

## Portland Middle School / Portland Library

### 2009 Suggested Summer Reading List for Grades 7 & 8

#### ***Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen* by Dyan Sheldon**

Mary Elizabeth Cep has been misnamed; her mother calls her the "Drama Queen," but she's known for years that her true name is Lola. When Lola beats out Carla for the coveted part in the school play, the adventure begins.

#### ***Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen**

The first time Juli Baker saw Bryce Loski, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was in second grade. Not much changes until eighth grade when Juli's enthusiastic infatuation wanes just as Bryce's begins to kick in.

#### ***Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen**

Roy Eberhardt has just moved with his family to Coconut Cove. He immediately becomes the target of a bully and gets involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

#### ***Love among the Walnuts* by Jean Ferris**

Born and raised in isolation in a wealthy, eccentric family, Sandy is shocked when he, his parents, and their servants become victims of a vicious plot by his greedy uncles to incapacitate them and take their money.

#### ***Son of the Mob* by Gordon Korman**

Despite his resolve to be a "normal" teenager, Vince Luca finds himself seemingly drawn as a loan shark on a deal and must find a way to get out. Complicating the situation is the fact that he has started dating the daughter of the FBI agent investigating his father's activities.

#### ***Stormbreaker (Alex Rider Adventure)* by Anthony Horowitz**

Alex Rider's world is turned upside down when he discovers that his uncle has been murdered. The 14-year-old makes one discovery after another until he is sucked into his uncle's undercover world.

#### ***Tangerine* by Edward Bloor**

Although Paul needs thick glasses to enable him to see, his instinctual vision isn't impaired. It's 20/20, allowing him to "see" behind the facade of Tangerine County, Florida.

#### ***Telling Christina Goodbye* by Lurlene McDaniel**

Tension mounts when Trisha, Cody, Christina, and Tucker attend a basketball game, and Tucker starts a fight. On the way home, the two couples have a car accident.

#### ***The Warriors* by Joseph Bruchach**

Jake Forrest leaves the Iroquois reservation; in his new school he has to deal with the nickname "Chief," and biased presentations of events in history class. *Warriors*, with its action-packed descriptions of lacrosse, puts readers right on the field with the players.

#### ***Wild Magic (#1, The Immortals)* by Tamara Pierce**

In this exciting fantasy, the mage Numair, the knight Alanna, and Queen Thayet enlist thirteen-year-old Daine's help to battle the dreadful immortal creatures that have recently begun to attack the kingdom of Tortall.

## **2010 Nutmeg Book Award Teen Nominees**

***Accidental Love*** by Gary Soto

Boy meets girl and girl falls for boy. The odds of them making it are slim to none in this well-crafted story of young love.

***Code Orange*** by Caroline Cooney

While completing his infectious disease report for science class, Mitty fears he may have contracted smallpox. When he searches the Internet for information about this disease, he alerts a terrorist group who plans to kidnap him and use him as a biological weapon against the people of New York City.

***Crackback*** by John Coy

Miles can't remember why football was fun after being sidelined by a new coach, criticized by his father, and shunned by his best friend for avoiding performance enhancing drugs.

***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*** by Jordan Sonnenblick

What is the most annoying thing in the world? For Steven, the answer is obvious; his little brother Jeffrey. When Steven finds out that Jeffrey is sick, however, he must use all of his skills to help his family keep laughing through this heartbreaking year.

***Epic*** by Conor Kostick

Epic is a fantasy role-playing game that is more than just a game; it's New Earth's government and economy. Everyone has always played Epic the same way, by slowly accumulating wealth, but no one can rival the Committee, the world's tyrannical ruling group.

***Eyes of the Emperor*** by Graham Salisbury

It is 1941. Eddy Okubo is 16 years old, a Japanese American, and enlists in the US Army to protect the country he loves. The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, and suddenly Eddy is the enemy and is sent on a dangerous mission.

***Jeremy Fink and The Meaning of Life*** by Wendy Maas

If before your 13th birthday, you received a quadrupled-locked, mysterious box engraved "The Meaning of Life", lovingly handcrafted by your dead father, what do you do? You run around all of Manhattan trying to find the missing four keys.

***Life As We Knew It*** by Susan Beth Pfeffer

Miranda, a sixteen year old high school sophomore, is looking forward to getting her license and just being a teenager. She doesn't give a second thought to the news of a meteor speeding towards the moon, until it hits. Life as she knew it will never return.

***Pieces of Georgia*** by Jen Bryant

Artistic loner Georgia McCoy writes a series of letters to her dead mother in the hope of understanding her father's sadness, her friend's curiosity about drugs, and her own feelings of loneliness. When she receives an anonymous membership to the local art museum, Georgia's life changes dramatically.

***Skulduggery Pleasant*** by Derek Landy

When Stephenie's uncle dies and includes her in his will, she meets Skulduggery Pleasant and quickly enters a world of secrets, magic, and danger. Can Stephenie and Skulduggery work together to defeat the evil powers of Serpine?