

Cape Elizabeth High School Library
Recommended Books for the College Bound
2007-08 School Year

The library owns one copy of each title listed below. Do not hesitate to borrow a few! Please see Mrs. Bell, the librarian, for book suggestions or assistance in locating titles.

Enduring Classics

These titles have appeared most frequently on the ALA’s Young Adult Library Services Association’s *Outstanding Books for the College Bound* lists from 1959 to 2004. As the editors note, “...these books have acquired a patina that only enhances their value to the reader. Most are found on other recommended reading lists. They are made into movies and television shows. They are cussed and discussed in literary essays and reviews, classrooms, book discussion groups, and among friends and scholars.”

Author	Title	Annotation
Austen, Jane	Pride and Prejudice. 1813	The romances of the Bennett girls and the ardent desire of their mother to have them all well married.
Bronte, Charlotte	Jane Eyre. 1847	An unassuming English orphan becomes a governess and falls in love with her employer.
Bronte, Emily	Wuthering Heights. 1847	A story of intense and frustrated love, of hate and revenge, takes place in the wild moors of England.
Cather, Willa	My Antonia. 1918	A Bohemian immigrant girl faces hardships in pioneer Nebraska.
Cervantes, Miguel del Saavedra	Don Quixote de la Mancha. 1605	The adventures of a mad Spaniard who imagines he lives in the age of heroic knights.
Chekhov, Anton	Cherry Orchard: A Comedy in Four Acts. 1904	The ineffectual Ranevskys exemplify the passing of the Russian aristocracy.
Conrad, Joseph	Lord Jim. 1900	A man attempts to live with himself after an act of cowardice.
Crane, Stephen	The Red Badge of Courage. 1885	A boy moves from cowardice to courage in the Civil War.
Curie, Eve	Madame Curie: A Biography. 1937	In sharing personal papers and her own memories, a daughter pays tribute to her unique and generous mother, a scientific genius.
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor	Crime and Punishment. 1866	A sensitive intellectual is driven by poverty to believe himself exempt from moral law.
Fitzgerald, F. Scott	The Great Gatsby. 1925	Lives of wealthy persons in the New York area during the “roaring twenties” are carefully portrayed.
Frank, Anne	Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl. 1952	Through the diary she kept while in hiding, thirteen-year-old Anne Frank puts a human face on the Holocaust experience.
Golding, William	Lord of the Flies. 1954	Innocence ends and savagery begins when English school boys are marooned on an ocean island and they attempt to set up a society of their own.

