

From the DHS Library

Wave "Hello" to Summer!



New & Popular	1-2
Try a Trilogy	3
Get a Leg up on World Lit	4
What Your Friends are Reading	5
Catch up on a Classic	6

Summer vacation is more than going to exotic places and playing video games - it's the perfect time to indulge in reading—for fun! The school year is often cluttered with school work, sports, clubs, and many other activities not allowing students extra time to read for pleasure.

With more free time during the long summer break, we want to encourage all *students to select books they want to read and to read as many books as possible.*

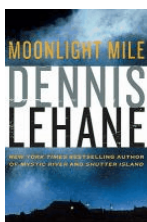
Not sure what to read? Please check out the list of recommended titles that were gathered by fellow students and teachers. There is bound to be something of interest for you to read!

Students and parents are encouraged to apply their own values, views, and sensibilities in order to determine the appropriateness of the reading material. It is impossible to provide a blanket guarantee that all the books are suitable for all students. The list of titles in this publication is only a list of *suggestions*. Students are encouraged to find books that they want to read and to read as many as they wish.

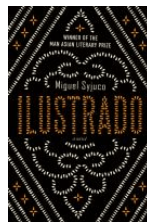
The DHS Library has copies of all titles which students are able to check out for the summer. Copies of the books and additional assistance selecting books may also be available at the Darien Public Library as well as your favorite bookstore.



Popular New Fiction Added This Year



Moonlight Mile by Dennis Lehane. Investigators are asked to locate Amanda McCready, who is now sixteen-years-old and has been missing for weeks, but their efforts lead them to uncover a string of identity thieves, methamphetamine dealers, a crime boss, a priceless religious relic, and a homicidal Russian gangster.

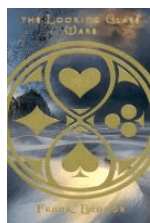


Ilustrado by Miguel Syjuco. Writer Crispin Salvador is pulled from the Hudson River and the manuscript of his latest book exposing the crimes of the Filipino ruling families turns up missing, so his friend Miguel pores over previous letters and documents, and travels back to Manila in order to search for answers to Crispin's death.



A Visit From the Goon Squad by Jennifer Egan. Bennie Salazar, who put aside his days as a punk rocker to be a record executive, reminisces about his younger years and how his adulthood came to be while he remains naive to the inner workings of Sasha, the mid-thirties woman who works with Bennie and harbors a penchant for stealing.

Popular New Fiction



The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Beddor. When she is cast out of Wonderland by her evil aunt Redd, young Alyss Heart finds herself living in Victorian Oxford as Alice Liddell and struggles to keep memories of her kingdom intact until she can return and claim her rightful throne.



The Passage by Justin Cronin. FBI agent Brad Wolgast vows to protect six-year-old orphan Amy Harper Bellafonte after a government military experiment she was involved in goes bad, unleashing a toxic virus that turns humans into bloodthirsty monsters.



Revolution by Jennifer Donnelly. An angry, grieving seventeen-year-old musician facing expulsion from her prestigious Brooklyn private school travels to Paris to complete a school assignment and uncovers a diary written during the French revolution by a young actress attempting to help a tortured, imprisoned little boy--Louis Charles, the lost king of France.



Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter by Tom Franklin. Silas Jones ended his friendship with Larry Ott after Larry was suspected in the disappearance of a girl he was dating, and now, twenty-five years later, another woman has disappeared and Larry is once again implicated, leaving Silas, the local constable, questioning what he really knows about his old friend.



Vanishing of Katharina Linden: a Novel by Helen Grant. Pia, the last person to see ten-year-old Katharina Linden before she vanished, is determined to find out what happened, but her quest becomes complicated when a second child disappears.

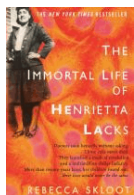


My New American Life by Francine Prose. Lula, a twenty-six-year-old Albanian woman living in New York City, believes her jobs as a caretaker to Zeke, a rebellious high school senior, will be her ticket to a better life for herself, but when a man from her past arrives demanding Lula's help, he threatens to destroy her future.



Submarine by Jow Dunthorne. At almost fifteen-years-old Oliver Tate is reexamining his life in Swansea, Wales, and after taking an active interest in his parent's floundering marriage, finds himself on a scientific quest to understand his own life changes.

Popular New Biography



The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. Examines the experiences of the children and husband of Henrietta Lacks, who, twenty years after her death from cervical cancer in 1951, learned doctors and researchers took cells from her cervix without consent which were used to create the immortal cell line known as the HeLa cell; provides an overview of Henrietta's life; and explores issues of experimentation on African-Americans and bioethics.



