

JUNE brings FUN while READING in the SUN!



William Annin Middle School
Summer Book Suggestions 2011
by Deb Goetjen, Library Media Specialist



Reading in the summer is a wonderful way to exercise your brain, increase your vocabulary AND enjoy a great story at the same time! So take a look at the following lists of authors, books, series and book trailers (short video clips like movie trailers.) I'm sure you'll find something just right for YOU!

New Books: Popular Series/Popular & Up-and-coming Authors

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Chains (National Book Award finalist)
Forge

These two books tell the stories of African American slaves in 1776 as the Revolutionary War rages on. In *Chains*, Isabel, a teenage slave, and her sister, Ruth, are sold to ruthless, wealthy loyalists in Manhattan and Isabel, approached by rebels agrees to spy in exchange for freedom. *Forge* tells the story of Curzon, a boy Isabel helped to escape from prison, who joins up with the Patriots to battle the British. Makes history come alive!

Brennan, Herbie

Shadow Project adventures

In this sci-fi/fantasy thriller, a joint MI6/CIA project uses astral projection to spy on the world's most fearsome terrorist network, the Sword of Wrath. Teenagers, Danny, a thief with a heart of gold and psychic abilities, Opal, the daughter of a Shadow Project muckety-muck, and Michael, a hunky prince from Mali are recruited for the job. Some terrific action sequences, a little romance and a mix of Middle Eastern occultism and Knights Templar mythology, create a swiftly paced paranormal thrill ride that will entertain! If you liked Alex Rider, try this series!

Boyce, Frank Cottrell

Millions, Cosmic

How would you spend a lot of money fast? That's the premise of *Millions*, a humorous story about a boy who finds money and needs to figure out how to spend it quickly. Cottrell tells another humorous story in *Cosmic*, where 12 year old Liam, who looks thirty and is tired of being treated like he is older than he actually is, poses as the adult chaperone on the first spaceship to take civilians into space, but when he ends up in outer space with a group of kids and no adult supervision, he must think fast to make things right. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Flanagan, John

Ranger's Apprentice series

In this original fantasy series begun in 2005, Will hopes to become a knight; instead, he winds up as a Ranger's apprentice, joining the secretive corps that uses stealth, woodcraft, and courage to protect the kingdom. His aptitude and bravery gradually earn the respect of his gruff but good-hearted master. When the kingdom is attacked by evil magic forces, Will is the hero. Follow Will and others throughout this exciting series!

Flinn, Alex***Beastly, Cloaked***

In *Beastly*, A modern retelling of "Beauty and the Beast" from the point of view of the Beast, a vain Manhattan private school *student* who is turned into a monster, must find true love before he can return to his human form. In *Cloaked*, seventeen-year-old Johnny is approached at his family's struggling shoe repair shop in a Miami, Florida, hotel by Alorian Princess Victoriana, who asks him to find her brother who was turned into a frog.

Horowitz, Anthony***Alex Rider series***

Alex Rider, a teen recruited to replace his missing, presumed dead uncle in the MI6 organization encounters danger and villains in this fast paced spy/adventure series. *Scorpia Rising*, the final book in the very popular Alex Rider series is now available. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Jacques, Brian***Redwall series***

In this series, we encounter all manner of woodland creatures - the "good" mice, rabbits, moles, otters, badgers, squirrels as they battle the "evil" rats, stoats, weasels and their wildcat queen in swashbuckling fashion. There will never be another series like *Redwall*. Don't miss it!

Lupica, Mike***assorted***

Lupica, one of the best sports story writers for youth today, uses his knowledge and access to sports figures from his sports journalist job to weave wonderfully authentic stories about the challenges, struggles and successes found in sports both at the professional and amateur level. Along the way, he shows the reader how strength of character can make or break an athlete. Don't miss the action!

Park, Linda Sue***A Long Walk to Water***

The long walk is actually two -- two journeys that converge in Park's spare text, a novelization of how her friend Salva Dut, one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, escaped his war-ravaged country and returned years later to help revitalize it by founding a company called Water for Sudan, Inc. Newbery Award-winning Park's spare, immediate account, based on a true story, adds a stirring contemporary dimension. Also look for other books by this veteran storyteller.

Patterson, James***Maximum Ride series***

Fourteen-year-old Max (short for Maximum Ride) leads an unusual group of children, escapees from an institution that designed them by "grafting avian DNA onto human genes. "Yup, these kids have wings! In the early part of the series, the "flock" is just trying to survive, but eventually they are called on to save the world. Great youth adventure series by a well-known adult writer! Click [here](#) for the book trailer.

