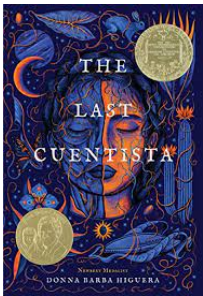




BHMS SUMMER READING 2022

Middle School Suggestions



The Last Cuentista

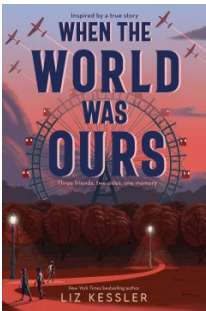
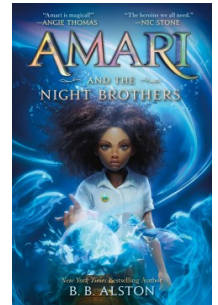
Donna Barba Higuera

After boarding a spaceship with other families of scientists, Petra wakes in the future to find that she is the only person left wishing to remember Earth's stories.

Amari and the Night Brothers

B. B. Alston

Brave and resourceful Amari, bullied and determined to find her long-missing brother, receives an invitation in his handwriting to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs.



When the World Was Ours

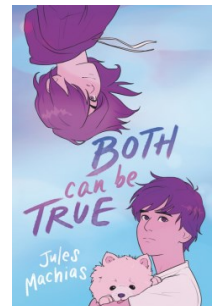
Liz Kessler

On the verge of World War II, three nine-year-old German friends—two Jewish and one a future Nazi—find their lives torn apart.

Both Can Be True

Jules Machias

Daniel and Ash initially bond over rescuing a dog; attractions form, but what will happen when Daniel discovers Ash is nonbinary?



Healer and Witch

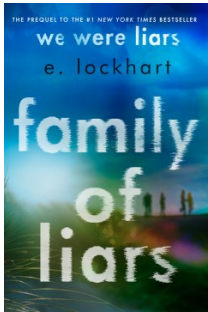
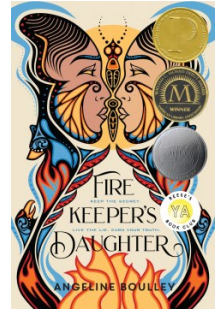
Nancy Werlin

Sylvie and her mother and grandmother are beloved, trusted healers in their medieval French village, though some whisper that fifteen-year-old Sylvie and her grand-mere deal in more than herbs and medicines.

Firekeeper's Daughter

Angeline Boulley

As her Ojibwe community is ravaged by drug overdoses, Daunis, 17, works with the FBI to identify the dealers.



Family of Liars

E. Lockhart

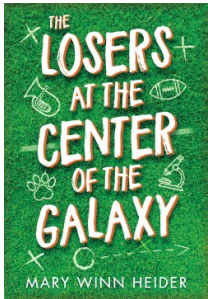
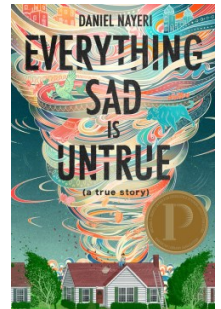
The thrilling prequel to *We Were Liars* takes readers back to the story of another summer, another generation, and the secrets that will haunt them for decades to come.

A windswept private island off the coast of Massachusetts. A hungry ocean, churning with secrets and sorrow. A fiery, addicted heiress. An irresistible, unpredictable boy. A summer of unforgivable betrayal and terrible mistakes.

Everything Sad is Untrue (A True Story)

Daniel Nayeri

In an Oklahoman middle school, Khosrou (whom everyone calls Daniel) stands in front of a skeptical audience of classmates, telling the tales of his family's history, stretching back years, decades, and centuries. At the core is Daniel's story of how they became refugees—starting with his mother's vocal embrace of Christianity in a country that made such a thing a capital offense, and continuing through their midnight flight from the secret police, bribing their way onto a plane-to-anywhere.



The Losers at the Center of the Galaxy

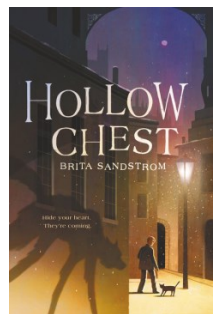
Mary Winn Heider

Middle school siblings find separate paths to wholeness following the disappearance of their father, an ex-football player with CTE.

