

Teen Services Newsletter

Issue No. 2 | September 2021

Upcoming Programs at the OPK Library!

Teen Advisory Group!

The Orchard Park Public Library's NEW Teen Advisory Group is scheduling its SECOND meeting.

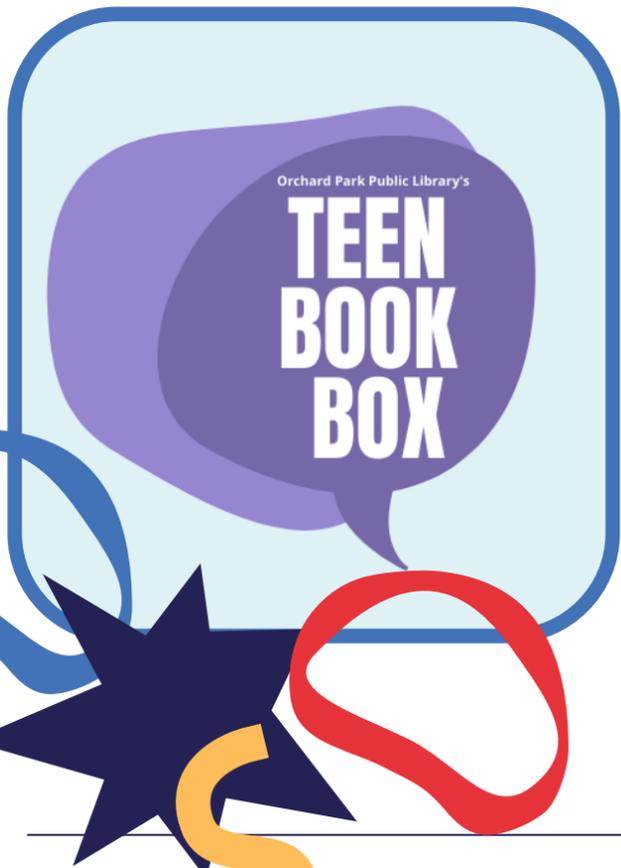
The Advisory Group is for teens ages 13-17 and will help plan and execute programs, provide insight into how best to serve OPK teens, and take on an active leadership role in the Library! This is a great opportunity to meet new people and build leadership skills.

Our group met for the first time at the end of September and spent the hour meeting getting to know each other and brainstorming what kinds of things our TAG can work on!

Our next meeting is **Monday, October 11th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.** Call us (662-9851) or visit us at the Library to sign up!



Teen Book Boxes!



Another round of Teen Book Boxes is in the works for an OCTOBER pickup date! If you haven't done our Book Box program before it's simple! Ever heard of subscription services like "OwlCrate" or "Book of the Month?" Our Book Boxes are a lot like that... but FREE!

Each box is full of library books hand-picked for you and packaged up with snacks and other surprises! Return the box and the books after four weeks, but keep everything else!

If you're interested in signing up for the next round, stop in to the library to sign up in person OR visit the

Google signup at: <https://forms.gle/2tSyrwa1a9NRRH119>

Sign up NOW through October 8th!

Banned Books Week September 26 - October 2

Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. It spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools. It brings together the entire book community in shared support of the freedom to see and express ideas.

In 2020, 273 books were affected by censorship attempts. Books have the ability to reach across boundaries and bring connections between readers. Censorship, on the other hand, divides us and creates barriers.



Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2020

The American Library Association tracked 156 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2020. A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials or services based on content. Overall, 273 books were targeted. Here are the "Top 10 Most Challenged Books in 2020," along with the reasons cited for censoring the books:

- 1. GEORGE** by Alex Gino
Challenged, banned, and restricted for LGBTQIA+ content, conflicting with a religious viewpoint, and not reflecting "the values of our community"
- 2. Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds
Banned and challenged because of author's public statements, and because of claims that the book contains "selective storytelling incidents" and does not encompass racism against all people
- 3. All American Boys** by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
Banned and challenged for profanity, drug use, and alcoholism, and because it was thought to promote anti-police views, contain divisive topics, and be "too much of a sensitive matter right now"
- 4. Speak** by Laurie R. King
Banned, challenged, and restricted because it was thought to contain a political viewpoint and it was claimed to be biased against male students, and for the novel's inclusion of rape and profanity
- 5. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie
Banned and challenged for profanity, sexual references, and allegations of sexual misconduct by the author
- 6. Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story About Racial Injustice** by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins, and Ann Hazzard, illustrated by Jennifer Zivoin
Challenged for "divisive language" and because it was thought to promote anti-police views
- 7. To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee
Banned and challenged for racial slurs and their negative effect on students, featuring a "white savior" character, and its perception of the Black experience
- 8. Of Mice and Men** by John Steinbeck
Banned and challenged for racial slurs and racist stereotypes, and their negative effect on students
- 9. The Bluest Eye** by Toni Morrison
Banned and challenged because it was considered sexually explicit and depicts child sexual abuse
- 10. The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas
Challenged for profanity, and it was thought to promote an anti-police message