Hart, Moss	Act One: An Autobiography. 1955	The author's life up to his first successful play gives the reader many funny and touching moments in the world of theater.
Hawthorne, Nathaniel	The Scarlet Letter. 1850	Hester Prynne and her lover feel the effects of sin in Puritan New England.
Hesse, Hermann	Siddhartha. 1951	Emerging from a kaleidoscope of experiences and tasted pleasures, Siddhartha transcends to a state of peace and mystic holiness in this strangely simple story.
Jenkins, Elizabeth	Elizabeth the Great. 1959	A personal history of England's most fascinating queen.
Keller, Helen	The Story of My Life. 1902	Overcoming deafness and blindness to become an outstanding citizen, Helen Keller embodies courage, passion, and perseverance.
Kennedy, John F.	Profiles in Courage. 1956	Profiles of eight U.S. congressmen who risk political oblivion because their moral principles are stronger than their ambitions.
Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird. 1960	A young girl tells of life in a small Alabama town in the 1930s and her father's defense in court of an African American accused of raping a white woman.
Maugham, William Somerset	Of Human Bondage. 1915	A young man searches for a way of life.
McCullers, Carson	The Member of the Wedding. 1946	A young southern girl is determined to be the third party on a honeymoon, despite all advice.
Melville, Herman	Moby Dick. 1851	Sea captain vows revenge on the white whale that caused him to lose his leg.
Morison, Samuel Eliot	Christopher Columbus, Mariner. 1955	Columbus's life and voyages are vividly re-created in this lively narrative.
Orwell, George	Animal Farm. 1945	A satire on communism and the totalitarian state.
Paton, Alan	Cry, the Beloved Country. 1948	The personal tragedy of a humble Zulu parson seeking his son and sister in Johannesburg.
Pepys, Samuel	Diary of Samuel Pepys. 1825	The day-to-day life of a man active in the affairs of London in the 1600s.
Poe, Edgar Allen	Collected works in various editions	Terrifying and chilling tales.
Remarque, Erich Maria	All Quiet on the Western Front.	Through the eyes and mind of a German private, the reader shares life on the battlefield during World War I.
Salinger, J.D.	The Catcher in the Rye. 1951	A ribald, hilarious, and touching tale of a sixteen-year-old's wanderings in New York for three days after he is dropped from his school.
Shakespeare, William	Hamlet. Early 1600s	This tale of the immortal Prince of Denmark delves deeply into the complexities of the human soul as it recounts Hamlet's tragic struggle to avenge his father's death.
Shakespeare, William	Macbeth. Early 1600s	This tragedy tells of a power-hungry Scottish nobleman and his lady, and the price they pay for violently seizing the royal throne.
Shakespeare, William	Romeo and Juliet. Early 1600s	This lyrical tragedy of two star-crossed lovers and their feuding families is one of the world's most famous love stories.
Sheridan, Richard B.	School for Scandal. 1777	Wit rivals sincerity and hypocrisy rivals true love as Lady Sneerwell, Sir Benjamin Backbite, and Mrs. Candor get their just desserts.

Solzhenitsyn, Alexander	One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich. 1963	An inmate lives one day at a time in a Siberian prison camp.
Steinbeck, John	The Grapes of Wrath. 1939	An Oklahoma farmer and his family leave the Dust Bowl during the Great Depression to go to the promised land of California.
Stone, Irving	Clarence Darrow for the Defense. 1941	This famous lawyer fought not only for mercy and justice but also for social reform.
Tolkien, J.R.R.	Lord of the Rings. 1965	Frodo, a young hobbit, descends to the depths of Middle Earth to keep the magic ring from falling into evil hands.
Tolstoy, Leo	War and Peace. 1869	When Napoleon invades Russia, characters both real and fictional find their lives changed.
Twain, Mark	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. 1884	A Missouri boy tells of adventure on the Mississippi.
Wilde, Oscar	The Importance of Being Earnest. 1895	Can a baby, abandoned in Victoria Station, grow up to find love, romance, identity, and the importance of being earnest?
Williams, Tennessee	The Glass Menagerie. 1945	A brother is haunted by the memory of his teenage sister who takes refuge from the world in her collection of glass animal figurines.

Modern Classics

Published between 1991 and 2004, this list reflects some of the outstanding books as identified by the Young Adult Library Services Assn, a division of the American Library Assn. Each school year, this section of our book list will change because we would like to introduce more modern titles.

Author	Title	Annotation
Albom, Mitch	Tuesdays With Morrie. 1997	Mitch Albom's Tuesday night visits with his dying sociology professor, Morrie, offer valuable lessons about the art of living and dying with dignity.
Allison, Dorothy	Bastard Out of Carolina. 1992	Bone confronts poverty, the troubled marriage of her mother and stepfather, and the stigma of being considered "white trash" as she comes of age in South Carolina.
Angelou, Maya	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings. 1970	An African American writer, poet, and actress traces her coming of age.
Arnason, H.H. and Marla F. Prather	History of Modern Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture and Photography. 1986	By tracing contemporary art and architecture through the mid-1980s, Arnason and Prather uncover the varied stories of our modern artistic roots.
Atwood, Margaret	The Handmaid's Tale. 1985	In Gilead, a Christian fundamentalist dystopia, fertile lower-class women serve as birthmothers for the upper class.
Bradbury, Ray	Fahrenheit 451. 1953	Books are for burning in this future society in which thinking and reading are crimes.