Hollow Chest

Brita Sandstrom

In 1945, when Charlie's brother comes home to London from the war, he is not the same. Charlie embarks on a quest to find his brother's heart, eaten by mysterious wolves.



Alone

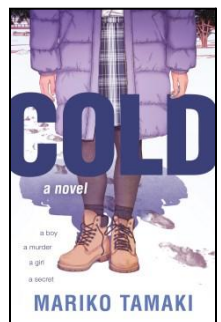
Megan E. Freeman

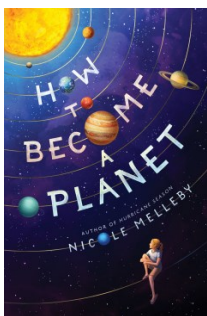
Maddie wakes from a canceled sleepover to find her Colorado town has been evacuated. Shuttling between the homes of her divorced parents, she struggles to survive.

Cold

Mariiko Tamaki

Todd replays the events that lead to his death in the local park, watching as detectives investigate his murder and talk to the students responsible for it, and meanwhile Georgia, who does not know Todd, cannot stop thinking about him.





How to Become a Planet

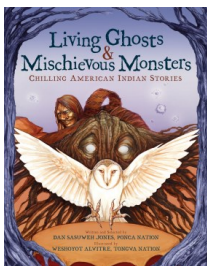
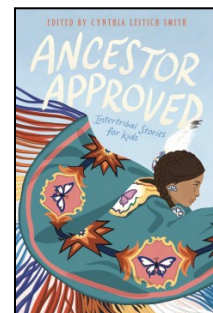
Nicole Melleby

Fighting her diagnosis of depression and anxiety, Pluto rejects the help of most people as she tries to find some acceptance within herself.

Ancestor Approved

Cynthia Leitich Smith, ed.

Stories at a powwow in a high school gym in Michigan bring together families from different tribal nations to celebrate their ancestors and their heritage.



Living Ghosts & Mischievous Monsters: Chilling American Indian Stories

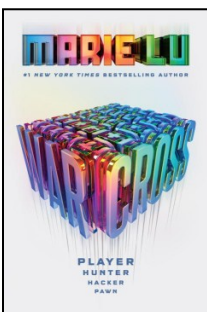
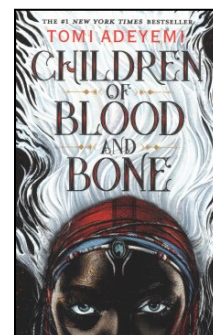
Dan Sasuwah Jones

Thirty-two shivery tales.

Children of Blood and Bone

Tomi Adeyemi

Seventeen-year-old Zelie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy.



Warcross Series

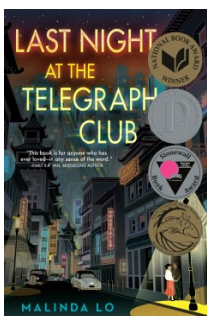
Marie Lu

For the millions who log in every day, Warcross isn't just a game - it's a way of life. The obsession started ten years ago and its fan base now spans the globe, some eager to escape from reality and others hoping to make a profit. Struggling to make ends meet, teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down Warcross players who bet on the game illegally. But the bounty-hunting world is a competitive one, and survival has not been easy. Needing to make some quick cash, Emika takes a risk and hacks into the opening game of the international Warcross Championships-only to accidentally glitch herself into the action and become an overnight sensation.

Ship Breaker Series

Paolo Bacigalupi

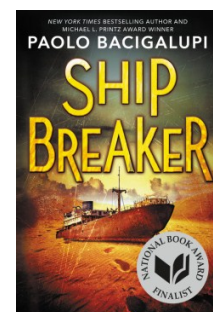
In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl.



Last Night at the Telegraph Club

Malinda Lo

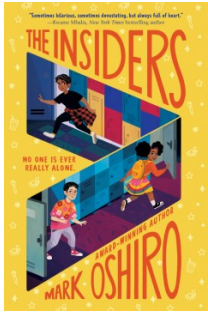
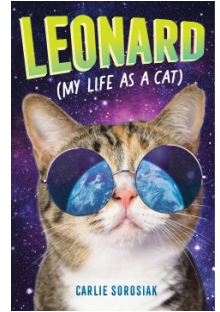
Aspiring scientist Lily Hu, 17, is conflicted between the expectations of her traditional upbringing in 1950s Chinatown and her awakening sexuality.



