him to right the wrong of slavery. He was willing to kill and die for something modern Americans unanimously agree was a just cause.

## **Authors of Adventure**

### **The Blackthorne Key**

**Kevin Sands**

In the 1600s, England, Christopher Rowe, the apprentice to a Master Apothecary, tries to solve the murder of his master with the help of his loyal best friend. Codes, ciphers, chemistry and humor add to the mystery.

### **Fourteenth Goldfish**

**Jennifer L. Holm**

Ellie never liked change. Then one day a strange boy shows up. He's bossy. He's cranky. And oddly enough...he looks a lot like Ellie's grandfather. Could this pimply boy really *be* *Grandpa*?

### **Loot: How to Steal a Fortune**

**Jude Watson**

In his dying words, the notorious cat burglar tells his son to, "Find jewels." But March learns that his father isn't talking about hidden loot. He's talking about Jules, the twin sister March never knew he had. Together they are led to hunt for a famous stolen fortune. Cons & close calls await!

### **Mickey Bolitar, Book Three: Found**

**Harlan Coben**

It's been eight months since Mickey Bolitar witnessed the shocking, tragic death of his father. It's now been 8 months of lies, dark secrets, and unanswered questions. While he desperately wants answers, Mickey's sophomore year of high school brings on a whole new set of troubles. Action-packed series. Also, **Mickey Bolitar Book One**, *Shelter*, and **Book Two**, *Seconds Away*.

### **A Riddle in Ruby**

**Kent Davis**

Ruby Teach, daughter of a smuggler and pirate, has been learning how to swindle and steal and pick the most complex locks for as long as she can remember. But a collision with aristocratic young lord Athen sends her spinning into chaos.

### **Stone Rider**

**David Hofmeyr**

Fifteen-year-old Adam Stone inherited his biomechanical bike from his brother, who inherited it from his father. His family has escaped working in the mines by riding the race circuit, providing entertainment for the Watchers. The Blackwater Trail will be his first race, and unlike most of the other racers who ride with fellow gang members, Adam plans to do it alone. Non-stop action.

## **Fantasy**

### **Five Kingdoms Series Book One, Sky Raiders**

**Brandon Mull**

*Written by former Rochambeau student & author of the Fablehaven & Beyonders series!*

Cole was just trying to have a fun time with his friends on Halloween. But when a spooky haunted house turns out to be a portal to something much creepier, Cole finds himself on an adventure on a whole different level. Also, *Rogue Night*, *Crystal Keepers*, & *Death Weavers*.

### **Magisterium: The Iron Trial—a 2017 Nutmeg & series**

**Black & Clare**

Despite his father's warnings to stay away, Callum and his friends are heading deep into the magical world where twisted, sinister adventures and enemies await them. Also *The Copper Gauntlet & The Bronze Key*, August 2016 publication.

### **The Mapmakers Trilogy: The Glass Sentence**

**S.E. Grow**

Sophie returns home to find her famed uncle missing and their house ransacked. Was her uncle secretly hiding the key to the future? Together with her new friend Theo, Sophie embarks on an adventure to distant lands to find her uncle. Also *Crimson Skew*.

### **Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children—a series**

**Ransom Riggs**

A haunting and out-of-the-ordinary read—Jacob finds children—alive and well—who locals say were all killed decades ago. Enjoy: *Hollow City & Library of Lost Souls*.

### **The Nest**

**Kenneth Oppel**

For some kids summer is a sun-soaked season of fun. But for Steve, it's just another season of worries. Worries about his sick newborn baby brother who is fighting to survive, worries about his parents who are struggling to cope, even worries about the wasp's nest looming ominously from the eaves.

### **Shadowshaper**

**Daniel Jose Older**

Sierra Santiago planned an easy summer of making art and hanging out with her friends. But then a corpse crashes the first party of the season. Her stroke-ridden grandfather starts apologizing over and over. And when the murals in her neighborhood begin to weep real tears... Well, something more sinister than the usual Brooklyn ruckus is going on.

# Great Middle School Stories of Growing Up

## Goodbye Stranger

Rebecca Stead

Friends struggle with the changes middle school and family issues bring to their lives. Three girls are best friends with one rule: No fighting. Can it get them through seventh grade?

