

Reading List Summer 2009 8th grade

All 8th graders are required to read The Diary of Anne Frank over the summer. No, watching the movie will not work as it is a highly dramatized and fictionalized record of the events in the diary.

Students are to choose two other books from the accompanying list, each a different genre and by a different author. The books this summer are from the Mark Twain and Truman Award lists for the last two years. The first week of school you will be giving oral and written reports on the books you have read. You will need to know the genre, the characters, the conflict, and the resolution of the conflict.

Next year you will need to purchase for class the following novels: *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Nothing But the Truth*, and *The Outsiders*. You can probably obtain the last two books from the graduated 8th graders.

Mark Twain Award 2008-2009 Nominees

[Winners](#) | [Current Nominees](#) | [Master List](#) | [Website](#)

Balliett, Blue

Wright 3 [J]

Petra, Calder and Tommy become the Wright 3 to solve the mystery of strange events happening at the historic Robb House and to save it from destruction.

Blume, Lesley M.

Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters [J]

Cornelia, the lonely, only child of a famous Pianist has her life changed when her neighbor's "Chien Bizarre" escapes into the hall.

Bulion, Leslie

Uncharted Waters [J]

Jonah's secret fear of the sea takes a back seat when a grumpy storekeeper and a pretty college student turn his shorefront summer vacation into an unforgettable adventure.

Gutman, Dan

Million Dollar Putt [J]

Ed Bogard may be blind but playing golf is in his blood and with a little help from his friend Birdie he is able to prove it.

Lord, Cynthia

Rules [YA]

A friendship with a mute boy helps Catherine put her life within her family and with an autistic younger brother into perspective.

Nuzum, K.A.

A Small White Scar [J]

Will, a 15-year-old aspiring rodeo star, must first deal with his life's shadow - his Down Syndrome twin brother Denny.

Park, Linda Sue

Archer's Quest [J]

When the legendary ancient King of Korea, Chu-mong, mysteriously appears in 12-year-old Kevin Kim's bedroom he must find some way to send him back.

Platt, Chris

Moon Shadow [J]

Callie works hard raising and training the orphaned mustang foal in hopes she will be able to keep it.

Riordan, Rick

Sea of Monsters [J]

Percy Jackson and his friends take on a myriad of monsters to save the only safe place they have - Camp Halfblood.

Ullman, Barb Bentler

Fairies of Nutfolk Wood [J]

Ten-year-old Willa Jane and her divorced mother move into the country where there seem to be fairies in the woods.

Wait, Lea

Finest Kind [J]

Following his father's bank collapse, 12-year-old Jake's family move from Boston to Wiscasset, Maine where Jake must care for his mother and keep a family secret.

Winthrop, Elizabeth

Counting on Grace [J]

Grace, who leaves school at 12 to work in a Vermont textile mill with her family, has her life changed when photographer Lewis Hines visits the mill.

Truman Readers Award
2008-2009 Nominees

[Winners](#) | [Current Nominees](#) | [Website](#)

The Truman Readers Award encourages students in the early teen years to express their unique voice through exploring new literary genres, communicating with their peers about young adult literature, and honoring authors writing for young teens. This is the first year for the award.

Carey, Janet Lee

Beast of Noor

Hannah braves Uthor's Vale to save her brother ensorcelled into a quest to stop the cursed Shriker, the beast of Noor.

Hautman, Pete

Rash

Bo, living in a future society that strives to protect everyone from everything, all the while running on convict labor, discovers himself incarcerated in an arctic prison factory making frozen pizzas and plotting escapes.

Jones, Kimberly K.

Sand Dollar Summer

Summering at a beach front house while her mother recovers from automobile crash injuries 12 year old Lise discovers answers to many questions she didn't realize she had.

Key, Watt

Alabama Moon

For as long as he can remember 10 year old Moon has lived in the forest with his survivalist Father and when his Father dies, he tries to complete his Dad's last wishes only to have society, and social workers and child protective services intervene.

Lisle, Janet Taylor

Black Duck

There was a second survivor to an infamous rum running massacre and decades after the fact he tells his story to a young reporter.

Lupica, Mike

Heat

Michael Arroyo's dream was to play ball in Yankee Stadium but as a Little League player, tall for his age and with his birth certificate in Cuba, it doesn't look like he'll get the chance.

Miller, Kirsten

Kiki Strike Inside the Shadow City

A crack team of 12 year old girls research and map an underground city and ultimately wreck revenge on the "bad guys." Tips for shadowing, foiling a kidnapping and other useful information included.

Nolan, Han

Summer of Kings

Over the course of the summer of 1963, 14 year old Esther discovers the passion within her and her place in her family when 18 year old King-Roy Johnson, accused of murdering a white man in Alabama, comes to live with her family.

Pearsall, Shelly

All of the Above

A story told in the voices of inner-city math students who band together to build a world record tetrahedron.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth

Life As We Knew It

Miranda's journal reflects the radical change her life and that of her family's take after a giant meteorite hits the moon and creates massive natural disasters.

Rorby, Ginny

Hurt Go Happy

Deaf teen Joey connects with signing chimp Sukari and struggles to save and protect her when the chimp ends up in a pesticide testing facility.

Van Draanen, Wendelin

Runaway

Orphaned, Holly flees an abusive foster home, preferring the streets to avoiding the snaky hands of Mr. Bender.

2009-2010 Mark Twain Award Nominations

Dahlberg, Maurine F. *The Story of Jonas*. FSG.

Duble, Kathleen Benner. *Bravo Zulu, Samantha*. Peachtree.

Going, K.L. *Garden of Eve*. Harcourt.

Hahn, Mary Downing. *Deep & Dark & Dangerous*. Clarion Books.

Harlow, Joan Hiatt. *Blown Away*. Simon & Schuster.

Hart, Alison . *Gabriel's Horses*. Peachtree.

McKissack, Patricia. *Friendship for Today*. Scholastic.

Pitchford, Dean. *The Big One-Oh*. Penguin.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. *Paint the Wind*. Scholastic.

Salisbury, Graham. *Night of the Howling Dogs*. Wendy Lamb - Random House.

Seiznick, Brian. *Invention of Hugo Cabret*. Scholastic.

White, Ruth. *Way Down Deep*. FSG.

2009-2010 Truman Award Nominations

Bingham, Kelly. *Shark Girl*. Candlewick.

Brewer, Heather. *Eighth Grade Bites: The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod. Vol. 1*. Dutton.

Carman, Patrick. *Atherton: The House of Power*. Little, Brown.

Cooney, Caroline. *Diamonds in the Shadow*. Delacorte.

Cornwell, Autumn. *Carpe Diem*. Feiwel.

Durst, Sarah Beth. *Into the Wild*. Razorbill.

Gorman, Carol. *Games*. Harper Collins.

Hershey, Mary. *The One where the kid nearly jumps to his death and lands in CA*. Razorbill.

Kadohata, Cynthia. *Cracker*. Dutton.

Neff, Henry. *Tapestry: Hound of Rowan*. Random House.

Sonneblick, Jordan. *Zen and the Art of Faking It*. Scholastic.

Stead, Rebecca. *First Light*. Wendy Lamb.