Reeves, Phillip***Fever Crumb***

Foundling Fever Crumb has been raised as an engineer although females in the future London, England, are not believed capable of rational thought, but at age fourteen she leaves her sheltered world and begins to learn startling truths about her past while facing danger in the present. Reeve has crafted a swiftly paced story worthy of standing alone, but most likely the beginning of a series. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Riordan, Rick***The Kane Chronicles series***

When a magical accident unleashes the Egyptian gods on the modern world, siblings Carter and Sadie Kane discover that they are the only ones who can put things right. As descendants of the greatest Egyptian magicians, they must find a way to defeat the evil god Set before he can destroy them. Riordan has once again intertwined mythology, this time, Egyptian mythology, with a great adventure story starring young teens who must save the world! The *Red Pyramid* is the first book; *The Throne of Fire* continues the adventure. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Heroes of Olympus series

The Lost Hero, the first book in the newest Riordan series features Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," who find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself. The second book in the series, *The Son of Neptune* will debut in Oct. 2011. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Ryan, Pam Munoz

Paint the Wind

After her overprotective grandmother has a stroke, eleven-year-old Maya, an orphan, leaves her extremely restricted life in California to stay with her mother's family on a remote Wyoming ranch, where she discovers a love of horses and encounters Artemisia, a wild mare that her mother once rode. Click [here](#) for book trailer. Also try other books by Ryan – you'll be glad you did!

Shulman, Polly

The Grimm Legacy

New York high school student Elizabeth gets an after-school job as a page at the "New-York Circulating Material Repository," and when she gains coveted access to its Grimm Collection of magical objects, she and the other pages are drawn into a series of frightening adventures involving mythical creatures and stolen goods. Great mix of fairy tales, fantasy and characters we would love to be friends with! Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Scott, Michael

Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel series

Fifteen-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, find themselves caught up in the deadly struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of an ancient book that holds the secret formulas for alchemy and everlasting life. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Weeks, Sarah

So B It

After spending her life with her mentally disabled mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is. You may know Weeks from her hilarious picture books, but she is also the author of several memorable young adult novels. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Continue below to see award winning books

2011 Award Winning Books

Vanderpool, Clare *Moon over Manifest* (Newbery Award 2011)

The town of Manifest is based on Frontenac, Kan., the home of debut author Clare Vanderpool's maternal grandparents. Vanderpool was inspired to write about what the idea of "home" might look like to a girl who had grown up riding the rails.

Holm, Jennifer *Turtle in Paradise* (Newbery Honor 2011)

Sassy eleven-year-old Turtle finds her life turned on end when she is sent to live with her aunt in Depression-era Key West. With vivid details, witty dialogue and outrageous escapades, Jennifer Holm successfully explores the meaning of family and home... and lost treasures found.

Preus, Margi *Heart of a Samurai* (Newbery Honor 2011)

Shipwrecks, whaling, a search for home and a delightful exploration of cultures create a swashbuckling adventure. This historical novel is based on the true story of Manjiro (later John Mung), the young fisherman believed to be the first Japanese person to visit America, who against all odds, becomes a samurai.

Williams-Garcia, Rita *One Crazy Summer* (Newbery Honor 2011)

The voices of sisters Delphine, Vonetta and Fern sing in three-part harmony in this wonderfully nuanced, humorous novel set in 1968 Oakland, Calif. One crazy summer, the three girls find adventure when they are sent to meet their estranged poet-mother Cecile, who prints flyers for the Black Panthers.

Bacigalupi, Paolo *Shipbreaker* (Printz Award 2011)

The voices of sisters Delphine, Vonetta and Fern sing in three-part harmony in this wonderfully nuanced, humorous novel set in 1968 Oakland, Calif. One crazy summer, the three girls find adventure when they are sent to meet their estranged poet-mother Cecile, who prints flyers for the Black Panthers.

Garden State Teen Book 2011 Award Nominees (selected list)

Fiction

Baskin, Nora Raleigh *Anything But Typical*

This moving story is told from the point of view of Jason, a 6th grade autistic boy who is a creative-writing whiz, but at a loss in social interactions with “neurotypicals” both at school and at home. He is most comfortable in an online writing forum called Storyboard, where his stories kindle an e-mail-based friendship with a girl. His excitement over having a real friend turns to terror when he learns that his parents want to take him on a trip to the Storyboard conference, where he’ll no doubt have to meet her in person. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Beil, Michael D. *The Red Blazer Girls: The Ring of Rocamadour*

A twenty-year-old birthday card leads seventh grader Sophie St. Pierre and her friends on a hunt for puzzles hidden in the church next to their all-girls' parochial school. As the sleuths solve each puzzle (tied to math, literature, or religion), they close in on a legendary ruby ring. Beil mixes light romance, family issues, and Great Expectations into this engaging mystery. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Burg, Ann E. *All The Broken Pieces*

In 1977, 12-year-old Matt Pin lives a fractured life as the son of a Vietnamese woman and an American soldier airlifted to safety from the war zone. Adopted by a caring American couple, he has vivid and horrific memories of the war and worries about the fates of his mother and badly injured little brother. Matt's adoptive family adores him, and he is the star pitcher for his middle school baseball team, but there are those who see his face and blame him for the deaths of family members. This is a moving story written in verse. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Cooper, Michelle *A Brief History of Montmaray*

On her sixteenth birthday in 1936, Sophia begins a diary of life in a fictional island country off the coast of Spain, where she is among the last descendants of an impoverished royal family trying to hold their nation together on the eve of the second World War.

