

May 2011

Dear Parents
and Students,

Santa Monica
Public Library's
theme for 2011
summer teen
readers is "You
Are Here!" And
what better ways to
celebrate teens are
here by reading
true stories and adventures about teens!



Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
is pleased to announce our summer reading
program prepared by our school librarians in
collaboration with the Santa Monica Public
Library, and support from California State
library. On the other side of this letter is a list
of recommended books to read during the
summer. Because students' maturity and
reading levels vary, we encourage parents
to participate actively in selecting and/or
discussing these books.

Students are expected to read and respond
to two books from the list for the grade they
will be entering in the fall. Students are
responsible for obtaining their own books;
the public libraries, as well as local
booksellers specializing in children's and
young adult literature, will have most of
these titles available.

We are very excited about this program
and hope the books on this list will
provide knowledge and pleasure
for your child.

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BOOK SELECTION GUIDELINES:

All students must read and be
prepared to read, share & evaluate
2 BOOKS in September from the
2011 SUMMER READING LIST:

***SERIES:** Students can choose
any book of a **series*. Please note
students' 2nd book choice can not
be from the same series.

TASK #1: Be prepared to make a written
recommendation to your teacher that a
book you read be retained or deleted from
next year's list.

TASK #2: Guidelines for the assignment
for the second book you read will be given
the first or second week of school. This
assignment could be in-class writing, a
booktalk, or a special project.

Have a fantastic summer filled with reading
and adventure!

Sincerely,

Erica Cuyugan, Teen Services Librarian,
Santa Monica Public Library

Joe DiMercurio, Librarian, Malibu High School

Kelly Urtz, Librarian, Lincoln Middle School

JAMS Librarian, John Adams Middle School



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SANTA MONICA PUBLIC
LIBRARY
YOUTH SERVICES



**INCOMING
8TH GRADE
SUMMER
READING
LIST
2011**



FOR EXTRA SUMMER FUN,
visit **Santa Monica Public Library**
or your **local library** for
fun activities & prizes celebrating
"You are Here!" & summer reading!

Check **smpl.org** and click on the
Teens tab for
Programs, Books & Reading, & more!

REALISTIC

DEUKER, CARL - NIGHT HOOPS. While trying to prove that he is good enough to be on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

HINTON, S.E. - THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW. Sixteen-year-old Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now, as their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

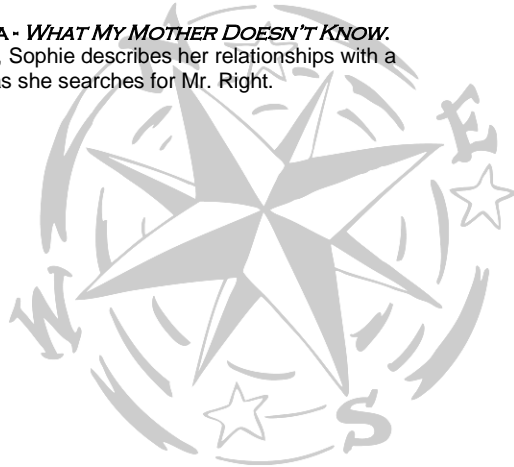
LUBAR, DAVID - SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE. Scott, a ninth-grader, keeps a hilarious diary with a list of "do's" and "don'ts" for surviving freshman year in hopes of helping his unborn sibling.

MURDOCK, CATHERINE GILBERT - DAIRY QUEEN. After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, 16-year old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

NA, AN - A STEP FROM HEAVEN. A young Korean girl and her family find it hard to adjust to life in America.

PHILBRICK, RODMAN - FREAK THE MIGHTY. Max, a large eighth-grader with a learning disability, becomes friends with Freak, an intelligent boy who is physically impaired.

SONES, SONYA - WHAT MY MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW. Through poetry, Sophie describes her relationships with a series of boys as she searches for Mr. Right.



CLASSIC

AUSTEN, JANE - EMMA. Emma devotes her formidable energies to matchmaking between friends and acquaintances in the village of Highbury. The plot turns on a romance of which she is wholly unaware.

SMITH, BETTY - A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN. The tale of a little girl living in the slums of Brooklyn, who dreamily watches out her window as a tree struggles to reach the sky.

HISTORICAL

BRUCHAC, JOSEPH - CODE TALKER. Sixteen-year-old Ned lies about his age, joins the Marines, and becomes a code talker, using his secret Navajo language to help end the war against Japan.

OTSUKA, JULIE - WHEN THE EMPEROR WAS DIVINE. The five members of a Japanese American family present their unique perspectives on the experience of being forced into an internment camp during World War II.

SCHMIDT, GARY - THE WEDNESDAY WARS. In 1967, Holling Hoodhood starts seventh grade and experiences a series of mishaps and adventures involving cream puffs, yellow tights, Shakespeare and the New York Yankees.

MYSTERY & ADVENTURE

DU MAURIER, DAPHNE - REBECCA. For months after her death, the memory of Rebecca de Winter continues to dominate everyone at her former home, Manderley, a famous English country house.

HOROWITZ, ANTHONY - EAGLE STRIKE. (*SERIES) Teenage spy Alex Rider investigates international pop star and philanthropist Damian Cray whose new video game venture hides sinister motives involving Air Force One, nuclear missiles, and the international drug trade.

YANCEY, RICK - THE EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF ALFRED KROPP. When teenager Alfred Kropp accidentally rescues King Arthur's legendary Excalibur, he begins a dangerous mission to keep the sword safe from the forces of evil.

SCIENCE-FICTION & FANTASY

ADAMS, DOUGLAS - THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY. Seconds before Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway, an earthman is saved by his friend. Together they journey through the galaxy.

CARD, ORSON SCOTT - ENDER'S GAME. In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers.

CRICHTON, MICHAEL - ANDROMEDA STRAIN. For five days, American scientists struggle to identify and control a deadly new form of life.

FARMER, NANCY - THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION. In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

KLAUSE, ANNETTE - SILVER KISS. A mysterious teenage boy harboring a dark secret helps Zoe come to terms with her mother's terminal illness.

WESTERFELD, SCOTT - UGLIES. Growing up in a futuristic world, 15 year old Tally, a fun-loving trickster, attracts the attention of the secret police when she begins to question the society she lives in and break the rules.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

DAVIS, SAMPSON - WE BEAT THE STREET. Growing up on the rough streets of Jersey, Rameck, George, and Sampson decide to avoid the fate of many of their friends' lives of drug dealing, gangs, and prison, by making a pact to go to medical school.

HOOSE, PHILIP - CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE. Nine months before Rosa Parks, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin is the first to trigger a bus boycott, and was a key plaintiff in ending Montgomery's segregated bus system. Read about this brave teenager's courageous life story.

SPIEGELMAN, ART - MAUS I. A story of a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father's story and history itself.