## The Honest Truth

Dan Gemeinhart

12 year-old Mark has been battling cancer and wants one last adventure. So he takes his dog and his camera and runs away to Mt. Rainier to climb to the top, even if it is the last thing he does.

## I am Princess X

Cherie Priest

Best friends Libby and May invented Princess X when they were in elementary school. May is now 16 and Libby has supposedly been dead for years. But now May is seeing stickers with drawings of Princess X all over Seattle. Could Libby still be alive?

## I Kill the Mockingbird

Paul Acampora

When Lucy, Elena, and Michael receive their summer reading list, they are excited to see *To Kill A Mockingbird* included. But not everyone in their class shares the same enthusiasm. So they hatch a plot to get the entire town talking about the well-known Harper Lee classic.

## Need—a series

Joelle Charbonneau

When a new social network pops up promising to fulfill any need, 16 year-old Kaylee knows it's too good to be true. It's one thing to deliver new phones, computers, or sports equipment, but how can an anonymous site give Kaylee what she needs—a kidney for her little brother? Kaylee joins NEED but starts to worry when NEED begins asking users to complete tasks in exchange for getting what they want. The tasks seem harmless enough at first, until a student turns up dead, and Kaylee finds out the lengths to which some people will go to get what they think they need.

## One

Sarah Crossan

Tippi and Grace share everything—clothes, friends . . . even their body. This is the sensitive and moving story of conjoined twin sisters, who find it normal to step into the same skirt, to hook their arms around each other for balance, to fall asleep listening to the other breathing, to share, and to keep some things private...But the girls' body is beginning to fight against them. And Grace doesn't want to admit it. Not even to Tippi. How long can they hide from the truth—how long before they must face the most impossible choice of their lives?

## Orbiting Jupiter

Gary Schmidt

The shattering story of Joseph, a father at thirteen, who has never seen his daughter, Jupiter. After spending time in a juvenile facility, he's placed with a foster family on a farm in rural Maine. Here Joseph, damaged and withdrawn, meets twelve-year-old Jack, who narrates the account of the troubled, passionate teen who wants to find his baby at any cost. In this riveting novel, two boys discover the true meaning of family and the sacrifices it requires.

## The Raven Cycle—a series & 2016 Nutmeg Nominee Maggie Stiefvater

Every year, Blue Sargent stands next to her clairvoyant mother as the soon-to-be dead walk past. Blue never sees them—until this year, when a boy emerges from the dark and speaks to her. *The Raven Boys, The Dream Thieves, Blue Lily-Lily Blue, & The Raven King.*

## See You at Harry's—2015 Nutmeg Nominee

Jo Knowles

Twelve-year-old Fern feels invisible. It seems as though everyone in her family has better things to do than to pay attention to her. Then tragedy strikes, and Fern feels responsible for the accident that has wrenched her family apart and changed their lives forever.

## A Snicker of Magic—2017 Nutmeg Nominee

Natalie Lloyd

Felicity arrives in Midnight Gulch and learns from her mama that there used to be magic there. Magic is a bonus for Felicity, who longs to stay in one place so she can make a friend. She finds one in wheelchair-bound Jonah, and he fills in Felicity on the town's magical history and its people.

## Reading in Fun Formats

### **Brown Girl Dreaming**

In vivid poems, Woodson shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.

**Jacqueline Woodson**

### **How They Choked: Failures, Flops & Flaws of the Awfully Famous** **Georgia Bragg**

Everyone makes mistakes. Sometimes epic failures even lead to super successes... sometimes they become deep dark secrets. But remember—to fail is human, but to laugh about our short-

### **How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous** **Georgia Bragg**

Over the course of history men and women have lived and died. In fact, getting sick and dying can be a big, ugly mess—especially before the modern medical care that we all enjoy today.

### **I Am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I Want to be Your ...** **Josh Li**

Oliver has a secret; he is the world's third-richest person; he overthrows foreign dictators, owns corporations, is a successful inventor and investor, and is on the way to attaining his goal of world domination. But what Oliver really wants is his father's attention and approval, which he hopes to get by winning the election for president of his eighth-grade class.