Unbroken: a World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand. A biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who had been rambunctious in childhood before succeeding in track and eventually serving in the military, which led to a trial in which he was forced to find a way to survive in the open ocean after being shot down.

Try a Trilogy!

Katniss Everdeen Series by Suzanne Collins.

The Hunger Games was a big hit last year. Read the entire series this summer!



The Hunger Games (book 1). In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.

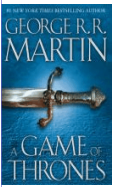


Catching Fire (book 2). By winning the annual Hunger Games, District 12 tributes Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark have secured a life of safety and plenty for themselves and their families, but because they won by defying the rules, they unwittingly become the faces of an impending rebellion.

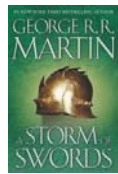


Mockingjay (book 3). Katniss Everdeen, having survived the Hunger Games twice, learns she and her family and friends are in danger because the Capitol holds her responsible for the unrest and races against time to protect those she cares about and the people of District 12.

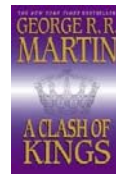
“Song of Ice and Fire” Trilogy by George R. R. Martin



A Game of Thrones (book 1). Lords and ladies, soldiers and sorcerers, and all the forces of good and evil prepare for trouble in the land of Winterfell where summers can last for decades and winters a lifetime.



A Storm of Swords (book 2). The brutal struggle between the five contenders for the Iron Throne is nearing its climax when the Seven Kingdoms is invaded by a supernatural army of the living dead.



A Clash of Kings (book 3). Two young men fight each other to gain control of a land that isn't rightfully theirs and there is only one woman who can stop them, but first she must find a way back into the country that exiled her years before.

“Sixties” Trilogy by Deborah Wiles

* Books 2 and 3 have yet to be released—get a jump on the latest!

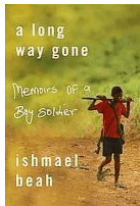


Countdown by Deborah Wiles. The fearful events of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis are witnessed by 11-year-old Franny, who finds her life and perspectives changing throughout the course of a week that is also marked by difficult family issues.

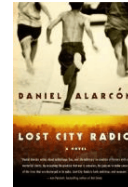
Get a “Leg up” on World Literature

Attention SENIORS! Take advantage of your summer to get a head start on some ideas for your World Literature Seminar project. Here are some favorite reads suggested by your fellow students!

These books are also recommended for all other readers!



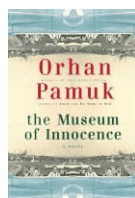
A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah. Ishmael Beah describes his experiences after he was driven from his home by war in Sierra Leone and picked up by the government army at the age of thirteen, serving as a soldier for three years before being removed from fighting by UNICEF and eventually moving to the United States.



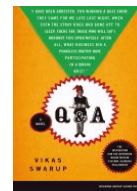
Lost City Radio by Daniel Alarcón. Norma, a radio host for an unnamed South American country ravaged by civil war, reads the names of missing persons to her listeners, and finds her life altered when a boy appears from the jungles with information on Norma's long missing husband.



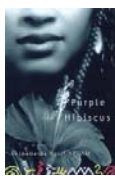
Say You're One of Them. A collection of short stories by Uwem Akpan that celebrate the resilience and wisdom of children in third world countries.



The Museum of Innocence. By Orhan Pamuk. Kemal, the thirty-year-old son of a wealthy family in Istanbul in 1975, is about to become engaged to Sibel, daughter of another prominent family, when a chance encounter with Fusun, a distant relation, sparks an obsessive love that change his entire life.



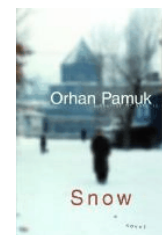
Q & A by Vikas Swarp. After winning India's biggest quiz show, Ram Mohammad Thomas is put in jail as authorities question how a poor orphan who has never gone to school could win such a contest.



Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. A teenaged Nigerian girl and her older brother struggle to cope with life in their tense, stifling household--caused by their father's demands for perfection--after getting a taste of freedom during a visit to their aunt's home.



Midaq Alley by Nigub Mahfouz. Hamida, an orphan girl in 1940's Cairo, encounters a variety of unique individuals after becoming a prostitute in order to buy food for herself.



Snow by Orhan Pamuk. After years of political exile in Western Europe, Ka returns to Istanbul to attend his mother's funeral, where he learns of a series of bizarre events that have changed his childhood hometown and threaten its future.

What are you reading this summer?



