

2007 Readers' Choices for Grades 7 & 8
compliments of Windham County Reads

Abbott, Tony. *Firegirl.* 2006. A middle school boy's life is changed when Jessica, a girl badly disfigured by burns, starts attending his Catholic school while she receives treatment at a local hospital. DCF Nominee 2007-2008.

Abrahams, Peter. *Behind the Curtain: An Echo Falls Mystery.* 2006. Avid Sherlock Holmes fan Ingrid Levin-Hill is kidnapped while investigating mysterious happenings in her home town.

Barron, TA. *Great Tree of Avalon series.* 2005-2007. An epic fantasy adventure featuring Merlin, wizards, a prophecy, and the world of Avalon, which has the form of a great tree.

Barry, Dave and Ridley Pearson. *Peter and the Shadow Thieves.* 2006. When Peter and Tinkerbelle realize that Molly and the other Starcatchers are in danger from the sinister being Lord Ombra, they travel to England to help save the stardust.

Bloor, Edward. *London Calling.* 2006. Seventh-grader Martin Conway believes that his life is monotonous and dull until the night the antique radio he uses as a night-light transports him to the bombing of London in 1940.

Cornish, D. M. *Foundling.* 2006. Having grown up in a home for foundlings and possessing a girl's name, Rossamund sets out to report to his new job as a lamplighter. He has several adventures along the way as he meets people and monsters who are more complicated than he previously thought. The first book in the *Monster Blood Tattoo* series.

Dessen, Sarah. *Just Listen.* 2006. Suddenly unpopular sixteen-year-old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her face what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

Ellis, Sarah. *Odd Man Out.* 2006. While spending the summer with his grandmother and five rambunctious female cousins at the beach, twelve-year-old Kip discovers an old notebook belonging to his dead father. 2007-2008 DCF nominee.

Gorman, Carol. *Games: A Tale of Two Bullies.* 2007. When fourteen-year-old rivals Boot and Mick fight once too often, the new principal devises an unusual punishment. As they play games together in the principal's office, they begin to learn which battles are worth fighting.

Griffin, Adele. *Where I Want To Be.* 2005. Two teenaged sisters, separated by death but still connected, work through their feelings of loss over the closeness they shared as children and finally make peace with each other.

Lubar, David. *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie.* 2005. While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

Lupica, Mike. *Heat*. 2006. Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Miller, Kirsten. *Kiki Strike: Inside the Shadow City*. 2006. Life becomes more interesting for Ananka Fishbein when she discovers an underground room in the park across from her New York City apartment and meets a mysterious girl called Kiki Strike who claims that she, too, wants to explore the world below.

Myracle, Lauren. *L8r, g8r*. 2007. Through instant messages, three inseparable friends have survived a flirtatious teacher, a witchy classmate, a pot-smoking smoocher and a Care Bear-toting stalker. Now it's their senior year and Zoe, Maddie and Angela are faced with the inevitable end of their trio.

Patterson, James. *School's Out—Forever*. 2006. After a short stay with an FBI agent who gives them a chance to attend school and live a normal life, six genetically altered, winged youths head toward Florida and Max's ultimate destiny—to save the world, whether she wants to or not. Second in the *Maximum Ride* series.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. *Life As We Knew It*. 2006. Through journal entries, sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

Resau, Laura. *What the Moon Saw*. 2006. Fourteen-year-old Clara Luna spends the summer with her grandparents in the tiny, remote village of Yucuyoo, Mexico, where she learns about her grandmother's life as a healer, her father's decision to leave home for the United States, and her own place in the world.

Riordan, Rick. *The Sea of Monsters*. 2006. Camp Half-Blood is the the only safe haven for demigods. When it comes close to being overrun by mythological monsters, Percy sets out to find and rescue his friend Grover, who is imprisoned on an island in the Bermuda Triangle, so they can save the Camp.

Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. 2007. Twelve-year-old Hugo is an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931. When he meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie*. 2004. When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life and his desire to support his family.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. 2007. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Turner, Megan Whalen. *King of Attolia*. 2006. Eugenides, who is still known as a Thief of Eddis, faces palace intrigue and assassins as he strives to prove himself both to the people of Attolia and to his new bride, their queen. The first two books in this suspenseful trilogy are *Thief* and *Queen of Attolia*.