Leonard (My Life as a Cat)

Carlie Sorosiak

Leonard, an alien, is sent to earth for a sabbatical, but in a mix-up, he arrives as a cat in need of rescue. Eleven year-old Olive finds him.



Insiders

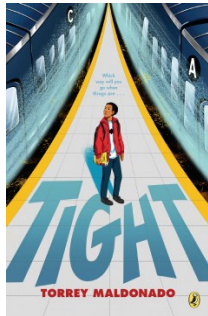
Mark Oshiro

Twelve-year-old Hector Munoz, fleeing from bullies, discovers a magical closet that not only provides him sanctuary, but also unites him with two other kids facing similar problems at their own schools, helping them find friendship and strength in each other.

Summer of Brave

Amy Noelle Parks

Compliant Lilla has always done what her competitive, bickering, divorced parents wanted, but they have conflicting visions for her future. How can she forge a path for herself?



Tight

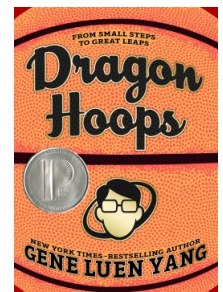
Torrey Maldonado

After his quick-tempered father gets in a fight and is sent back to jail, sixth-grader Bryan, known for being quiet and thoughtful, snaps and follows new friend Mike into trouble.

Dragon Hoops

Gene Luen Yang

Gene Luen Yang understands stories -- comic book stories, in particular. Big action. Bigger thrills. And the hero always wins. But Gene doesn't get sports. As a kid, his friends called him 'Stick' and every basketball game he played ended in pain. He lost interest in basketball long ago, but at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about...



Shark Summer

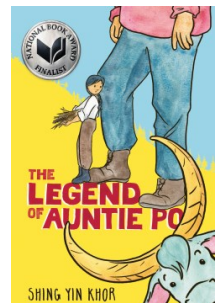
Ira Marcks

When a Hollywood director starts filming a blockbuster action film on the otherwise sleepy island of Martha's Vineyard, thirteen-year-old Gayle and her friends set out to make their own film and solve an island mystery.

The Legend of Auntie Po

Shing Yin Khor

Mei, 13, narrates life in an 1885 logging camp, using Paul Bunyan stories with Chinese matriarch Auntie Po as protagonist. Bold digital pencil and watercolor art.





The Magic Fish

Trung Le Nguyen

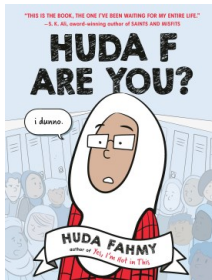
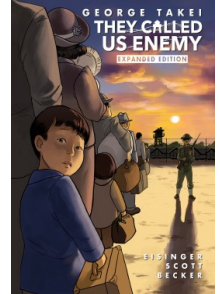
Real life isn't a fairytale.

But Tiến still enjoys reading his favorite stories with his parents from the books he borrows from the local library. It's hard enough trying to communicate with your parents as a kid, but for Tiến, he doesn't even have the right words because his parents are struggling with their English. Is there a Vietnamese word for what he's going through?

They Called Us Enemy

George Takei

Actor, author, and activist George Takei recounts his childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps for Japanese Americans during World War II and the impact the experience had on his later life.



Huda F Are You?

Huda Fahmy

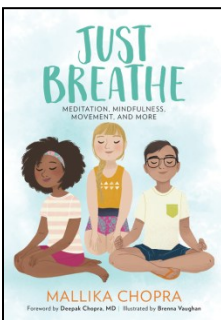
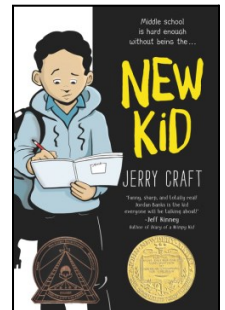
Huda and her family just moved to Dearborn, Michigan, a small town with a big Muslim population. In her old town, Huda knew exactly who she was: She was the hijabi girl. But in Dearborn, everyone is the hijabi girl. Huda is lost in a sea of hijabis, and she can't rely on her hijab to define her anymore. She has to define herself. So she tries on a bunch of cliques, but she isn't a hijabi fashionista or a hijabi athlete or a hijabi gamer. She's not the one who knows everything about her religion or the one all the

guys like. She's miscellaneous, which makes her feel like no one at all.