Bronte, Charlotte	Jane Eyre. 1847	An unassuming English orphan becomes a governess and falls in love with her employer.
Brown, Dee	Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee. 1971	There's another side of America's western expansion: the one seen through Native American eyes.
Bryson, Bill	A Short History of Nearly Everything. 2003	A renowned travel writer brings complex scientific concepts to life by describing how the universe and life as we know it came to be.
Camus, Albert	The Stranger. 1859	An ordinary little clerk lives quietly and unemotionally until he becomes involved in another man's passions, commits an absurd murder, and is sentenced to death.
Carroll, Andrew	War Letters: Extraordinary Correspondence from American Wars. 2001	The Legacy Project preserves the voices of soldiers and statesmen who lived through violent times that changed the course of nations. Listen to their stories in their words—they will inform and inspire you.
Carson, Rachel	Silent Spring. 1964	This landmark book gave birth to the environmental movement.
Dickens, Charles	Great Expectations. 1861	The hero Pip, reared by humble relatives, is informed he is to be made a gentleman of "great expectations" by a mysterious unknown patron.
Dickinson	Poems	In love with words, in love with brevity, Emily Dickinson's poems are like her life—enigmatic, intensely felt, and unforgettable.
Ehrenreich, Barbara	Nickel and Dimed. 2001	Can you really survive on minimum wage? To find out, the author left her middle-class life for a year to see what life is really like for America's working poor.
Ellis, Joseph	Founding Brothers. 2000	What seems like a foregone conclusion—the founding of the United States—was anything but. Six dramatic vignettes reveal the men behind the events of the most decisive decade in American history.
Ellison, Ralph	Invisible Man. 1952	A young African American seeking identity during his high school and college days, and later in New York's Harlem, relates his terrifying experiences.
Frazier, Charles	Cold Mountain. 1997	Inman, a wounded Civil War soldier, endures the elements, The Guard, and his own weakness and infirmity to return to his sweetheart, Ada, who is fighting her own battle to survive while farming the mountainous North Carolina terrain.
Haddon, Mark	Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time. 2003	Christopher has two mysteries to solve: who killed Wellington the dog, and what happened to his mother. But Christopher, who has Asperger Syndrome, a form of autism, approaches these mysteries and the world itself in a unique and special way.
Hawking, Stephen	A Brief History of Time. 1988	Cosmology becomes understandable as the author discusses the origin, evolution, and fate of our universe.
Heller, Joseph	Catch 22. 1961	In this satirical novel, Captain Yossarian confronts the hypocrisy of war and bureaucracy as he frantically attempts to survive.