### **March—a trilogy**

A vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, beginning with his youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., the birth of the Nashville Student Movement, and their battle to tear down segregation through nonviolent lunch counter sit-ins, building to a stunning climax on the steps of City Hall. Also **March: Book 2 & Book 3**.

**Lewis, Aydin, & Powell**

### **Olympians—a series**

A graphic novel series based on mythology. The gods interfere in the lives of the humans and the demi-gods as we watch the story unfold. **Odysseus: Escaping Poseidon's Curse; Perseus: The Hunt for Medusa's Head; The Trojan Horse: The fall of Troy; Hercules: The Twelve Labors; Apollo: The Brilliant One; Ares: Bringer of War.**

**George O'Conner**

### **The Tapper Twins Go to War—a series**

What's wrong with a little pranking among siblings? Things couldn't possibly escalate, could they? Also **The Tapper Twins Tear Up New York.**

**Geoff Rodkey**

## Inspired by True Life Experiences

### **All of the Above**

James, Rhondell, Sharice, and Marcel attend the same inner-city school. Their teacher, Mr. Collins, challenges these diverse students to build the world's biggest Sierpinski tetrahedron in an after-school club. Based on a true story.

**Shelly Pearsall**

### **Because They Marched**

The people's Campaign for Voting rights that changed America. The story of Selma, Alabama 1965: Tired of abuse for attempting to register to vote, Selma's black community began to protest.

**Russell Freedman**

### **The Boys in the Boat**

The true story of an American team's epic journey to win gold at the 1936 Olympics. The inspiring story of The University of Washington's underdog crew team that beat all of the big East Coast teams and went on to win the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

**Daniel Brown**

### **Hidden like Anne Frank: 14 True Stories of Survival**

A collection of eye-opening first-person accounts that share the experience of going into hiding to escape the Holocaust.

**Prins & Steenhuis**

### **Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and Fight for Civil Rights**

On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. On August 9th, 244 men refused to go back to work until unsafe and unfair conditions at the docks were addressed. When the dust settled, fifty were charged with mutiny, facing decades in jail and even execution.

**Steve Sheinkin**

## Exciting Sports Authors

### The Final Four—2015 *Nutmeg Nominee*

Paul Volponi

It's the semifinal game of March Madness—as the teams race to find victory, the stories of how each player arrived there are revealed.

### Throwing Strikes: The Quest for the Perfect Knuckleball

R.A. Dickey

An inspiring true story about one of the most respected pitchers in the game—R.A. is proof that with hard work and devotion, anyone can overcome whatever life throws at him.

### John Feinstein

**Triple Threat—a series:** *The Walk On*

**The Sports Beat Series:** *Last Shot: Mystery at the Final Four, Vanishing Act: Mystery at the US Open, Cover-Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl, Change-Up: Mystery at the World Series, The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game.*

### Tim Green

**Football Genius Series:** *Football Genius, Football Hero, Football Champ, The Big Time, Deep Zone and Perfect Season.*

**Baseball Great Series:** *Baseball Great, Best of the Best, Pinch Hit and Rivals.*

**Other Novels:** *Unstoppable, Pinch Hit, Force Out, New Kid, and Lost Boy.*

### Dan Gutman

**The Baseball Card Adventures—a series:** *Babe & Me, Honus & Me, Jackie & Me, Shoeless Joe & Me, Mickey & Me, Ted & Me, Willie & Me, Satch & Me, Roberto & Me, Ray & Me, Abner & Me, Jim & Me.*

**Million Dollar series:** *Million Dollar Catch, Million Dollar Kick, Million Dollar Putt, Million Dollar Shot, Million Dollar Strike, Million Dollar Goal.*

**Other Books:** *Casey Back at Bat, Gymnastics: the Trials, the Triumph, the Truth* (nonfiction).

### Mike Lupica

**Game Changers Series:** *Game Changers, Play Makers, and Heavy Hitters.*

**Comeback Kid Series:** *Two-Minute Drill, Hot Hand, Safe at Home, Long Shot and Shoot Out.*

**Other Novels:** *Travel Team, Summer Ball* (sequel). *True Legend, Hero, Underdogs, Million-Dollar Throw, Batboy, Miracle on 49th Street, The Big Field, QB1, and Fast Break.*

