






2007 *Thumbs Up!* Book Award

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE:

- Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation, Volume One: The Pox Party by MT Anderson**
This startling examination of slavery and the American Revolution tells the story of a Black Prince, chattel of wealthy Boston scientists, who is educated as an experiment. Many plots expose the young Prince's struggles and intersperse philosophic, scientific, and social issues with historical events. The book deftly portrays his gradual metamorphosis from a haughty young Prince to a man.
- Scrambled Eggs at Midnight by Brad Barkley & Heather Hepler**
Cal's life is ruled by her mother's career as a wench for renaissance fairs, and they move around the country living in tents. Eliot is questioning the sincerity of his father's faith and successful summer camp that spreads the gospel. The two meet one summer in North Carolina, where they learn about love, family and what home is.
- Pieces of Georgia by Jen Bryant**
In journal entries to her deceased mother, Georgia reluctantly begins to write about her life. She prefers to draw, and her life changes when she receives the anonymous gift of a membership to the local art museum.
- Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist by Rachel Cohn & David Levithan**
Nick, trying to avoid his ex-girlfriend Triss, asks Norah to be his five-minute girlfriend. The following twenty-four hours include adventures neither of them will forget. Told from the perspectives of both Nick and Norah, this story will keep you on edge till the end.
- Just Listen by Sarah Dessen**
With a former best friend at school, her family ignoring her older sister's eating disorder and a mom who wants her to keep modeling, Annabel is not looking forward to her junior year. With help from loner Owen, Annabel starts listening and starts telling the truth about her life and what happened that summer.
- Golden by Cameron Dokey**
In this fascinating new twist on an old tale, Rapunzel is born bald. Unloved for her lack of hair, Rapunzel is sent to live with a sorceress who loves her as if she were her own child. Rapunzel learns that the sorceress has her own beautiful daughter, Rue, cursed and locked away in a tower. Can Rapunzel overcome her envy and help Rue, or will she remain locked away forever?
- Copper Sun by Sharon Draper**
Born under the copper sun of West Africa, Amari loses her home, her family, and her name when raiders destroy her village and transport her across the ocean to be sold as a slave. Tied to the same master, Amari finds an unlikely friend in Polly, a white indentured servant with an equal determination to escape her station. Sharon Draper crafts a riveting tale of survival that is epic in scope and gratifying in its resolution.
- What Happened to Cass McBride by Gail Giles**
Cass McBride has always been the kind of girl who gets what she wants in any situation but she's never had to talk herself out of a situation this horrific. Kyle Kirby, who blames Cass for his brother's suicide, has taken matters into his own hands and has literally buried her alive. He talks to her through a tube he has installed and their gripping dialogue reveals some answers to the burning question—just how did these two people end up where they are?
- Saint Iggy by K.L. Going**
Iggy Corso struggles more than most high school students, but not everyone has been deserted by a druggie mother, smacked around by a stoned father, and threatened by the local dealer whose grasp strangles everyone within reach. The only thing that seems to make sense to Iggy is a random newspaper headline, blowing in the wind, "HERO SAVES CHILD FROM CRACK DEALER." Iggy knows he too must be a hero: he must salvage his life and contribute to his world.
- An Abundance of Katherines by John Green**
Colin Singleton always falls for girls named Katherine—and he's been dumped 19 times by different Katherines throughout his woeful love history. After failing to develop a mathematical formula that will predict how long his romantic relationships will last, Colin and his friend Hassan take a road trip that leads to the realization that he may be able to reinvent himself and maybe even date a girl not named Katherine.
- Rash by Pete Hautman**
In the year 2076 it's illegal to litter or verbally assault another person in the Safer States of America. Bo has five family members in jail, and due to his temper he's off to a work camp where he has to make pizzas, play the dangerous and illegal game of football, and battle the bears that live in the cold north.
- Sold by Patricia McCormick**
Thirteen year-old Lakshmi lives in Nepal on a mountainside with her mother, half-brother and stepfather. She longs for a tin roof to replace the thatch that leaks and enough food to still her hunger. When their crop is wiped out, she agrees to go to the city to be a maid and soon learns she was not hired but sold to a brothel in India from which there seems no hope of escape. A lyrical, horrifying story in which hope never dies.
- Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock**
When her father injures a hip, 15 year-old D.J. is forced to give up basketball and take over the chores on her family's Wisconsin dairy farm. Faced with a long summer, D.J. begins training the quarterback of the rival high school football team. While suppressing a crush, struggling with her family, and dealing with a failing English grade, D.J. discovers her true love of football.
- Between Mom and Jo by Julie Ann Peters**
Growing up with two very different moms hasn't been easy for Nick. But even as he recounts incidents from his past, including kids picking on him and a teacher who mislays his family portrait, it's clear that his family works. Then suddenly it doesn't. His moms split up and he's left behind with Erin, his responsible Mom. He desperately misses Jo, his fun and impulsive mom. What's a guy to do who has always had two moms to support him?
- King Dork by Frank Portman**
Tom Henderson is a typical American high school loser until he discovers the book that will change the world as he knows it. When he discovers his deceased father's copy of *The Catcher in the Rye*, he finds himself in the middle of several interlocking conspiracies and at least half a dozen mysteries involving dead people, ESP, a secret code, guitars, girls, the Crusades, a devil head, and rock and roll.
- Notes from the Midnight Driver by Jordan Sonnenblick**
Following a reckless drinking and driving episode in which a garden gnome is decapitated, 16 year old Alex faces the judge. Alex's punishment is 100 hours of community service at a local Nursing Home. His assignment is an irritable old man, Sol Lewis, who despite a rocky start to their relationship teaches Alex about facing responsibility and the meaning of life and death.
- It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini**
When Craig succeeds in getting accepted to Manhattan's Executive Pre-Professional High School the stress and his depression gets so bad he almost kills himself. Craig checks himself into a mental hospital with patients that include both teens and adults where he can finally face his anxiety and make some new friends along the way. It's kind of a funny story.
- Skin by Adrienne Maria Vrettos**
During his eighth-grade year, Donnie's 16 year-old sister struggles with an eating disorder, his ineffectual parents begin a trial separation, his friends turn against him, and he wonders if he has become invisible to everyone.
- The Storm Thief by Chris Wooding**
The city of Orokos has stood untouched on a rocky island for so long that history has forgotten it. Its inhabitants no longer question what exists beyond its walls and are plagued by probability storms, bringing chaos to everything in their path until a boy, a girl and a golem of metal and flesh make a discovery that might change their world for ever.
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**
The Graveyard Book is the first book that title character Liesel steals, and there is a witness: Death. Death is fascinated with Liesel and can't resist shadowing her as she moves through her life. While Death collects the souls of the victims of World War II, Liesel steals books, which sustain her as she experiences fear and deprivation along with her foster parents and the inhabitants of Molching.

