

Summer Reading List for 8th and 9th graders

(Audiobooks and eBooks available at the Capital Area District Library)



Abawi, Atia

[A land of permanent goodbyes](#)

After their home in Syria is bombed, Tareq, his father, and his younger sister seek refuge, first with extended family in Raqqa, a stronghold for the militant group, Daesh, and then abroad. 279 p. 2018 (eBook)



Alexander, Kwame

[The crossover](#)

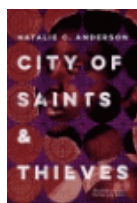
Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. 237 p. 2014 (Book on CD, eBook)



Allen, Rachael

[A taxonomy of love](#)

From age thirteen to nineteen, Spencer experiences an ever-changing relationship with Hope, the girl next door who helps him cope with his Tourette syndrome but likes his Neanderthal brother, Dean. 330 p. 2018



Anderson, Natalie C.

[City of saints & thieves](#)

Sixteen-year-old Tina and two friends leave Kenya and slip into the Congo, from where she and her mother fled years before, seeking revenge for her mother's murder but uncovering startling secrets. 401 p. 2017 (eBook)



Banas, Danielle

[The supervillain and me](#)

Abby Hamilton's older brother moonlights as a superhero, but she has no interest in following in his footsteps--until a "supervillain" called Iron Phantom saves her life and warns her that not everyone in the "hero" world is who they seem to be. Now, Abby's the one who'll need to leap into action and save the day. 310 p. 2018



Blogier, Alexandra

[The last girl on Earth](#)

Li is the only human left after aliens take over the planet, but she learns to stay alive, with the help of her human-sympathizing father, by assimilating to Abdolorean society, which she must keep a secret at all costs or risk the terrifying consequences of exposure. 246 p. 2018



Bolden, Tonya
Inventing Victoria

Essie, a young black woman in 1880s Savannah, is offered the opportunity to leave her shameful past and be transformed into an educated, high-society woman in Washington, D.C. 264 p. 2019 (eBook)



Bruchac, Joseph
The long run

Travis Hawk runs away from his father and a Seattle homeless shelter to travel across the country, experiencing some bad situations and meeting some good people along his journey of survival and risk. 115 p. 2016



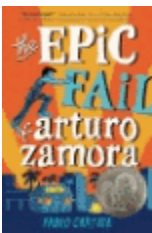
Budhos, Marina Tamar
Watched

Far from the "model teen," Naeem moves fast to outrun the eyes of his Bangladeshi parents, their gossipy neighbors, and the other forms of surveillance in his immigrant neighborhood in Queens, but when his mistakes catch up with him and the police offer a dark deal, will Naeem be a hero or a traitor? 265 p. 2016 (eBook and eAudiobook)



Caine, Rachel
Honor among thieves

Zara Cole has a painful past that's made her stronger than most, which is why she chose life in New Detroit instead moving to Mars. Living inside a dome isn't much better than a prison cell. Still, when Zara commits a crime that has her running scared, jail might be exactly where she's headed. 465 p. 2018 (eBook, eAudiobook)



Cartaya, Pablo
The epic fail of Arturo Zamora

Tells the story of Arturo, who is looking forward to a relaxing summer until Carmen, a cute and funny girl moves into his apartment complex and while he deals with his stomach turning into a deep fryer over a girl, a smarmy land developer rolls into town and threatens to change it. 236 p. 2017 (eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD)



Davis, Tanita S.
Peas and Carrots

After her mother is arrested, fifteen-year-old Dess is sent to live with the foster family that took in her baby brother several years before, and although she and her new foster sister, Hope, clash immediately, they soon realize they have much in common. 279 p. 2016



Doller, Trish

In a perfect world

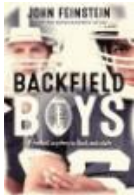
When her mother moves to Cairo to set up an eye clinic 17 year-old Caroline reluctantly gives up her summer and moves to Egypt, where she encounters a city that enchants her and a boy who challenges her thoughts on love, faith, and privilege. 294 p. 2017



Freitas, Donna

Unplugged

Humanity is split into a dying physical world for the poor and an extravagant virtual world for the wealthy. Years ago, Skylar Cruz crossed over to the App. Now all she wants is to see her mother and sister again. Desperate and ready to risk everything to get home she soon learns that the only person she can trust--in either world, is herself. 427 p. 2017 (eBook)



Feinstein, John

Backfield boys

When best friends Tom and Jason leave New York City for an elite, sports-focused boarding school in Virginia to play football, they find some coaches and teammates to be steeped in racism. 353 p. 2017 (eBook)



Greenwald, Tom

Game changer

While thirteen-year-old Teddy fights for his life after a football injury at training camp, his friends and family gather to support him and discuss events leading to his coma. Told through dialogue, text messages, newspaper articles, transcripts, an online forum, and Teddy's inner thoughts. 287 p. 2018



Howard, A. G. (Anita G.)