New Kid & Class Act

Jerry Craft

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one.



Just Breathe

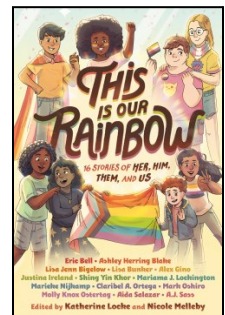
Mallika Chopra

Beginners will learn the basics of meditation and how to get started, and those more experienced will learn how to improve their practice.

This Is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them, and Us

Katherine Locke and Nicole Melleby, ed.

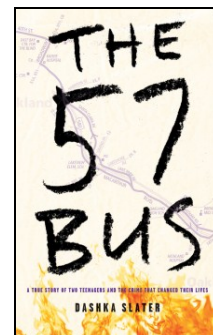
A unique collection of stories, including a few in graphic format, with diverse characters—most at the beginning of adolescence—exploring their gender and sexual identity.



The 57 Bus

Dashka Slater

If it weren't for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard never would have met. Both were high school students from Oakland, California, one of the most diverse cities in the country, but they inhabited different worlds. Sasha, a white teen, lived in the middle-class foothills and attended a small private school. Richard, a black teen, lived in the crime-plagued flatlands and attended a large public one. Each day, their paths overlapped for a mere eight minutes.



Challenge everything : the Extinction Rebellion Youth Guide to Saving the Planet

Blue Sanford

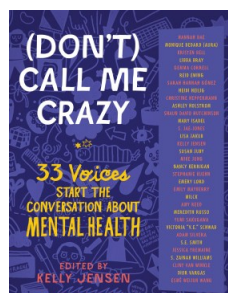
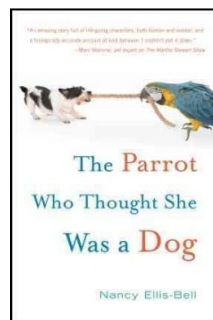
A guide for saving the planet: start with questions and act upon conclusions. Included is advice on how to take control as a consumer.

The Parrot Who Thought She Was A Dog

Nancy Ellis-Bell

A touching, laugh-out-loud memoir that reminds us that love can come from the most unexpected places

Nancy Ellis-Bell has always had a love—and a weakness—for animals. She'd already spent a lifetime taking in rescue animals when she and her husband brought home an exotic, wild-caught, one-footed macaw. And so it was that Sarah came into their lives—and changed them forever.



(Don't) Call Me Crazy : 33 Voices Start the Conversation About Mental Health

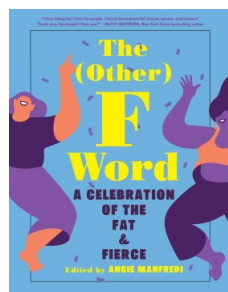
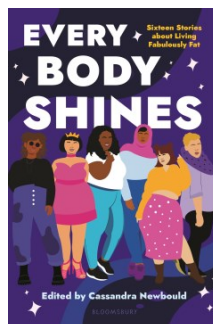
Kelly Jensen, ed.

What's "crazy"? -- Where "crazy" meets culture -- The mind-body connection -- Beyond stress and sadness -- To be okay. An anthology of essays and illustrations that illuminate mental health topics in a straightforward way.

Every Body Shines: Sixteen Stories about Living Fabulously Fat

Cassandra Newbould , ed.

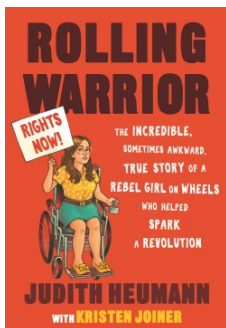
A math genius in space, a star hockey player, a fireman, a mermaid, and more are among those coping with attitudes about body size.



The (Other) F Word

Angie Manfredi, ed.

This dazzling collection of art, poetry, essays, and fashion tips is meant for people of all sizes who desire to be seen and heard in a culture consumed by a narrow definition of beauty. By combining the talents of renowned fat YA and middle-grade authors, as well as fat influencers and creators, The (Other) F Word offers teen readers and activists of all ages a tool for navigating our world with confidence and courage.