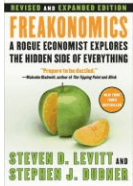
What Your Friends are Reading



Carpe Diem by Autumn Cornwell. Sixteen-year-old Vassar Spore's detailed plans for the next twenty years of her life are derailed when her bohemian grandmother insists that she join her in Southeast Asia for the summer, but as she writes a novel about her experiences, Vassar discovers new possibilities.



Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay. American journalist Julia Jarmond researches the brutal 1942 Nazi roundup in Paris and stumbles upon a connection between her family and one of the victims, which compels Julia to learn more about the girl's life.



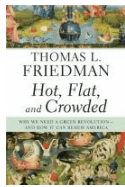
Freakonomics: a Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. The authors explore the economics of real-world issues often viewed as insignificant, such as the extent to which the Roe v. Wade decision affected violent crime, and examine hidden incentives behind all sorts of human behavior.



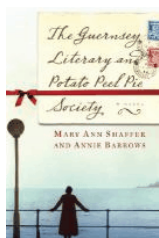
Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton. An account of the attempt, through a hair-raising twenty-four hours on a remote jungle island, to avert a global emergency--a crisis triggered by today's rush to commercialize genetic engineering.



Hold Tight by Harlan Coban. Mike and Tia Baye, worried about their sixteen-year-old son Adam, wrestle with whether to spy on his computer, and discover details about their son's friend Spencer's suicide while a killer stalks the neighborhood.



Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution—and How it Can Renew America by Thomas L. Friedman. Argues that the United States needs to adopt an environmentally friendly national strategy to be healthier, wealthier, and more secure, innovative, and productive.



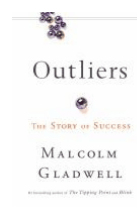
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows. Juliet Ashton, a thirty-year-old author, writes to her publisher expressing her desire to stop covering the aftermath of WWII, but **Guernsey** farmer Dawsey Adams invites neighbors to write to Juliet with their stories, which puts her off at first but eventually helps her find inspiration for her next book, and her life.



The Glass Castle: a Memoir by Jeanette Walls. The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcoholic father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and will to leave home.

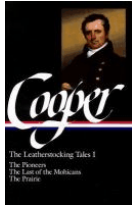


Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac by Gabrielle Zevin. After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.



Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell. The author explores why some people are high achievers and others are not, citing culture, family, and upbringing as possible reasons some people are not as successful as others.

Catch up on a Classic

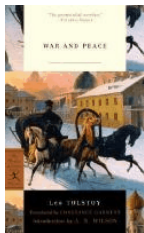


The Leatherstocking Tales I by James Fenimore Cooper. Read the classic collection of novels from famed author: *The Pioneers*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, *The Prairie*. The Leatherstocking saga

takes place in upstate New York during the 18th century. The historical relevance of Cooper's tales is fascinating as it deals with early conflicts between Native Americans and European settlers. The fiction is equally relevant as an example of the Romantic movement in American Literature.



Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll. A little girl falls down a rabbit hole and discovers a strange world inhabited by all sorts of unusual charac-



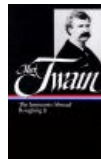
War and Peace—Leo Tolstoy's classic nineteenth-century novel "War and Peace" that tells the story of Russian society during the Napoleonic Era.



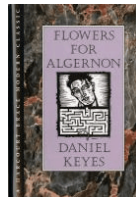
Persuasion by Jane Austen. Anne Elliot sent Frederick Wentworth away seven years ago when she was an unhappy girl beset by troubles. Now she regrets it. When he returns, it takes a fortuitous series of accidents before the knots can be untied.



Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte. In early nineteenth-century England, an orphaned young woman accepts employment as a governess and soon finds herself in love with her employer who has a terrible secret.



The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain. Huck, in flight from his murderous father, and Jim, in flight from slavery, pilot their raft down the Mississippi River in search of freedom.



Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes. After being mentally retarded for all of his thirty-two years, Charlie Gordon undergoes an operation designed to change his life.



Library
Darien High School

80 High School Lane
Darien, CT
06820
203-655-3981



We're on the web!

<http://www.dariensps.org/dhslibrary>

More Suggestions

Need more book suggestions? Have a look at . . .

ALA—YALSA's Book Awards and Booklists:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/booklistsbook.cfm>.

Connecticut State Library— Collaborative Summer Library Program: *One World, Many Stories*:

<http://summerreadingct.org/>

Additional information on titles of books can be found on our website under the following:

“Need Help Finding a Book?”

See the links to our Library Catalog (Destiny), NoveList, and What Do I Read Next?

DHS Library Reading Room