TEENS

Read all the books (or as many as you want) and select the ONE that you think is best. After you make your choice, return your ballot to:

-  Your school or public librarian
-  Email to: aeheidemann@gmail.com
-  Fold this ballot and mail using \$.39 postage

Librarians

You are free to make as many copies of this ballot as you need. Mail the TOTAL number of votes for EACH title to the address below OR email to aeheidemann@gmail.com

ALL VOTES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 25, 2007

The ***Thumbs Up!*** Award was established in 1986 to recognize the excellence in, and to celebrate the uniqueness of, Young Adult Literature. A committee, consisting of Young Adult and Teen Librarians, meets several times during the year to determine the winner. Winners are selected from books published in the U.S. during the previous year.

Beginning in 2001, the ***Thumbs Up!*** Committee has included a teen vote. Teens who are 12 to 18 years old are asked to help select the 2007 ***Thumbs Up!*** winner. The list of titles has been narrowed to twenty.

Teen Services Division
Michigan Library Association
www.mla.lib.mi.us
517.394.2774

PAST WINNERS

- 2006** *SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE* — David Lubar
- 2005** *AIRBORN* — Kenneth Oppel
- 2004** *PIRATES!* — Celia Rees
- 2003** *AMERICA* — E. R. Frank
- 2002** *YOU DON'T KNOW ME* — David Klass
- 2001** *HOPE WAS HERE* — Joan Bauer
- 2000** *HARD LOVE* — Ellen Wittlinger
- 1999** *A DOOR NEAR HERE* — Heather Quarles
- 1998** *DOING TIME* — Rob Thomas
- 1997** *MR. WAS* — Pete Hautman
- 1996** *ONLY ALIEN ON THE PLANET* — Kristen Randle
- 1995** *THE RAMSAY SCALLOP* — Frances Temple
- 1994** *MAKE LEMONADE* — Virginia Euwer Wolff
- 1993** *SOMEWHERE IN THE DARKNESS* — Walter Dean Myers
- 1992** *ATHLETIC SHORTS* — Chris Crutcher
- 1991** *ROAD TO MEMPHIS* — Mildred Taylor
- 1990** *PHOENIX RISING* — Cynthia Grant
- 1989** *SEX EDUCATION* — Jenny Davis
- 1988** *YEAR OF THE GOPHER* — Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- 1987** *FLIGHT OF THE CASSOWARY* — John LaVert

First class
postage of
\$.39
required

THUMBS UP! BOOK AWARD
c/o Anne Heidemann
Canton Public Library
1200 S. Canton Center Rd.
Canton, MI 48187