

## Mission Statement

The Mission of the Florida Teens Read program is to encourage Florida teens to read enjoyable, quality literature that will stimulate imagination, awaken curiosity, expand horizons, enhance verbal fluency, and foster critical thinking and a lifelong love for reading and learning.

## Guidelines

Books nominated for the Florida Teens Read Award will be chosen to:

- \* Engage high school students.
- \* Reflects interests of high school students
- \* Represents a variety of genres, formats, reading levels, viewpoints, and ethnic and cultural perspectives
- \* Include both books written for young people and those written for adults.

Ten to fifteen books will be nominated per year.

Books may be fiction or non-fiction and must be available in English.

The copyright of the books will be within the last three years.

Titles will be appropriate for grades 9-12.

Media specialists, teachers, teens, and FAME members are eligible to nominate titles.

It is understood that all books on the list may not appeal to all teen readers; however, books selected for the list will be of interest to a general young audience and will deal with relevant issues and topics of interest in the lives of teenagers.

Students will be encouraged to read all of the books on the list of nominations, but it is recommended that students will have read three books to be eligible to vote. Listening to a title will be considered having read it.

Eligibility for voting will be determined on the honor system.



## Florida Teens Read A Florida Association for Media in Education Initiative

### Disclaimer

This program is designed to entice teens to read. In order to engage their interest and to provide a spur to critical thinking, the book selections include those that involve sensitive issues. The content of some of the titles may be more mature than younger students may have encountered. Please recognize that this is a voluntary reading program. Not every book selected will suit every student. In a democratic society, a variety of ideas must find voice. As a reader, teens have a choice to read the more mature titles or to close the book.

Please email questions to  
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# FLORIDA TEENS READ

...the program for  
Florida teens in  
grades 9-12 from  
Florida's media  
specialists.

## 2009-2010



# AWARD NOMINEES



## **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**

by Sherman Alexie

Arnold Spirit, aka Junior, humorously looks back on his freshman year when he transferred from the reservation school to a nearby all-white school and dealt with racism, was viewed as a traitor to his community, lost his best friend, and coped with family deaths.

## **The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks: a novel**

by E. Lockhart

Former ugly duckling Frankie Landau-Banks returns to her elite boarding school tired of being underestimated. She infiltrates her boyfriend's all-male secret society and begins to orchestrate their elaborate pranks. The unexpected consequences could change her life forever.

## **Generation Dead**

by Daniel Waters

Goth-girl Phoebe, her best friend Margi, childhood buddy Adam, and few others face opposition when they join an Undead Study to understand the zombies or "differently biotic" students who have begun attending their school; but when Phoebe begins to date one of the living impaired, the real trouble begins.

## **Gym Candy**

by Carl Deuker

Mick Johnson lives and breathes football. But when lifting weights and taking vitamin supplements do not give him the edge he wants, he turns to steroids. Along with becoming bigger, faster and stronger, Mick must also deal with 'roid rage, acne, and depression. When he realizes he's cheated his way to stardom, he tries to quit but with dangerous results.

## **Homeboyz**

by Alan Sitomer (mature themes)

Instead of prison, Teddy Anderson, who was arrested while trying to avenge his sister's accidental death from a gang-related drive-by shooting, is sentenced to community service where he must mentor Micah, a 12-year-old gangsta wannabe.

## **The Hunger Games**

by Suzanne Collins

In a futuristic America, a boy and a girl from each of twelve provinces are chosen lottery style each year to participate in the Hunger Games, a televised reality show where only one will emerge alive to earn wealth and extra food for their province. When 17-year-old Katniss Everdeen's little sister is selected, Katniss volunteers to go in her place. Will she survive?

## **The Last Exit to Normal**

by Michael Harmon

Since his father came out and his mother left, spiky-haired skateboarder Ben Campbell has gotten into trouble. In order to put him on the right path, his two dads move the family to rural Montana where city-born Ben finds animal carcasses, trucks, a tough country grandma, a cute farm girl, a town villain, and a troubled kid.

## **Little Brother**

by Cory Doctorow

While skipping school, Markus is caught near the site of a terrorist attack on San Francisco and is intensely interrogated for six days. After his release and the disappearance of his best friend, Markus vows to use his formidable technical skills to network teenagers and fight back against the government's increasingly frightening surveillance system.

## **The Market**

by J.M. Steele

Kate Winthrop has always accepted her role as a smart but geeky girl with a good heart, but when she finds out she was ranked 71 out of 140 girls in the Millbank Social Stockmarket game, she enlists the help of her two best friends to transform her from "junk bond" to "blue chip" and win some money in the process.

## **Shark Girl**

by Kelly Bingham

After a shark attack, promising artist 15-year-old Jane Arrowood has her arm amputated. In this free verse novel, she struggles to cope with her loss and the changes it makes on her everyday life and future.

## **Shift**

by Jennifer Bradbury

When buddies Chris and Win go on a cross-country bike trip after graduation and only Chris returns, pressure from Win's powerful father separately fuels the FBI's and Chris's private investigation into Win's disappearance.

## **Suck It Up**

by Brian Meehl

When skinny, geeky, 16-year-old Morning McCobb graduates from the International Vampire League, he reluctantly becomes the spokesvamp for vampires, telling the world they really exist. But, he discovers that coming out isn't easy as he tries to convince humans that blood-substitute-drinking vampires can peacefully co-exist with humans.

## **Suite Scarlett**

by Maureen Johnson

When Scarlett Martin turns 15, she becomes responsible for a room in her family's run-down hotel and its flamboyant occupant, Mrs. Ambrose, who hatches wacky schemes to save the family business, help Scarlett's love life, and jumpstart Scarlett's brother's acting career.

## **Three Little Words: a memoir**

by Ashley Rhodes-Courter

Taken from her irresponsible mother when she is 4 years old, Ashley spends the next nine years in Florida's foster care system where she is shuffled between 13 state facilities and foster homes, some of which are horrifyingly abusive, before being adopted by a loving family.

## **Unwind**

by Neal Shusterman

In the future, parents have the option of having their teenagers "unwound" or "retroactively aborted" where all their body parts and organs are transplanted into needy recipients. Connor, Risa, and Lev narrowly escape being unwound and search for a safe haven amid betrayal, political intrigue, and harrowing, non-stop flights and fights.