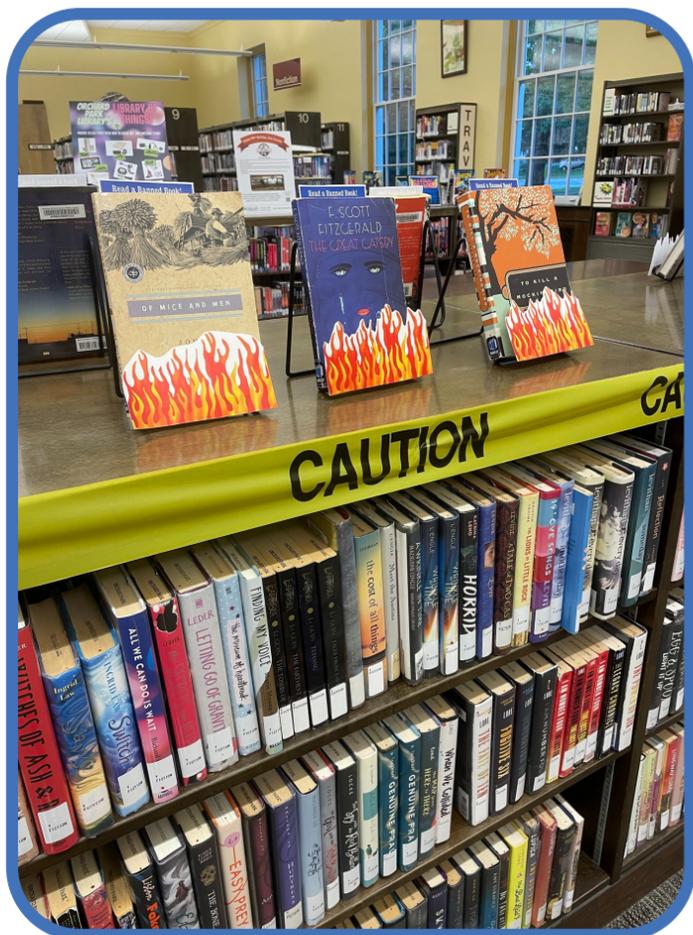
OFFICE FOR Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association



New YA Display!

A new display went up in the YA area this month to celebrate Banned Books Week! We covered a shelf with CAUTION tape and selected some of the books that faced challenges within the last year.