## Mystery

### Embassy Row: All Fall Down—a series

Ally Carter

Someone killed Grace's mother; now she wants to keep him from striking again. Grace lives with her grandfather, a U.S. Ambassador, and gets other embassy kids to help. **Also *How They Run*.**

### FunJungle: Belly Up— a series

Stuart Gibbs

12 year-old Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt Fitzroy has murder on his hands and trouble on his tail. He believes that Henry, the hippopotamus at the brand-new FunJungle, has been murdered. The zoo's top brass claim the hippo went belly up the natural way, but Teddy and his feisty friend have other ideas. The deeper Teddy and Summer dig, the more danger they're in! **See also *Poached & Big Game*.**

### Point Last Seen: Body in the Woods—a series

April Henry

Three teens join Portland County Sheriff's Search and Rescue and are teamed up to search for a autistic man lost in the woods. What they find instead is a dead body. In a friendship that will be forged in danger, fear and courage, the three team up to find the girl's killer-- before he can strike one of their own. **Also *Blood Will Tell*.**

### Serafina and the Black Cloak

Robert Beatty

In 1899, 12 year-old Serafina lives with her father in the basement of the Vanderbilts' estate. When children begin disappearing, she and Braeden Vanderbilt decide to solve the mystery, and in the process Serafina discovers secrets of her past.

# Science Fiction—Will life look like this in the future?

## The Accelerati Trilogy, Book 1: Tesla's Attic

Shusterman & Elfman

A story of teenagers versus mad scientists. Also *Edison's Alley & Hawking's Hallway*.

## Atlantia

Ally Condie

For as long as she can remember, Rio has dreamed of the sand and sky Above—of life beyond her underwater city of Atlantia. But in a single moment, all Rio's hopes for the future are shattered when her twin sister, Bay, makes an unexpected choice, stranding Rio Below. Alone, ripped away from the last person who knew Rio's true self—and the powerful siren voice she has long silenced—she has nothing left to lose.

## Lunar Chronicles—a 2016 Nutmeg Nominee

Marissa Meyer

In this futuristic retelling of Cinderella, Cinder is both a gifted mechanic and a cyborg, living on a plague-ravaged Earth that is threatened by a ruthless lunar queen. She becomes involved with a prince and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the fate of the world. *Cinder, Scarlet, Cress, Winter* and companion novels: *Fairest & Stars Above*.

## The Eleventh Plague

Jeff Hirsch

In the aftermath of a war, America's landscape has been ravaged and two-thirds of the population left dead from a vicious strain of influenza. Fifteen-year-old Stephen Quinn and his family were among the few that survived and became salvagers, roaming the country in search of material to trade. When Stephen and a new friend play a prank that goes horribly wrong, chaos erupts, and they find themselves in the midst of a battle that will change their lives forever. Also by this author: *The Darkest Path & Magisterium*.

## The Fifth Wave—a trilogy

Rick Yancey

Cassie is one of the very few people left alive on Earth. Aliens sent waves of destructive forces to eradicate humans, and Cassie must now fight back. A compelling story full of violent twists and turns, along with nonstop action. Also *The Infinite Sea & The Last Star*.

## The Mortality Doctrine—a series

James Dashner

Michael is a gamer. And like most gamers, he almost spends more time on the VirtNet than in the actual world. The VirtNet offers total mind and body immersion, and it's addictive. And the more hacking skills you have, the more fun. Why bother following the rules when most of them are dumb, anyway? *The Eye of Minds, The Rule of Thoughts, & The Game of Lives*.

## The Six

Mark Alpert

Adam's muscular dystrophy has stolen his mobility, his friends, and in less than a year it will take his life. Virtual reality games are Adam's only escape from his wheelchair. In his alternate world, he can defeat anyone. Running, jumping, scoring touchdowns: Adam is always the hero. Then an artificial intelligence program hacks into Adam's game. Created by Adam's computer-genius father, Sigma has gone rogue, threatening to kill Adam—and the entire human race.