Rolling Warrior: The Incredible, Sometimes Awkward, True Story of a Rebel Girl on Wheels Who Helped Spark a Revolution

Judith Heumann, with Kristen Joiner

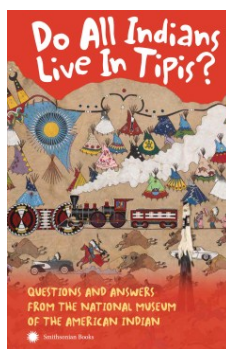
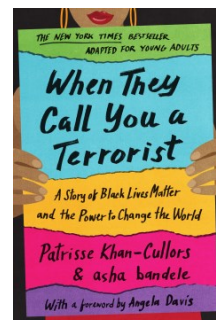
Heumann, paralyzed at 18 months after falling ill with polio, has engaged in an inspiring lifelong fight for people with disabilities to be treated as equal citizens.

When They Call You a Terrorist (Young Adult Edition)

Patrisse Khan-Cullors

From one of the co-founders of the Black Lives Matter movement comes a poetic memoir and reflection on humanity.

Necessary and timely, Patrisse Khan-Cullors' story asks us to remember that protest in the interest of the most vulnerable comes from love. Leaders of the Black Lives Matter movement have been called terrorists, a threat to America. But in truth, they are loving women whose life experiences have led them to seek justice for those victimized by the powerful.



Do All Indians Live in Tipis? : Questions and Answers (2nd ed.)

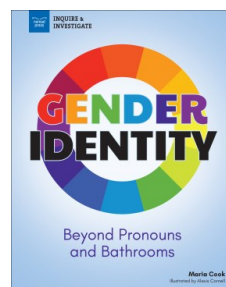
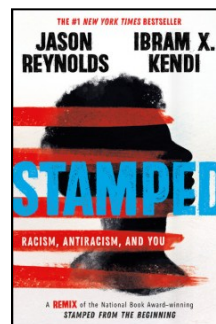
National Museum of the American Indian

How much do you really know about totem poles, tipis, and Tonto? There are hundreds of Native tribes in the Americas, and there may be thousands of misconceptions about Native customs, culture, and history. In this illustrated guide, experts from Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian debunk common myths and answer frequently asked questions about Native Americans past and present.

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You

Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi

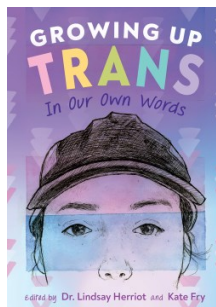
A timely, crucial, and empowering exploration of racism--and antiracism--in America This is NOT a history book. This is a book about the here and now. A book to help us better understand why we are where we are.... Through a gripping, fast-paced, and energizing narrative written by beloved award-winner Jason Reynolds, this book shines a light on the many insidious forms of racist ideas--and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives.



Gender Identity: Beyond Pronouns and Bathrooms

Maria Cook

Introduces the cultural significance of gender identity in the United States and beyond. [Readers] learn about the history of LGBTQ rights, with a particular focus on transgender rights, along with research activities.



Growing Up Trans: in Our Own Words

Lindsay Herriot and Kate Fry, ed.

What does it mean to be young and transgender today?

Stories, essays, art and poetry created by trans youth aged 11 to 18. ...a toolkit for all young people about what understanding, acceptance and support for the trans community looks like.

A Note About Summer Reading

Remember: Your summer reading is yours. All reading counts.

If you're looking for something to read, start with this list — but allow yourself to read anything that makes you glad to be reading!

If you're stuck, send me a message [rduvall@bhmsny.org] and I'll come up with some suggestions just for you.




For more suggestions, be sure to check out **Brooklyn Public Library's and New York Public Library's Summer Reading Programs:** summerreading.org

There are free events throughout the summer in libraries across Brooklyn and Manhattan — and everyone is welcome.

There are even [games](#) to borrow & "[grab & go craft kits](#)."

Get your own library card and go wild!

Finally, remember to visit [SORA](#) (log in with your school Google account and password), where you'll find many of the titles from this list in eBook and audiobook form. You can read these using the Sora App (for [Apple](#) & [Android](#)) — you can even send your titles to a Kindle. Let me know if you'd like any help getting set up or navigating Sora.

Enjoy summer!   
Rebecca