

Adrift by Paul Griffin (Adventure/Surival)



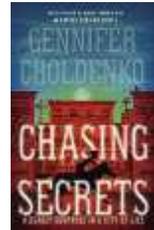
Working in Montauk for the summer, Matt and Mike meet three girls who invite them to their Hamptons mansion, where the group decides to set sail out into the ocean in a small boat, become lost at sea, and must learn to work together to survive.

Beneath by Roland Smith (Adventure)

Pat O’Toole has always idolized his older brother, Coop, right up until the day Coop ran away from their home just outside Washington, D.C. Now a year later he has received a package containing a digital voice recorder and a cryptic message from his brother, which will lead Pat on a strange and dangerous journey to the mysterious Community living beneath the streets of New York.



Chasing Secrets by Gennefer Choldenko (Historical Mystery)



Thirteen-year old Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who is hiding in her house, plan to rescue Noah’s father from the quarantined Chinatown, and save everyone they love from contracting the plague that is spreading in 1900 San Francisco.

The Chosen Prince by Diane Stanley (Historical Fantasy)

Prince Alexos, the long-awaited champion of the goddess Athene, follows the course of his destiny through war and loss and a deadly confrontation with his enemy to its end: shipwreck on a magical, fog-shrouded island. There he meets the unforgettable Aria and faces the greatest challenge of his life. Based loosely on Shakespeare’s The Tempest.



Fort by Cynthia DeFelice (Realistic Fiction)



A middle-grade summer adventure about two boys who build an awesome fort and tangle with two older bullies.

Ghostlight by Sonia Gensler (Ghost Story)

A summer film project turns spooky when the setting turns out to actually be haunted.

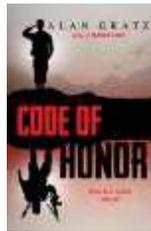


Big Top Burning: The Story of an Arsonist, a Missing Girl, and the Greatest Show on Earth by Laura A. Woollett (Narrative Nonfiction)

Draws upon primary source documents and survivor interviews to recount the story of one of the worst disasters in American history, the 1944 Hartford circus fire, which

claimed the lives of over one hundred people.

Code of Honor by Alan Gratz (Thriller & Suspense)



When Iranian-American Kamran Smith learns that his big brother, Darius, has been labelled a terrorist, he sets out to piece together the codes and clues that will save his brother’s life and his country from a deadly terrorist attack.

House Arrest by K.A. Holt (Novel in Verse)



Young Timothy is sentenced to house arrest after impulsively stealing a wallet, and he is forced to keep a journal into which he pours all his thoughts, fears, and frustrations.

Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman (Mystery)

Just after twelve-year-old Emily and her family move to San Francisco, she teams up with new friend James to follow clues in an odd book they find, hoping to figure out its secrets before the men who attacked Emily’s hero, publisher Garrison Griswold, solve the mystery or come after the friends.



Fast Break by Mike Lupica (Sports Fiction)

Since his mother’s death, Jayson, twelve, has focused on basketball and surviving but he is found out and placed with an affluent foster family of a different race and must learn to accept many changes, including facing his former teammates in a championship game.

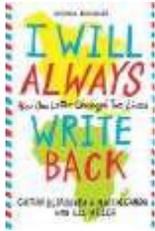


I am Princess X by Cherie Priest (Graphic Novel Hybrid Mystery)

Best friends Libby Deaton and May Harper invented Princess X when they were in fifth grade, but when the car Libby is in goes off a bridge, she is presumed dead, and the story came to an end – except now, three years later, Princess X is suddenly everywhere, with a whole underground culture focused on a webcomic, and May believes her friend must be alive.



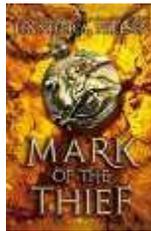
***I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives* by Caitlin Alifirenka & Martin Ganda with Liz Welch (Memoir)**



Chronicles the friendship between an American girl and her pen pal from Zimbabwe, discussing how a class assignment was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.

***Mark of the Thief* by Jennifer A. Nielsen (Historical Fantasy)**

Forced to enter a sealed cavern that reputedly holds the lost treasures of Caesar, slave boy Nic discovers an amulet imbued with divine power and finds himself at the center of a conspiracy to overthrow the emperor and spark the Praetor War.



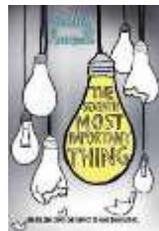
***Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson (Graphic Novel)**



A graphic novel adventure about a girl who discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend are growing apart.

***The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelley Pearsall (Historical Fiction)**

In 1963, 13-year-old Arthur is sentenced to community service helping the neighborhood Junk Man after he throws a brick at the old man's head in a moment of rage, but the junk he collects might be more important than he suspects. Inspired by the work of American folk artist James Hampton.



***Terror at Bottle Creek* by Watt Key (Adventure/Survival)**



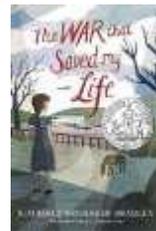
Thirteen-year-old Cort's father is a local expert on hunting and swamp lore in lower Alabama who has been teaching his son everything he knows. But when a deadly Gulf Coast hurricane makes landfall, Cort must unexpectedly put his skills and bravery to the test.

***Walk on Earth a Stranger* by Rae Carson (Historical Fantasy)**

Lee Westfall, a young woman with the magical ability to sense the presence of gold, must flee her home to avoid people who would abuse her powers, so when her best friend Jefferson heads out across Gold Rush-era America to stake his claim, she disguises herself as a boy and sets out on her own dangerous journey.



***The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Historical Fiction)**



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.

***The Worst Class Trip Ever* by Dave Barry (Humor & Suspense)**

When the eighth grade civics class of Miami's Culver Middle School goes on a trip to Washington, D.C., Wyatt Palmer finds himself in deep trouble before the plane even lands because his best friend, Matt, has decided the men sitting behind them are terrorists and it is up to the boys to stop them.



2017-18

South Carolina Junior Book Award Nominees



Students: To be eligible to vote for your favorite book, you must read at least **three** of the nominee titles. Voting takes place in February. To receive an invitation to the voting party, you must read and submit online forms for at least **five** of the nominee titles. For more information about the SCJBA program, see Mrs. Gibson.

Book summaries and images courtesy of *Novelist Plus* database: www.scdiscus.org.