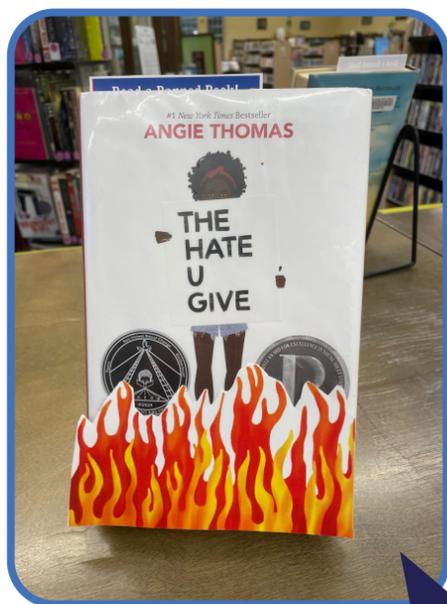
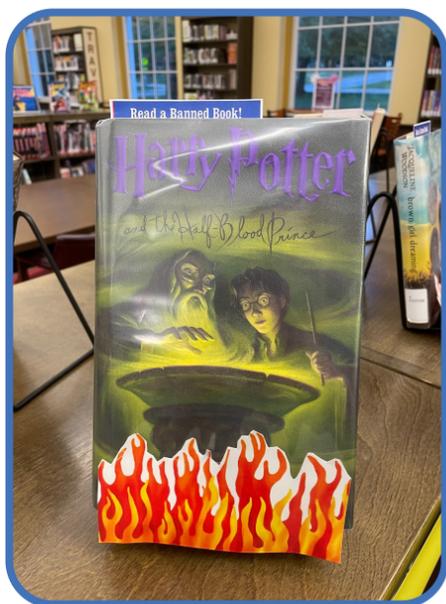
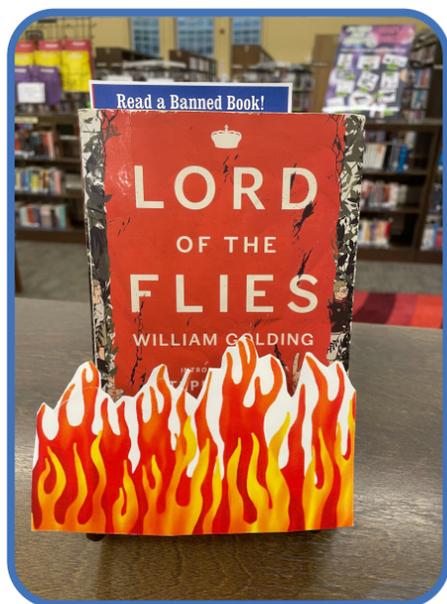
Stop in to the library to check out which books we've featured. Some of the books might surprise you! Have you read any of them?



The new YA display!



Have you read any of these books?



New September YA Books!

Place holds on these upcoming titles online or by calling or visiting the library!

What Once Was Mine – Liz Braswell

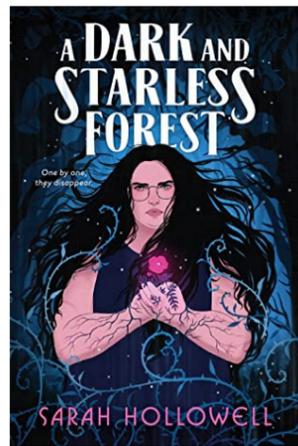


The 12th installment in the Twisted Tales series asks: What if Rapunzel's mother drank a potion from the wrong flower?

Desperate to save the life of their queen and her unborn child, the good people of Corona search for the all-healing Sundrop flower to cure her – but mistakenly acquire the shimmering Moondrop flower instead. It heals the queen, but her daughter is born with dangerous magical powers: the power to hurt, not heal. For her safety and the safety of the kingdom, Rapunzel is locked in a tower and put under the care of powerful goodwife.

A Dark and Starless Forest – Sarah Hollowell

Derry and her eight siblings live in an isolated house by the lake, separated from the rest of the world by an eerie and menacing forest. Frank, the man who raised them after their families abandoned them, says it's for their own good. After all, the world isn't safe for people with magic. And Derry feels safe—most of the time.

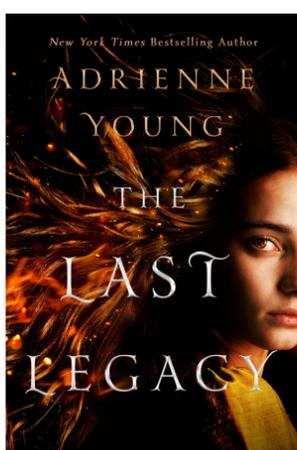


Until the night her eldest sister disappears. And then another. And another.

When Frank's true colors start to show, Derry decides that she will risk anything to protect the family she has left.

The Last Legacy – Adrienne Young

When a letter from her uncle Henrik arrives on Bryn Roth's eighteenth birthday, summoning her back to Bastian, Bryn is eager to prove herself and finally take her place in her long-lost family.



It doesn't take long for her to see that the Roths are entangled in shadows. Despite their growing influence in upscale Bastian, their hands are still in the kind of dirty business that got Bryn's parents killed years ago.

Hello (from Here) – Chandler Baker & Wesley King

Maxine and Jonah bump into each other in the canned goods aisle of the grocery store just as the state of California is going into lockdown, when everything changes completely. Could there be a worse time to meet? Max's part-time job at a supermarket is about to transform into a hellish gauntlet. Jonah's preexisting anxiety is about to become an epic daily struggle. Hello (From Here) looks at the first two months of the quarantine and adds falling in love to the mess.

