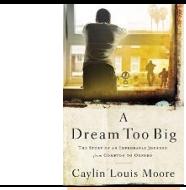
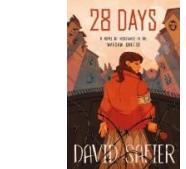
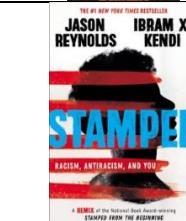
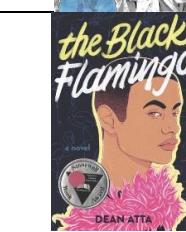
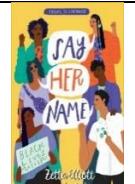
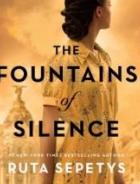
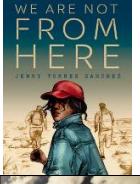
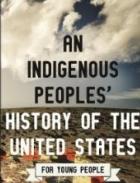
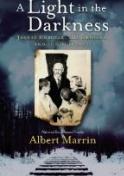
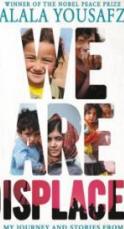
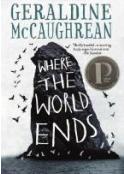
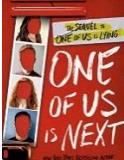
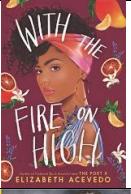
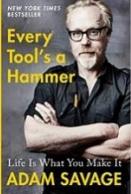
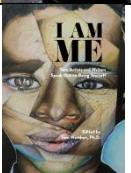


2020 9-12th Grade Reading List

	
	<p><i>A Dream Too Big: a Story of an Improbable Journey from Compton to Oxford</i> By Caylin Louis Moore</p> <p>In this inspiring and provocative memoir, Caylin Moore tells the against-all-odds story of his rise from cruel poverty in gang-ridden Los Angeles to academic success at Oxford University, with hope as his compass.</p>
	<p><i>28 Days</i> By David Safier</p> <p>Inspired by true events, <i>28 Days: A Novel of Resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto</i> is a harrowing historical YA that chronicles the brutality of the Holocaust.</p>
	<p><i>Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You</i> By Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi</p> <p>A timely, crucial, and empowering exploration of racism - and antiracism - in America. 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.</p>
	<p><i>The Downstairs Girl</i> By Stacey Lee</p> <p>By day, 17-year-old Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for the cruel daughter of one of the wealthiest men in Atlanta. But by night, Jo moonlights as the pseudonymous author of a newspaper advice column for the genteel Southern lady, "Dear Miss Sweetie." While her opponents clamor to uncover the secret identity of Miss Sweetie, a mysterious letter sets Jo off on a search for her own past and the parents who abandoned her as a baby.</p>
	<p><i>Banned Book Club</i> By Hyun Sook Kim and Ryan Estrada Illustrated by Hyung-Ju Ko</p> <p>The gripping true story of a South Korean woman's student days under an authoritarian regime in the early 1980s and how she defied state censorship through the rebellion of reading.</p>
	<p><i>The Black Flamingo</i> By Dean Atta</p> <p>Michael is a mixed-race gay teen growing up in London. All his life, he's navigated what it means to be Greek-Cypriot and Jamaican - but never quite feeling Greek or Black enough. As he gets older, Michael's coming out is only the start of learning who he is and where he fits in. When he discovers the Drag Society, he finally finds where he belongs, and the Black Flamingo is born.</p>
	<p><i>Dig.</i> By A.S. King</p> <p>Five estranged cousins are lost in a maze of their family's tangled secrets. Their grandparents, former potato farmers Gottfried and Marla Hemmings, managed to trade digging spuds for developing subdivisions, and now they sit atop a million-dollar bank account, wealth they've refused to pass on to their adult children or their five teenage grandchildren. "Because we want them to thrive," Marla always says.</p>