Dashner, James *The Maze Runner series*

Thomas wakes up in an elevator, remembering nothing but his own name. He emerges into a world of about 60 teen boys who have learned to survive in the “Glade”, a large meadow surrounded by huge stone walls and an intricate, ever-changing maze beyond. Thomas becomes a “Runner”, and spends each day searching the maze for a way to escape while avoiding the horrible creatures hidden there. If you liked *The Hunger Games*, try this new series. Click [here](#) for book trailer. The second book in this trilogy was recently released – *The Scorch Trials*. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Frost, Helen *Crossing Stones*

The children of the Norman and Jorgensen families have grown up together, with their family farms located on either side of Crabapple Creek. In 1917, the outbreak of World War I shatters their idyllic lives: strong-willed Muriel opposes it, but the two young men, Frank and her brother, Ollie, enlist and are soon sent overseas. Muriel's lively personality comes alive in free-verse poems that roam across the page like the free-flowing waters of the creek.

Gratz, Alan*The Brooklyn Nine: A Novel in Nine Innings*

The love of baseball links nine generations of the Schneider/Snider/Flint family in this story collection that tracks the national pastime from the 1840s to the present day. Each of the nine chapters (innings) gives us a look into the lives of one generation of this German Jew immigrant family. From a Confederate soldier who loves the game to an eager batboy for the Brooklyn Superbas to the Dodgers leaving Brooklyn, you can experience America's history via baseball. For sports readers who enjoy Dan Gutman and Mike Lupica, this book brings America's favorite pastime to life in a totally new way. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Greenwald, Lisa*My Life in Pink and Green*

When the family's drugstore is failing, seventh-grader Lucy uses her problem-solving talents to come up with a solution that might resuscitate the business and help the environment. When the high school's Homecoming queen rushes in sporting a hair disaster on the day of the big dance, Lucy bravely suggests how to fix the problem and a star is born. You will enjoy the realistic portrayal of middle school friendships, crushes, and coming-of-age beauty concerns.

Smith, Sherri*Flygirl*

During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots. In 1941, high-school graduate Ida Mae Jones, 18, worries about her soldier brother, who is on the front, and longs to fight for her country, too. Her late dad taught her to fly a crop-dusting plane, and when the U.S. starts the WASP (Women Airforce Service Program), she is determined to join up. A memorable story of Ida Mae dealing with prejudice and racism to achieve her goal. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Stroud, Jonathan*Heroes of the Valley*

Halli Sveinsson, a mischievous young man who does not fit in with his peers and siblings, plays a trick that goes too far, forcing him to embark on a hero's quest in which he will face highway robbers, monsters, an intriguing girl, and truths about his family and the legends he grew up with. A funny, exciting, thoughtful, stand alone story from the author of the Bartimaeus Trilogy. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Tan, Shaun*Tales From Outer Suburbia*

Contains fifteen extraordinary illustrated short stories in the graphic novel format, some humorous and some haunting, set in the Australian suburbs. Included stories describe the fate of unread poetry, the presence of silent stick figures who roam the suburbs, or an expedition to the edge of a map. With weirdly dazzling images and humor akin to Shel Silverstein, this story collection is one you won't forget! Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Westerfeld, Scott*Leviathan*

This book, part of a new "genre" called *steampunk* – alternative history stories - takes place in an alternate 1914 Europe, where fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, is on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery. Alek forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts. History like you've never seen it! Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Wooding, Chris*Malice*

"Tall Jake, take me away." Say the words six times, burn the secret ingredients, and you will be whisked into the comic-book world of Malice-or so the rumor goes. Seth and Kady don't believe the stories for one second. The teens who have disappeared must be runaways, and the artist who draws the comic must use the missing persons' photos, right? Then their friend Luke disappears, and only a few days later a character who looks remarkably like him appears in an episode of Malice. Click [here](#) for book trailer.

Non Fiction

Hoose, Phillip

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice

In Montgomery, AL, in March 1955, 15-year-old Colvin refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. She was arrested, and although she received some help from local civil rights leaders, they decided that the sometimes-volatile teen was not suitable to be the public face of a mass protest. Later that year, Rosa Parks sparked the famous bus boycott.

Sports Illustrated

Sports Illustrated All Access - Your behind the scenes pass to sports starts, locker rooms and more!

Visually appealing, this unique look into the sports world will appeal to any young athlete. Go inside the locker room of xxx or find out what really happens when xxx.

Stone, Tanya Lee

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream

Not many people know that back in the 19xxs, there were women who longed to go in space and trained to do so, but were denied the opportunity because of their gender. Step into their lives and experience the struggles and accomplishments of these special women.

Just For Fun!

Conrad, Laura *Style*

Reality-show star Conrad gives teens friendly advice on everything from buying the right jeans to makeup application to packing a suitcase. The magazine-like layout features photos of Conrad and recommended clothes and accessories, and includes advice on wardrobe essentials, makeup tips, suggestions for working with different types of hair, and how to dress for various occasions. Her voice is consistently entertaining, confident, and accessible, and her advice is practical.

Stutt, Ryan *The Skateboarding Field Manual*

This is an extensive guide covering the history of the sport as well as instructions for building boards and the description of basic tricks. It includes explanations of more complex flip tricks, grinds, and slides. Breathtaking action photographs aid the visualization of the step-by-step instructions.