Hersey, John	Hiroshima. 1946	Six Hiroshima survivors reflect on the aftermath of the first atomic bomb.
Huxley, Aldous	Brave New World. 1932	In a chilling vision of the future, babies are produced in bottles and exist in a mechanized world without soul.
Ibsen, Henrik	A Doll's House. 1889	Nora, one of feminism's great heroines, steps off her pedestal and encounters the real world.
King, Ross	Brunelleschi's Dome. 2000	In this vivid re-creation of the political and artistic milieu of fifteenth-century Florence, an audacious architect achieves the impossible, and makes possible modern building.
Lambrecht, Bill	Dinner at the New Gene Café. 2001	Lambrecht traces the scientific and political controversies surrounding the use of genetically modified organisms and the food we eat.
Lamott, Anne	Bird By Bird: Some Instructions On Writing and Life. 1995	Advice to the fledgling writer: "Just take it bird by bird." A gentle, anecdotal guide for beginning authors.
Latifa (pseudo.)	My Forbidden Face: Growing Up Under the Taliban. 2002.	Sixteen-year-old Latifa dreamed of becoming a professional journalist until the Taliban's repression of women changed her life.
Le Guin, Ursula	Left Hand of Darkness. 1969	First envoy to the technologically primitive world of Winter, Al must deal with a hostile climate, a suspicious bickering government, and his own conventional sexual mores.
Malcolm X (as told to Alex Haley)	Autobiography of Malcolm X. 1965	A great and controversial Black Muslim figure relates his transformation from street hustler to religious and national leader.
Massie, Robert K.	Nicholas and Alexandra. 1967	At the brink of revolution, the last tsar of Russia and his family become victims of their own mismanagement and personal problems.
McCourt, Frank	Angela's Ashes. 1996	Illness, hunger, alcoholism, and death plague McCourt's childhood in Ireland, but somehow he survives with his spirit intact.
McCullough, David	Truman. 1992	This notable president earned America's respect by helping to end World War II and reshape the world for postwar peace.
Miller, Arthur	Death of a Salesman. 1949	When an ordinary man faces his failure as husband, father, and human being, the only solution he sees is suicide.
Morrison, Toni	Beloved. 1987	Preferring death over slavery for her children, Sethe murders her infant daughter who later mysteriously returns and almost destroys the lives of her mother and sister.
O'Brien, Tim	The Things They Carried. 1998	These stories follow Tim O'Brien's platoon of American soldiers through a variety of personal and military encounters during the Vietnam War.
O'Connor, Flannery	Everything That Rises Must Converge. 1965	Stories about misfits in small southern towns force the reader to confront hypocrisy and complacency.
Oliver, Mary	New Selected Poems	Pulitzer Prize-winning poet presents a smorgasbord of her poems, composed and published over the last three decades, about life, death, and humanity's

		relationship to the natural world.
Pullman, Philip	The Golden Compass. 1996	Lyra Belacqua, a young girl living in an alternative Oxford, and her daimon, Pantalaimon, set out to find her kidnapped playmate and uncover a sinister plot. Now Lyra must use her special powers to thwart evil and redeem the world.
Rodriguez, Luis J.	Always Running: La Vida Loca; Gang Days in L.A. 1993	Rodriguez tells the story of his life in a Los Angeles gang and his later experiences as a Chicano activist.
Rogasky, Barbara	Smoke and Ashes. 2002	Some of history's darkest days are examined in this new look at the horror and humanity of the Holocaust and its aftermath.
Sartre, Jean-Paul	No Exit. 1944	In this existential drama, we learn that Hell is other people.
Schlosser, Eric	Fast Food Nation. 2001	The growth of the fast food industry has changed America's eating habits and greatly impacted agriculture, the meatpacking industry, the minimum wage, and other aspects of American life.
Shaara, Michael	The Killer Angels. 1974	Officers and foot soldiers from both the Union and Confederacy steel themselves for the bloody Battle of Gettysburg.
Sheehan, Neil	A Bright Shining Lie. 1989	A soldier exposes the corruption undermining the American war effort in Vietnam.
Steinbeck, John	Of Mice and Men. 1937	When he accidentally kills a woman, Lennie, a retarded migrant worker, is protected by his friend George.
Thomas, Lewis	The Lives of a Cell. 1974	These essays offer an optimistic scientist's view of a wide variety of subjects.
Vonnegut, Kurt	Slaughterhouse Five. 1969	Billy Pilgrim, an optometrist from Ilium, New York, shuttles between the cellars of Dresden smoldering from Allied bombardment and a luxurious zoo on the planet Tralfamadore.
Walker, Alice	The Color Purple. 1982	In a series of letters to God and her sister, Celie reveals her struggle to overcome the violence and brutality in her life.
Williams, Juan	Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years. 1987	From <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> to the Voting Rights Act, Williams outlines the social and political gains of African Americans.
Wolff, Tobias	This Boy's Life. 1989	In and out of trouble in his youth, this charter member of the "Bad Boy's Club" survives a boyhood that stretches from Florida to the Pacific Northwest.
Wright, Richard	Black Boy: A Record of Childhood and Youth. 1945	Wright recalls his pre-World War II youth when racial and personal obstacles seemed insurmountable.
Yolen, Jane, ed.	Favorite Folktales From Around the World. 1986	This collection of international folktales provides an understanding of the roots of diverse cultures.