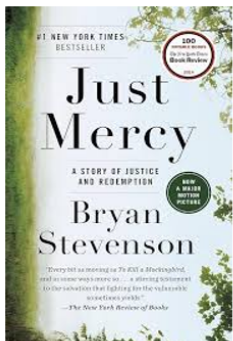


Junior Summer Reading Choices



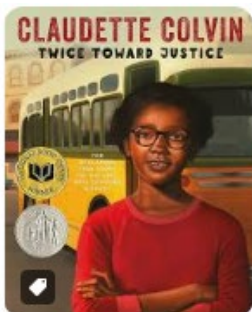
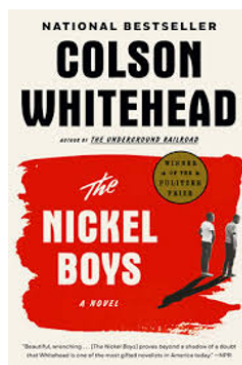
1. Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson

An unforgettable true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us and a clarion call to end mass incarceration in America – from one of the most inspiring lawyers of our time.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a nonprofit law office in Montgomery, Alabama, dedicated to defending the poor, the incarcerated, and the wrongly condemned.

2. Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

Elwood Curtis has taken the words of Dr Martin Luther King to heart: he is as good as anyone. Abandoned by his parents and brought up by his loving, strict, and clear-sighted grandmother, Elwood is about to enroll in the local black college. But given the time and the place, one innocent mistake is enough to destroy his future, and so Elwood arrives at The Nickel Academy, which claims to provide 'physical, intellectual and moral training' that will equip its inmates to become 'honorable and honest men.'



3. Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose

The true story of 15-year-old Claudette Colvin, a smart and inquisitive teenager who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama during 1955.

OPTIONS:

1. Select one of the books above and check out from the PMSA bookroom during Final Exam Week on MON-WED between the hours of 11:45am-1:45pm.

OR

2. Select a book from the 2024 *Abe Lincoln Award List by [CLICKING HERE](#). Click on the thumbnail picture of the book to read a synopsis of the plot. There are 20 titles to choose from - you can check out a free copy through your public library or by purchasing one at a book store or online.

*The *Abe Lincoln Annual Award List is comprised of the Top 20 books voted most outstanding by student in grades 9-12 in participating Illinois schools.*