

**Dear incoming 7th graders and families,**

**In preparation for 7th grade American history, we are asking you to choose ONE book from the following list to read this summer. If you have already read some of these books, please choose a new one to read. There is a book on this list for everyone; it includes graphic novels, historical fiction and creative non-fiction. If you are not sure which book to read, feel free to read some reviews of the book. You have a lot of options to choose from; work with your family to find a book you feel comfortable reading. You will complete an assignment at the very beginning of the school year, so make sure you read and understand the main themes of your book. Happy reading!**

HF=Historical Fiction NF=Non-fiction GN=Graphic Novel

### **American Revolution**

*King George: What Was His Problem?* (NF) by Steve Shenkin

*Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: One Dead Spy* (GN) by Nathan Hale

*Guts and Glory: the American Revolution* (NF) by Ben Thompson

*The Witch of Blackbird Pond* (HF) by Elizabeth George Speare

*Johnny Tremain* (HF) by Ester Forbes

*My Brother Sam is Dead* (HF) by Christopher Collier and James Lincoln Collier

### **Underground Railroad/Slavery**

*The Underground Abductor* (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales #5): *An Abolitionist Tale about Harriet Tubman* (GN) by Nathan Hale

*Unbound: A Novel in Verse* (HF) by Ann E Burg

*Trouble Don't Last* (HF) by Shelley Pearsall

*Elijah of Buxton* (HF) by Christopher Paul Curtis

*Never Caught, the Story of Ona Judge: George and Martha Washington's Courageous Slave Who Dared to Run Away*; Young Readers Edition by Erica Armstrong Dunbar (NF)

### **1790s-1850s**

*Fever 1793*(HF) by Laurie Halse Anderson

*Which Way to the Wild West?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About Westward Expansion* (NF) by Steve Shenkin

*Heart of a Samurai* (HF) by Margi Preus

*Alamo All-Stars* (Hazardous Tales #6) (GN) by Nathan Hale

*Donner Dinner Party* (Hazardous Takes #3 GN) by Nathan Hale

*The Birchbark House* series by Louise Erdrich

### **Civil War**

*Big Bad Ironclad* (GN) By Nathan Hale

*Soldier's Heart* (HF) by Gary Paulsen

*Two Miserable Presidents: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the Civil War* (NF)by Steve Shenkin

*Guts and Glory: The American Civil War* (NF) by Ben Thompson

*Come Juneteenth* by Ann Rinaldi

*Soldier's Heart* (HF) by Gary Paulsen

*Across Five Aprils* (HF) by Irene Hunt

### **Late 1800s- early 1900s**

*Prairie Lotus* (HF) by Linda Sue Park

*Lyddie* (HF) by Katherine Paterson (story of a mill girl in Massachusetts)

*Bread and Roses, Too* (HF) by Katherine Paterson (story of 1912 Labor Strike)

*City of Orphans* by Avi (HF)

*In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse* (HF) by Joseph Marshall

*Hattie Big Sky* (HF) by Kirby Lawson

*The Red Pony* (F) by John Steinbeck

*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* (HF) by Jacqueline Kelly  
*Saving Savannah* by Tonya Bolden (HF)

### **Great Depression**

*Out of the Dust* (HF) by Karen Hesse  
*A Long Way from Chicago: A Novel in Stories* by Richard Peck  
*The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck (HF)  
*Stella by Starlight* by Sharon Draper (HF)  
*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* (Series) by Mildred Taylor (HF)  
*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan (HF)  
*The Mighty Miss Malone* (HF) by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*The Moon Over Manifest* (HF) by Clare Vanderpool  
*Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team* –by Steve Shenkin (NF)

### **World War 1**

*Treaties, Trenches, Mud, and Blood* (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales #4) (GN)  
*Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting* by Jim Murphy (NF)

### **World War 2**

*Raid of No Return* (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales #7): *A World War II Tale of the Doolittle Raid* (GN) by Nathan Hale  
*The War that Saved My Life* (HF) by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley  
*Number the Stars* (HF) by Lois Lowry  
*Milkweed* (HF) by Jerry Spinelli  
*The Book Thief* (HF) by Markus Zusak  
*Fred Koramatsu Speaks Up* by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi  
*Prisoner B-3087* (HF) Alan Gratz  
*Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* (NF) by Steve Shenkin  
*Echo* (HF) by Pam Munoz Ryan

*A Place to Belong* (HF) by Cynthia Kadohata

### **1950s-1960s**

*Kira-Kira* (HF) by Cynthia Kadohata  
*One Crazy Summer* (HF) by Rita Williams-Garcia  
*A Night Divided* (HF) (not American--but talks about the Berlin Wall) by Jennifer Nielsen  
*The Watsons Go to Birmingham* (HF) by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*The Lions of Little Rock* (HF) by Kristin Levine  
*Glory B* (HF) by Augusta Scattergood  
*The March Trilogy* (GN) by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin  
*Indian No More* (HF) by Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell  
*Countdown* by Deborah Wiles (HF)  
*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson (In verse)  
*Finding Langston* by Lesa Cline-Ransome (in verse)

### **1970s**

*Inside Out and Back Again* (HF) by Thanhhai Lai  
*All the Broken Pieces* (F) by Ann C Burg  
*Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War* (NF) by Steve Shenkin

### **1990s**

*Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo* by Zlata Filipovic (NF)

### **2000s**

*Towers Falling* by Jewell Parker Rhodes (HF)

*Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz (HF)