



Guilford High School Summer Reading Program 2009

The summer reading program at Guilford High School, part of a district-wide summer reading program, is intended to foster the spirit of the imagination at work in literature and to nurture the habit of reading. This summer program promotes the *experience* of reading for reading's sake, encourages *conversation* among students, parents and teachers about books and their characters, and fosters *choice* and *independence* in reading. Our intent is to offer an array of rich texts that students will find meaningful and relevant to their lives. Our expectation is that *all students* will choose to read as part of a literate life.

During the summer of 2009, students will choose two books to read– from classic to contemporary, from fiction to non-fiction, from personal interest to global concern– from a suggested list of authors and with the help of their peers, parents, and teachers.

Marilynn Sturgess
English Department Chair

The Summer Reading Program Outline

1. Students entering grades 9 - 12 will choose two (2) books to read over summer break. A list of suggested authors is provided. ***NOTE: Please notice that there are no authors on the summer reading list who are included in the high school curriculum.***
2. Students should choose books that are grade level appropriate, and are at or above their reading level. The habit of close reading is also encouraged– either through highlighting, underlining passages with a pencil or pen, or the use of “stickie” notes– for future reference.
3. Both student and parent will sign-off on each book as it is read. (Please see Summer Reading Program –Verification Form.)
4. When students return to school in the fall, they will be responsible for A} a completed Summer Reading Program –Verification Form; and for B} a Summer Reading book activity which will be completed during the first week of school. The activity will vary by teacher. Teachers may ask students to participate in a group discussion, write an in-class response, create a review, etc.
5. *Students entering Advanced Placement English, Accelerated (Honors) English II and Accelerated (Honors) English III classes should see their individual teachers for any specialized summer reading instructions or check the English Department web page for required readings and assignments.*

Summer Reading List 2009

Suggested Authors:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Douglas Adams | Arthur C. Doyle | James McBride |
| Richard Adams | Theodore Dreiser | David McCullough |
| Louisa Alcott | Andre Dubus | Alice McDermott |
| Dorothy Allison | Joseph Ellis | Ian McEwan |
| Julia Alvarez | Janet Evanovich | Larry McMurtry |
| Harriet Arnow | John Feinstein | Rigoberta Menchu |
| Isaac Asimov | Janet Fitch | Stephanie Meyers |
| Ameila Atwater-Rhodes | Charles Frazier | Farley Mowat |
| Margaret Atwood | Alan Ginsberg | Walter Dean Meyers |
| James Baldwin | Graham Greene | Joyce Carol Oates |
| T. A. Barron | John Grisham | Nathaniel Philbrick |
| John Berendt | John Gunther | Sylvia Plath |
| Kevin Brooks | David Guterson | Jodi Picoult |
| Terry Brooks | Helene Hanff | Carol Plum-Ucci |
| Dale Brown | Thomas Hardy | Douglas Preston |
| Dan Brown | James Herriot | Annie Proulx |
| Bill Bryson | John Hersey | Anna Quindlen |
| Charles Bukowski | Homer Hickam | Ayn Rand |
| Augustyn Burroughs | Jack Higgins | Alice Sebold |
| Meg Cabot | Tobias Hill | Sam Shepard |
| Truman Capote | Laura Hillenbrandt | Anita Shreve |
| Caleb Carr | Nick Hornby | Neil Simon |
| John Casey | John Irving | Betty Smith |
| Willa Cather | Faye Kellerman | Wallace Stegner |
| John Cheever | William Kennedy | Irving Stone |
| Tracy Chevalier | Jack Kerouac | Amy Tan |
| Tom Clancy | Barbara Kingsolver | Leo Tolstoy |
| Mary Higgins Clark | W. P. Kinsella | Anne Tyler |
| Pat Conroy | Rudyard Kipling | Leon Uris |
| Jill Conway | John Krakauer | Gore Vidal |
| Bernard Cornwell | Wally Lamb | Jules Verne |
| Michael Crichton | Ring Lardner | Alice Walker |
| Chris Crutcher | Margaret Laurence | Wendy Wasserman |
| Clive Cussler | D. H. Lawrence | Faye Weldon |
| Michael Cunningham | Jack London | Rebecca Wells |
| Clarence Day | Robert Ludlum | Nancy Werlin |
| Anita Diamant | Mike Lupica | Edith Wharton |
| Daniel Defoe | Bernard Malamud | T. H. White |
| Frank DeFord | Henning Mankel | Tom Wolfe |
| Diane DePrima | Richard Marcinko | Herman Wouk |
| P. T. Deutermann | Yann Martel | |
| E. L. Doctorow | Gavin Maxwell | |

