

# Summer Reading 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Every incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grader must read Drums Girls and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick.

The additional books on this list are SUGGESTED further reading options. Students should consult Ms. Ciofalo, ELA teachers, and the public librarians for guidance in choosing summer reading.

## Drums Girls and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick



Thirteen-year-old Steven has a totally normal life: he plays drums in the All-Star Jazz band, has a crush on the hottest girl in the school, and is constantly annoyed by his five-year-old brother, Jeffrey. But when Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven's world is turned upside down. He is forced to deal with his brother's illness and his parents' attempts to keep the family in one piece. Salted with humor and peppered with devastating realities, DRUMS, GIRLS, AND DANGEROUS PIE is a heart warming journey through a year in the life of a family in crisis. (From the publisher)

## Suggested Reading:



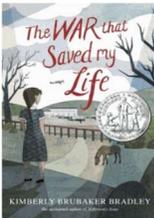
### Refugee by Alan Gratz

Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence and destruction, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together (From the publisher)



### Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry (or any book in The Giver Quartet)

Lame and suddenly orphaned, Kira is mysteriously removed from her squalid village to live in the palatial Council Edifice, where she is expected to use her gifts as a weaver to do the bidding of the all-powerful Guardians. (from the catalog)



### The War that Saved my Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.(from the catalog)

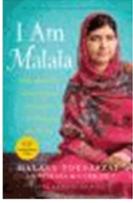


### To all the Boys I've Loved Before by Jenny Han.

Lara Jean writes love letters to all the boys she has loved and then hides them in a hatbox until one day those letters are accidentally sent (from the publisher)

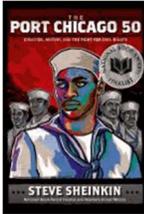
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## Additional Reading Suggestions-Non-Fiction



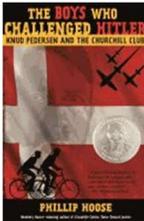
### **I am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World**

Malala Yousafzai's describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her. (from the catalog)



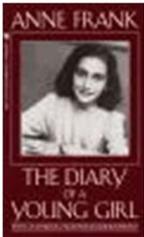
### **Port Chicago 50 by Steve Sheinkin**

Describes the fifty black sailors who refused to work in unsafe and unfair conditions after an explosion in Port Chicago killed 320 servicemen, and how the incident influenced civil rights. (from the catalog)



### **The boys who challenged Hitler : Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club** by Phillip Hoose

Tells the story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark after the Nazi invasion during World War II. (from the catalog)



### **Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank**

A thirteen-year-old Dutch-Jewish girl records her impressions of the two years she and seven others spent hiding from the Nazis before they were discovered and taken to concentration camp. (from the catalog)