## Sweet

Emmy Laybourne

A posh, seven-day celebrity cruise begins as a pre-launch publicity party for Solu, a groundbreaking new artificial sweetener. Passengers are promised they will lose five to 10 percent of their body fat in a matter of days. Over the course of the week, they lose a lot more than fat. The weight loss is dramatic, but so, too is the unexpected side effect of rage. As dead bodies pile up, Tom and Laurel realize it is up to them to get off the ship and warn the world about Solu before its widespread public release in a few days.

## W.A.R.P.: The Reluctant Assassin—a series

Eoin Coffey

From the author of *Artemis Fowl*: Seventeen-year-old FBI agent Chevron Savano thought her time in London would be an exercise in boredom, but between dead scientists, scrappy would-be assassins, and a malevolent Victorian illusionist, boredom may be the least of her worries.

Also *The Hangman's Revolution & The Forever Man*.

# History With a Dash of Fiction

## The Auslander

Paul Dowswell

When Peter's parents are killed, he is sent to an orphanage in Warsaw, Poland. With his blond hair and blue eyes, he looks just like the boy on the Hitler Youth poster. The Nazis decide he is racially valuable. Indeed, a prominent German family is pleased to adopt such a fine Aryan specimen into their household. But despite his new "family," Peter feels like a foreigner—an *ausländer*—and he is forming his own ideas about what he sees and what he's told. He doesn't want to be a Nazi. So he takes a risk—the most dangerous one he could possibly choose in 1942 Berlin...

## Echo

Pam Munoz Ryan

A young boy lost in the woods is rescued by three sisters imprisoned there by a witch's curse. In return, he promises to help break the curse by carrying their spirits out of the forest in a harmonica and passing the instrument along when the time is right. This same harmonica becomes the tangible thread that connects the stories of three children: a disfigured outcast; an impoverished orphan; and an itinerant farmer's child. Their personal struggles are set against some of the darkest eras in human history: the rise of Nazi Germany; the Great Depression; World War II.

## Hired Girl

Laura Amy Schlitz

Over the summer of 1911, Joan pours her heart out into her diary as she seeks a new, better life for herself—because maybe, just maybe, a hired girl cleaning and cooking for six dollars a week can become what a farm girl could only dream of—a woman with a future.

## The Inventor's Secret—a series of *alternate* history

Andrea Cremer

In an America in which the British won the Revolutionary War, descendants of the rebels are forced to labor in indentured servitude to atone for their forefathers' errors, and the children of those descendants are up to their eyeballs in plots against the government.

## Lincoln's Grave Robbers

Steve Sheinkin

The plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and \$200,000 in cash. Follow the story of the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups.

## Lions of Little Rock—2014 *Nutmeg*

Kristen Levine

In Little Rock, Arkansas 1958 politics rage over integrating schools. Marlee, 13, is a math whiz, but terrified to speak in public. Then a new girl, Lizzie, encourages Marlee to do an oral presentation with her—until Lizzie is thrown out of school when the town discovers she is a light-skinned black passing for white. Marlee and Lizzie meet secretly until it becomes too dangerous...

## Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky

Sandra Dallas

Tomi and her brothers are American, but after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1942, her family is separated and imprisoned in an interment camp for Japanese Americans in Colorado. Tomi tries to enrich the lives of her family and friends at the camp while her own faith in the American dream begins to waiver.

## The Sixties Trilogy

Deborah Wiles

**Enjoy: *Countdown***--Surviving the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 & ***Revolution***--as people from up north come to help people of the south register to vote during the Freedom Summer of 1964.

## Under a Painted Sky

Stacey Lee

All Samantha wanted was to move back to New York and pursue her music, which was difficult enough being a Chinese girl in Missouri, 1849. Then her fate takes a turn for the worse after a tragic accident leaves her with nothing and she breaks the law in self-defense. With help from Annamae, a runaway slave she met at the scene of her crime, the two flee town for the unknown frontier. But life on the Oregon Trail is unsafe for two girls. They disguise themselves as Sammy and Andy, two boys heading for the California gold rush.

Cover Art by Jeffrey Gao