Readers differ in what they enjoy reading. This list offers students a range of choices. Students can select a mystery, an historical novel, an action/adventure story, a sports biography or autobiography, or a book about animals, family relations, or romance. This list includes writers of science fiction, political intrigue novels, fantasy, and humor. Many of the classics are represented. Certain authors are not included on this list because their works are read as core texts in English classes.

Book Browse

Tips For Selecting A Book To Read Independently

First, think about YOU! Before you can find a *book* you'll enjoy, just think about *other things* you enjoy. KNOW YOURSELF! Second, just as important as selecting a book that you will **ENJOY** reading, is selecting one that is appropriate for your grade and level. If you follow these few steps, you should be able to "browse" your way to a book that will suit you.

- ✓ Make a list of topics you like to learn about as well as activities you like to participate in.
- ✓ Make a list of books (try to focus on three) that you have read and enjoyed. For each of the books, answer the following questions:

How was the book set up? (Chapters, Diary, Play, etc.)

Who was the author or authors?

How long was the book?

What was the book about?

You can also include any additional information about the book.

- ✓ Now you are ready to start looking for a book. Consider books you have enjoyed in the past, think about the activities, hobbies and interests you listed, and feel free to look for a book that has similar qualities. Use your local resources:

Libraries: Guilford Free Library

Bookstores: Breakwater, R.J. Julia, Barnes and Noble, Borders

Websites: (Google "Adolescent Book Reviews.")

Friend and Family Recommendations

- ✓ Now start really looking at books!
 - Check the cover. Does the dust jacket catch your eye?
 - Read the summary on the inside flap. Does the book sound like something you would enjoy?
 - Look at any illustrations and pictures. Skim the text. Is it something you can read easily? Do the pictures and illustrations interest you?
 - Check out the return cart in the library. (Chances are, if other people liked these books, you may find them appealing also.)
 - Look at the displays of books around the library or bookstore as well.
 - Ask the librarian. He or she knows hundreds of books and would be glad to make suggestions.
 - Pick other books written by your favorite authors. More authors are choosing to write series books now instead of different books with different characters.
 - Pick books written about your hobbies or special interest.
 - Ask your friends. Look at what they are reading and get recommendations from them.
 - Try a book that became a movie that you liked. Many movies are based on books, and often the book will have more depth and detail to the story.
 - Be willing to try something new.
 - Check out two or three books and try them out. The beginning of a book might be a bit slow, but stick with it. The middle and end may be really good!

**Guilford High School
Summer Reading Program 2009**

VERIFICATION FORM

The summer reading program at Guilford High School, part of a district-wide summer reading program, is intended to foster the spirit of the imagination at work in literature and to nurture the habit of reading. This summer program promotes the experience of reading for reading's sake, encourages conversation among students, parents and teachers about books and their characters, and fosters choice and independence in reading.

Student Name: _____

Book #1: Title _____

Author _____

Genre _____ Pages _____

Book #2: Title _____

Author _____

Genre _____ Pages _____

Parent and Student Signatures:

The signatures below verify that you, as parent and student, acknowledge the successful completion of the two (2) summer reading books listed above. The authors of these books are listed on the GHS Authors' List and are appropriate in level and ability.

Student _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____

This form should be completed and return to school on Wednesday, September 2, 2009.