 Karla Cornejo Villavicencio	<p><i>The Undocumented Americans</i> By Karla Cornejo Villavicencio</p> <p>Looking beyond the flashpoints of the border or the activism of the DREAMers, Cornejo Villavicencio explores the lives of the undocumented and the mysteries of her own life. She finds the singular, effervescent characters across the nation often reduced in the media to political pawns or nameless laborers. The stories she tells are not deferential or naively inspirational but show the love, magic, heartbreak, insanity, and vulgarity that infuse the day-to-day lives of her subjects.</p>
	<p><i>Say Her Name</i> By Zetta Elliott</p> <p>These poems pay tribute to victims of police brutality as well as the activists insisting that Black Lives Matter. Elliott engages poets from the past two centuries to create a chorus of voices celebrating the creativity, resilience, and courage of Black women and girls.</p>
	<p><i>Golden Arm</i> By Carl Deuker</p> <p>Lazarus "Laz" Weathers has always been shy, and his issue with stuttering when he speaks hasn't helped. Stuck in a Seattle trailer park, Laz finds baseball helps him escape from the world of poverty and drugs. When he gets an opportunity to pitch for the rich kids across town, he has a chance to get drafted by the major leagues.</p>
	<p><i>The Fountains of Silence</i> By Ruta Sepetys</p> <p>Madrid, 1957. Under the fascist dictatorship of General Francisco Franco, Spain is hiding a dark secret. Meanwhile, tourists and foreign businessmen flood into Spain under the welcoming promise of sunshine and wine. Among them is 18-year-old Daniel Matheson, the son of an oil tycoon, who arrives in Madrid with his parents hoping to connect with the country of his mother's birth through the lens of his camera. Photography and fate introduce him to Ana, whose family's interweaving obstacles reveal the lingering grasp of the Spanish Civil War.</p>
	<p><i>Pet</i> By Akwaeke Emezi</p> <p>There are no monsters anymore, or so the children in the city of Lucille are taught. Jam and her best friend, Redemption, have grown up with this lesson all their life. But when Jam meets Pet, a creature made of horns and colors and claws, who emerges from one of her mother's paintings and a drop of Jam's blood, she must reconsider what she's been told.</p>
	<p><i>Felix Ever After</i> By Kacen Callender</p> <p>Felix Love has never been <i>in</i> love, and, yes, he's painfully aware of the irony. He desperately wants to know what it's like and why it seems so easy for everyone but him to find someone. What's worse is that, even though he is proud of his identity, Felix also secretly fears that he's one marginalization too many—Black, queer, and transgender—to ever get his own happily-ever-after.</p>
	<p><i>We Are Not From Here</i> By Jenny Torres Sanchez</p> <p>A poignant novel of desperation, escape, and survival across the U.S.-Mexico border, inspired by current events. Pulga has his dreams. Chico has his grief. Pequeña has her pride. And these three teens have one another. But none of them have illusions about the town they've grown up in and the dangers that surround them.</p>
	<p><i>An Indigenous People's History of the United States</i> By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz</p> <p>Today in the U.S., there are more than 500 federally recognized Indigenous nations comprising nearly three million people, descendants of the 15 million Native people who once inhabited this land. The centuries-long genocidal program of the U.S. settler-colonial regimen has largely been omitted from history. Now, for the first time, acclaimed historian and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz offers a history of the U.S. told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the U.S. empire.</p>

