



Voice of Youth Award Titles 2009-2010 7th and 8th Grades

The Voice of Youth Award (VOYA) is a special school year reading program offered by the Youth Services Department of Skokie Public Library. Students in grades 3 through 8 are encouraged to read books of high quality that our Youth Services librarians have carefully selected for reading and interest level. Multiple copies of the books are available in the Youth Services Department for check out.

Students who read at least three of the books will be invited to vote for their favorite book during National Library Week in April 2010. Students vote at Skokie Public Library or at their school library. The winning title will be announced and the author will be invited to visit the Library and several Skokie schools. Schools that participate in the VOYA program are eligible to have the winning author come to their school.

*Applegate, Katherine. **Home of the Brave**. 2007.

Kek's father and brother have been killed and his mother is missing. He has moved from Sudan to Minneapolis and has never experienced snow, or even the cold of winter. He's never ridden on a bus or had his own desk and books at school. Can he learn to speak a new language and overcome the pressures and prejudices of his new country?

Cooney, Caroline B. **Code Orange**. 2005.

While Mitty is working on his advanced biology project, he discovers, and handles, smallpox scabs. As the research continues, Mitty fears the virus is still active and that he may be infected and spreading the disease. And, as if this isn't enough, Mitty is kidnapped by terrorists who want to turn him into a biological weapon!

*Dowd, Siobhan. **London Eye Mystery**. 2008.

Kat and Ted, who has a form of autism, take their cousin, Salim, to the London Eye ferris wheel. They watch him get on, but he never gets off. When the police can't find Salim, it's up to Kat and Ted, whose brain "runs on a different operating system," to solve the mystery.

* Books also available on audio.

*Dowell, Frances O’Roark. **Shooting the Moon**. 2008.

Jamie can’t wait to get letters from her older brother who has joined the Army and been sent to Vietnam. But, instead of letters, her brother sends her rolls of film which gradually show her a side of war she never expected to see.

*Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. **Dairy Queen: A Novel**. 2006.

While running the family dairy farm practically by herself, 16-year-old D.J. helps train the quarterback from the rival football team. When she discovers that she, too, has a talent for football and decides to try out for the team, the real excitement begins.

*Mass, Wendy. **Every Soul a Star: A Novel**. 2008.

Three very different teens witness a rare total solar eclipse and, while learning many interesting facts about astronomy, discover as much about themselves as they do about each other.

*Pfeffer, Susan Beth. **Life As We Knew It**. 2006.

Life dramatically changes for 16-year-old Miranda when a meteor hits the moon and knocks it closer to Earth. Worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, food shortages, and extreme weather changes cause life as she knows it to disappear.

*Shusterman, Neal. **The Schwa Was Here**. 2004.

“Antsy” Bonano’s new friendship with Calvin Schwa takes an interesting turn when they come up with moneymaking schemes to prove that nobody ever notices Schwa, even when he’s standing in a crowded room.

*Scott, Michael. **The Alchemyst**. 2007.

In this riveting struggle between good and evil, 15-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, are caught between two rival alchemists who struggle over the formula for the secret of everlasting life.

*Smith, Roland. **Peak**. 2007.

Fourteen-year-old Peak ends up in the Himalayas with his father, who plans on Peak being the youngest person to climb Mount Everest. Find out what it’s like to climb the world’s highest mountain in this amazing and informative adventure.

* Books also available on audio.



Skokie Public Library

5215 Oakton Street

Skokie, Illinois 60077

847.673.7774 / 847.673.7797 fax

www.skokielineibrary.info

Skokie Public Library Trustees: Diana Hunter, President/President Emerita; John Graham, Vice President; Zelda Rich, Secretary; Richard Basofin; Susan Greer; Karen Parrilli; John M. Wozniak
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