

## 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.
- \* Reflect interests of high school students.
- \* Represent 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 two years of the start of the FTR list.

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 adult 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.

2013-2014



# 2013-2014 AWARD



## **Ashes** by Ilsa J. Bick

When you think things cannot get much worse...they do. This dystopian novel follows seventeen-year-old Alex on her quest to scatter her parents' ashes in the isolated wilds of northern Michigan while dealing with personal issues of her own. An electromagnetic pulse suddenly flashes, turning her whole world upside down. Desperate to find out what happened after the pulse strikes her to the ground, Alex meets up with Ellie, an angry eight-year-old girl, lost and alone, and Tom, a young soldier with his own secrets. This novel is a terrifying journey where some humans survive and others exist but are no longer human. There are no easy answers in this riveting story of survival in a shattered world. Fiction

## **Ten Miles Past Normal** by Frances O'Roark Dowell

When Janie Gorman was younger she convinced her family to move to a farm. Now as a high school freshman she is wishing she lived anywhere else. She is finding it hard to fit in. Her best friend convinces her to join the Jam Band then the friend decides not to come. Janie meets Monster who teachers her to play the Bass Guitar. Her mother plans a huge hootenanny and invites everyone. As Janie struggles to fit in she discovers that she is "Ten Miles Past Normal." Fiction

## **Don't Turn Around** by Michelle Gagnon

Teens are dying and a computer hacker wakes strapped to an operating table. Meeting with another hacker, they try to figure out what's going on. But will they survive long enough to do so? Fiction

## **The Fault in Our Stars** by John Green

After struggling with terminal cancer for three years, sixteen-year-old Hazel Lancaster prefers books to people, and lives her life in the gray area between sickness and health. After being forced by her parents to attend a Cancer Kids Support Group, she meets Augustus Waters and must face her fear of letting people in. Fiction

## **Seraphina** by Rachel Hartman

Seraphina grapples with her identity and magical secrets in a world where dragons, who can assume human form, and humans coexist uneasily. Fiction

## **Everybody sees the Ants** by A. S. King

Lucky Linderman has been bullied by Nader McMillan since he was 7 years old. Now after his freshman year of high school it has escalated to a point where he and his mother leave town and visit his aunt and uncle. His parents have told him to just "walk away", he has monthly appointments with the guidance office because they think he might commit suicide, and he starts daydreaming and having nightmares about his grandfather who is MIA from the Vietnam War. During his three weeks away Lucky discovers a lot about himself, his family, girls, and his grandfather. Fiction

## **Every Day** by David Levithan

A is a being who awakes every day in the body of someone new. Dealing with whatever that body deals with each day is not easy, but A has done since being born and has dealt with it; tries to make as little change in the person's life as possible. Until he meets Rhiannon...now A wants to see her every day. Can she understand seeing A as a beautiful black female, an overweight pimply boy, or a suicidal girl? Every day A has to not only deal with whatever the body is dealing with, but how can I see Rhiannon? Fiction

## **Virtuosity** by Jessica Martinez

At seventeen Carmen has already won a Grammy and plays a 1.2 million dollar violin. She is the favorite to win the prestigious Guarneri Competition and she has been preparing for four years. The only violinist who has a chance to beat her is handsome Jeremy, who both infuriates and attracts her. But the competition comes first and Carmen's manager mother supplies her with anti-anxiety drugs and will do anything to help Carmen win. How far will Carmen go when she finds out the truth? Fiction

## **The Healing: A Novel** by Jonathan Odell

Grenda, a young slave girl, thinks that she likes wearing a dead girl's fancy dresses, but soon finds that in order to fulfill her destiny; she must shed the garb of slavery, rid herself of an unstable plantation mistress, and remember who she is. Fiction

## **Starters** by Lissa Price

The Spore Wars has left only Starters and Enders. Those under twenty and over sixty were vaccinated and everyone else died leaving a lot of children homeless and without parents. Callie must take care of her younger brother in the rough streets. She is desperate for money so she signs a contract to rent her body to Enders who experience youth again by "joyriding" in teen bodies. Something goes wrong and Callie finds out that her renter is involved in an assassination plot. She struggles to maintain control and stop it before the renter ends up killing Callie in the process. Fiction

## **The Pregnancy Project: A Memoir**

by Gaby Rodriguez

Gaby comes from a long line of dropout teen mothers. On her way to being the first of her family to graduate and go to college, she decides to fake a pregnancy as a senior project to gauge the reactions of her family and peers. Nonfiction

## **Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town**

by Warren St. John

This is a complex and inspirational story about the Fugees, a youth soccer team made up of refugees from around the world, and their formidable female coach. Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical southern town until it became a refugee resettlement center. The author explores how the community changed with the influx of refugees and how a single individual made a difference in the lives of so many. Nonfiction

## **The Latte Rebellion** by Sarah Jamila Stevenson

Senior Asha Jamison starts a club at her high school to promote mixed-race awareness, but when the "Latte Rebellion" takes on a life of its own, she ends up in trouble at school and her college dreams are threatened. Fiction

## **The Raven Boys** by Maggie Stiefvater

Her entire life Blue Sargeant has been told by her family of psychics that she will kill her true love with a kiss. When she sees a spirit for the first time on St. Mark's Eve she's told that the teen boy, Gansey, is either her true love or, in the next year, she will kill him. She tries to avoid Gansey, but when he and his friends come to her house for a reading, she is drawn into their search for the resting place of an ancient Welsh king, Owain Glendŵr. Fiction

## **Steel** by Carrie Vaughn

Meet Jill. As the book begins she is fencing in a championship round that she does not win. A few weeks later she finds a piece of a sword and ends up on a pirate ship fighting for her life. Can this be real? How does she get home? Does she want to go home? These are just a few of the questions floating through her mind. Fiction