Roseblood

Rune has a mysterious affliction linked to her singing talent that leaves her sick, so her mother sends her to a French boarding school. Rune recognizes something otherworldly when she sees a masked boy in the graveyard. She befriends Thorn, and he can cure Rune, but at what expense? 425 p. 2017 (eBook)



Kaurin, Marianne

Almost autumn

As autumn approaches Ilse Stern is thinking about her infatuation with Hermann Rød, and whether his determination to be a painter will interfere with their romance--but the reality of being Jewish in occupied Oslo is about to turn her whole world upside down, as the deportation of the Norwegian Jews begins. 278 p. 2017 (Book on CD)



Kennedy, Katie

[What goes up](#)

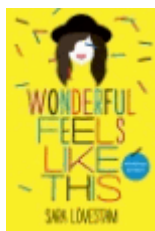
Teenagers Rosa and Eddie, trainees in a top-secret space exploration and research program, must thwart the aliens' Earth-destroying mission by stealing their spacecraft and traveling extra-dimensionally to an alternate Earth. 327 p. 2017 (eBook)



Lee, Fonda

[Exo](#)

For a century now, Earth has been a peaceful colony of an alien race, and Donovan Reyes is a loyal member of the security forces, but when a routine search and seizure goes bad Donovan finds himself a captive of the human revolutionary group, Sapience, terrorists who seem to prefer war to alien rule, and killing Donovan just might be the incident they are looking for. 371 p. 2017



Lövestam, Sara

[Wonderful feels like this](#)

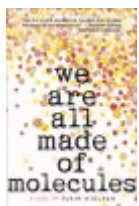
For Steffi, going to school is an exercise in survival. The only way she escapes is through her music -- especially jazz music. Luckily she meets Alvar at a retirement home. Alvar's escape has always been jazz music too. Through their unconventional friendship, Steffi comes to realize she won't always be stuck and lonely in her town. 305 p. 2017



McCahan, Erin

[The lake effect](#)

The summer after senior year of high school, Briggs Henry works as a personal assistant to an eccentric elderly woman in a house on the shores of Lake Michigan, and finds himself distracted by the mysterious girl next door. 391 p. 2017 (eBook)



Nielsen-Fernlund, Susin

[We Are All Made of Molecules](#)

Thirteen-year-old brilliant but socially-challenged Stewart and mean-girl Ashley must find common ground when, two years after Stewart's mother died, his father moves in with his new girlfriend--Ashley's mother, whose gay ex-husband lives in their guest house. 348 p. 2015 (eBook, Book on CD)



Older, Daniel José

[Shadowshaper](#)

When the murals painted on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change and fade in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on--then she discovers her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers and finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends. 297 p. 2015 (Book on CD, eBook, eAudiobook)



Powell, Patricia Hruby

[Loving vs. Virginia : a documentary novel of the landmark civil rights case](#)

Written in blank verse, the story of Mildred Loving, an African American girl, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian boy, who challenge the Virginia law forbidding interracial marriages in the 1950s. 260 p. 2017 (Book on CD, eAudiobook)



Reynolds, Jason

[Long way down](#)

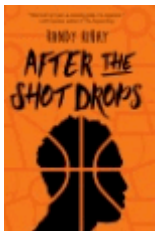
As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know. 306 p. 2017 (eBook, eAudiobook and Book on CD)



Revis, Beth

[A World without You](#)

Seventeen-year-old Bo has always had delusions that he can travel through time...so when his worried parents send him to a school for troubled youth, [he is] actually attending Berkshire Academy, a school for kids who, like Bo, have 'superpowers'. 370 p. 2016



Ribay, Randy

[After the shot drops](#)

Told from alternating perspectives, Bunny takes a basketball scholarship to an elite private school to help his family, leaving behind Nasir, his best friend, in their tough Philadelphia neighborhood. 325 p. 2018



Sepetys, Ruta

[Salt to the Sea](#)

As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war's final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull. 391 p. 2016 (Book on CD, eBook, eAudiobook)



Shabazz, Ilyasah

[X : a novel](#)

Malcolm Little's parents have told him that he can achieve anything. From what he can tell, that's a pack of lies-- as his father's been murdered, his mother's been taken away, and his dreams of being a lawyer have gotten him laughed out of school. There's no point in trying, he figures, and is lured by the nightlife of Boston and New York. 348 p. 2015 (Book on CD, eBook)



Strand, Jeff

[How you ruined my life](#)

Rod's life is going well until his rich, prankster cousin, Blake, moves in for three months--moving into his room and moving in on his girlfriend and band--ruining everything. 304 p. 2018



Toten, Teresa

[The unlikely hero of room 13B](#)

Adam not only is trying to understand his OCD, while trying to balance his relationship with his divorced parents, but he's also trying to navigate through the issues that teenagers normally face, namely the perils of young love. 289 p. 2015 (Book on CD, eBook)



Walter, Jon

[My Name is Not Friday](#)

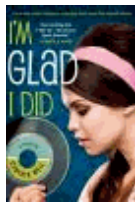
Samuel and his younger brother, Joshua, are free black boys living in an orphanage during the Civil War, but when Samuel takes the blame for his brother's prank, he is sent South, given a new name, and sold into slavery--and somehow he must survive both captivity and the war, to find his way back to his brother. 368 p. 2015 (eAudiobook)



Watson, Renée

[Piecing me together](#)

Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's amazing Study Abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls. 264 p. 2017 (eBook, Book on CD)



Weil, Cynthia

[I am Glad I Did](#)

In 1963 sixteen-year-old JJ Green, a songwriting intern, finds herself a writing partner in Luke Silver, a boy who seems to connect instantly with her music, and they start cutting their first demo with Dulcie Brown, a legend who has fallen on hard times, with a secret past. 264 p. 2015



Wein, Elizabeth

[Black Dove White Raven](#)

Having moved to Ethiopia to avoid the prejudices of 1930s America, Emilia Menotti, her black adoptive brother Teo, and their mother Rhoda, a stunt pilot, are devoted to their new country even after war with Italy looms, drawing the teens into the conflict. 257 p. 2015 (Book on CD)