



## Guilford High School Summer Reading Program 2010

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 text 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 2010, students will choose *two books* to read from a suggested list of authors, with the help of their peers, parents, and teachers. The authors on the list range from classic to contemporary, from fiction to nonfiction, from personal interest to global concern, and we are confident there is something there for everyone. Have a wonderful and safe summer, and read, read, read.

Julia Chaffe  
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. When students return to school in the fall, *they will be responsible for completing an in-class writing assignment that covers the summer reading books.* These writing assignments will be given during the first week of school. We expect all students to be prepared to write about both books.
4. *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 2010

### *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!