	<p><i>A Light in the Darkness</i> By Albert Marrin</p> <p>Dr. Korczak was a man ahead of his time, whose work ultimately became the basis for the U.N. Declaration of the Rights of the Child. Korczak was a Polish Jew. On the eve of World War II, he turned down multiple opportunities for escape, standing by the children in his orphanage as they became confined to the Warsaw Ghetto.</p>
	<p><i>We Are Displaced: My Journey & Stories from Refugee Girls Around the World</i> By Malala Yousafzai</p> <p><i>"After her father was murdered, María escaped in the middle of the night with her mother. Zaynab was out of school for two years as she fled war before landing in America. Her sister, Sabreen, survived a harrowing journey to Italy. Ajida escaped horrific violence, but then found herself battling the elements to keep her family safe."</i> Malala Yousafzai introduces some of the people behind the statistics and news stories about the millions of displaced people worldwide.</p>
	<p><i>Ordinary Hazards: A Memoir</i> By Nikki Grimes</p> <p>Growing up with a mother suffering from paranoid schizophrenia and a mostly absent father, Nikki Grimes found herself terrorized by babysitters, shunted from foster family to foster family, and preyed upon by those she trusted. In this accessible and inspiring memoir that will resonate with young readers and adults alike, Grimes shows how the power of words helped her conquer the hazards, ordinary and extraordinary, of her life.</p>
	<p><i>A Thousand Sisters: The Heroic Airwomen of the Soviet Union in World War II</i> By Elizabeth Wein</p> <p>In the early years of World War II, Josef Stalin issued an order that made the Soviet Union the first country in the world to allow female pilots to fly in combat. Led by Marina Raskova, three regiments, including the 588th Night Bomber Regiment, nicknamed the "night witches," faced intense pressure and obstacles both in the sky and on the ground. Some of these young women perished in flames. Many of them were in their teens when they went to war.</p>
	<p><i>Where the World Ends</i> By Geraldine McCaughrean</p> <p>Every summer Quill and his friends are put ashore on a remote sea stac to hunt birds. But this summer, no one arrives to take them home. Surely nothing but the end of the world can explain why they've been abandoned, cold, starving and clinging to life, in the grip of a murderous ocean. How will they survive such a forsaken place of stone and sea?</p>
	<p><i>One of Us is Next</i> (The Sequel to <i>One of Us is Lying</i>) By Karen M. McManus</p> <p>A ton of copycat gossip apps have popped up since Simon died, but in the year since the Bayview four were cleared of his shocking death, no one's been able to fill the gossip void quite like he could. The problem is no one has the facts. Until now.</p>
	<p><i>Opposite of Always</i> By Justin A. Reynolds</p> <p>When Jack and Kate meet at a party, bonding until sunrise over their mutual love of Froot Loops and their favorite flicks, Jack knows he's falling, hard. Soon she's meeting his best friends, Jillian and Franny, and Kate wins them over as easily as she did Jack. But then Kate dies. And their story should end there.</p>
	<p><i>All the Days Past, All the Days to Come</i> By Mildred D. Taylor</p> <p>Cassie Logan, first met in <i>Song of the Trees</i> and <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i>, is a young woman now, searching for her place in the world, a journey that takes her from Toledo to California, to law school in Boston, and, ultimately, in the 60s, home to Mississippi for voter registration. She is witness to the now-historic events of the century: the Great Migration north and the often violent confrontations that brought about change.</p>

	<p><i>With the Fire on High</i> By Elizabeth Acevedo</p> <p>Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions, doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen.</p>
	<p><i>Every Tool's a Hammer: Life is What You Make It</i> By Adam Savage</p> <p>Through stories from 40-plus years of making and molding, building and breaking, along with the lessons Adam learned along the way, this book is meant to be a toolbox of problem solving, complete with a shop's worth of notes on the tools, techniques, and materials that he uses most often.</p>
	<p><i>I Am Me</i> Edited by Tom Worthen</p> <p><i>Teen Artists and Writers Speak Out on Being Yourself</i> pairs award winning art and writing to empower teens to shake off negative influences and realize it is okay to be themselves.</p>
	<p><i>Patron Saints of Nothing</i> By Randy Ribay</p> <p>Jay Reguero plans to spend the last semester of his senior year playing video games before heading to the University of Michigan in the fall. But when he discovers that his Filipino cousin Jun was murdered as part of President Duterte's war on drugs, and no one in the family wants to talk about what happened, Jay travels to the Philippines to find out the real story.</p>
	<p><i>Kiss Number 8</i> By Colleen AF Venable, Illustrated by Ellen Crenshaw</p> <p>Mads is pretty happy with her life. She goes to church with her family and minor league baseball games with her dad. She goofs off with her best friend Cat, and has thus far managed to avoid getting kissed by Adam, the boy next door. It's everything she hoped high school would be, until all of a sudden, it's not.</p>
	<p><i>Our House is on Fire: Scenes of a Family & Planet in Crisis</i> By Greta Thunberg, Svante Thunberg, Melena Emman, and Beata Emman</p> <p>When climate activist Greta Thunberg was 11 years old, her parents Malena and Svante, and her little sister Beata, were facing a crisis in their own home. Greta had stopped eating and speaking, and her mother and father had reconfigured their lives to care for her. Desperate and searching for answers, her parents discovered what was at the heart of Greta's distress: her imperiled future on a rapidly heating planet.</p>
	<p><i>Sweat the Technique: Revelations on Creativity from the Lyrical Genius</i> By Rakim</p> <p>The musician and Hip Hop legend, hailed as "the greatest MC of all time" and compared to Thelonious Monk, reimagines the writing handbook in this memoir and guide that incorporates the soulful genius, confidence, and creativity of a master artist.</p>