

## **Public Service Pathway Summer Reading Log and Journal Entries**

### **Rationale:**

The purpose of the Summer Reading Log & Journal is to support you in reading over the summer. Reading over the summer is key to building your academic skills and content knowledge. The ideas and themes that come up in the book would all make for excellent topics of inquiry and study in the Public Service Pathway and you can use the work from the summer assignment in future assignments, like Junior Investigation and Senior Defense.

### **Directions:**

- Choose one of the books on the book list
- Each time you read, make an entry on the summer reading log (use the attached form)
- Read the entire book
- Write 6 Journal Entries
  - Your entries must come from a variety of places in the book (e.g. not all from the beginning)
  - Each Journal Entry needs to be at least one half of a page to get full credit
  - Title each Journal Entry with the name of the Journal Entry Topic you chose (see list below)
  - Choose a different topic each time you make an entry. You don't have to go in order.
- Your completed Reading Log and Journal are due on the first day of school (August 19th)

### **Journal Entry Topics for Fiction**

1. Character: Describe in detail your favorite character in the book. What do they look like? What is their personality like? Why is he/she your favorite character?
2. Conflict: What is/are the main conflict(s) in the book? What is the main problem or challenge that presents itself to the characters? Are the conflicts mainly internal (Inside the characters' heads) or external (forces outside of the characters' heads)? How do you think it/they will be resolved?
3. Structure: Describe the narrative structure of the book. Is there just one story line that presents itself chronologically? Are there parallel story lines happening simultaneously? Does the author use flashback or flash-forward? How does the narrative structure impact the experience of reading the book?
4. Theme: Are any major themes emerging as you read the book? What seems to be the author's message about these themes? What seems to be the author's view on life, love, friendship, family, or any other major issue? How do you know?
5. Reading Experience: How are you enjoying the book? What specific things do you like or not like about the book? Is it difficult to understand, or is it maybe too easy? What do you do when you don't understand something you've read? Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?
6. Quote Analysis: Choose a quote or short passage from your book that is important or particularly beautiful or meaningful. Copy it into your journal entry and analyze it. Why did you choose this piece of text? What does this quote reveal about a character or theme of the book? Why do you think it's meaningful or beautiful?

### **Journal Entry Topics for Non-fiction**

1. Facts/Events: Choose one fact/event that was new or surprising or particularly interesting to you and copy down a quote or passage in your journal. Explain the fact/event, discuss why it's important, and share relevant personal opinions.
2. Author's Claim: What is a claim the author is making, if any? What evidence do they use? Do they support their claim effectively? Why or why not?
3. Text Connections: Make detailed connections between something you read in this text with something else you have read, seen, or experienced. Can you compare or contrast? How do the two build on or undermine one another?
4. Structure: Describe the structure of what you read. How was the information organized? In what ways other than just text was information represented? What effect did this organization have on you as a reader?
5. Reading Experience: How are you enjoying the book? What specific things do you like or not like about the book? Is it difficult to understand, or is it maybe too easy? What do you do when you don't understand something you've read? Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?
6. Your Claim: Make your own claim about the facts or events depicted in the text. Support your claim with evidence from the text (and add other evidence if you have it).

## **BOOK LIST**

### **Fiction**

#### ***All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds**

Rashad was attacked by a white police officer at a convenience store and Quinn saw the whole thing. As community outrage builds, two teens-- one black and one white-- must each make difficult choices.

#### ***American Street* by Ibi Aanu Zobo**

When her mother is detained by immigration, Haitian-born Fabiola begins a new life in Detroit that doesn't resemble her American Dream. This debut novel incorporates magical realism into a contemporary urban tale.

#### ***Dreamland Burning* by Jennifer Latham**

After a skeleton is found on her family's property, Rowan investigates the murder of William, a teen involved in the 1921 Tulsa race riot.

#### ***Fat Angie* by e. E. Charlton-Trujillo**

After years of torment by bullies at school, it feels like nothing will ever get better for "Fat Angie," but everything changes when new girl K.C. moves to town.

#### ***More Happy Than Not* by Adam Silvera**

After a difficult life in the Bronx projects, Aaron Soto considers the Leteo Institute's memory-alteration procedure when his new friendship with Thomas turns to unrequited love.

#### ***The Sun Is Also A Star* by Nicola Yoon**

In this timely romance, New Yorkers Natasha and Daniel fall in love in one eventful day. Natasha desperately tries to prevent her parents from being deported to Jamaica while Daniel struggles with his Korean family's lofty expectations as he applies to med school.

#### ***This Side Of Home* by Renée Watson**

Twin sisters Maya and Nikki think they have it all figured out, but gentrification has begun to change their historically black neighborhood, and with it, their relationship.

#### ***Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds**

Fifteen-year-old Will's big brother has been shot and killed. According to the rules that Will has been taught, it is now his job to kill the person responsible. He easily finds his brother's gun and gets on the elevator to head down from his eighth-floor apartment. But it's a long way down to the ground floor. At each floor, a different person gets on to tell a story. Each of these people is already dead.

#### ***Gabby, A Girl In Pieces* by Isabel Quintero**

Latina poet Gabi Hernandez chronicles her senior year in high school as she copes with her friends' personal lives, her father's meth habit and the writing that helps her forge her identity.

#### ***The Miseducation of Cameron Post* by Emily M. Danforth**

In the early 1990s, Cameron Post rebels against her conservative Montana ranch town and her family sends her to a gay conversion therapy center.

#### ***Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz**

Set in El Paso, Texas in 1987, the novel follows two Mexican-American teenagers, Aristotle "Ari" Mendoza and Dante Quintana, their friendship, and their struggles with racial and ethnic identity, sexuality, and family relationships.

### **Non-Fiction**

#### ***Fast Food Nation* by Erick Schlosser**

A non-fiction book that reveals how the fast food industry has altered the landscape of America, widened the gap between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and transformed food production throughout the world. This book changed the way millions of people think about what they eat.

#### ***Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out* by Susan Kuklin**

Six transgender and gender non-conforming teens tell their real-life stories of discovery and transformation, coupled with beautiful photographs.

***Feminism: Reinventing the F Word* by Nadia Abushanab Higgins**

Feminism is a simple word with a complicated definition. Explore the history of feminism in the U.S. from its earliest influences to the women who are still fighting for equal rights today.

***How Dare The Sun Rise* by Sandra Uwiringiyimana**

In this powerful memoir, the author relives her escape from a bloody massacre in the Democratic Republic of Congo and her experience as a young refugee in the United States. She provides a unique perspective on racism in present-day America.

***March: Book 1-3* by John Lewis**

Congressman John Lewis recounts his lifelong involvement with the civil rights movement in this 3 part graphic novel series.

***Racial Profiling: Everyday Inequality* by Alison Behnke**

Covering the history of racism in the U.S. from the time of slavery until just before President Trump's election, this book succinctly provides examples of racial profiling in law enforcement, education and business, as well as the current increase in xenophobia and Islamophobia.

***The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano* by Sonia Manzano**

Growing up in the Puerto Rican East Harlem barrio in 1969, Rosa, 14, changes her name to Evelyn and tries to be more mainstream. Then her activist abuela arrives from Puerto Rico and moves in. Abuela inspires Evelyn to join the Young Lords, the political activists who are working closely with the Black Panthers and fighting for Puerto Rican rights. But Evelyn's mama does not approve, especially when the activists occupy the neighborhood church to demand food and shelter for the poor.

***Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Malcolm X and Alex Haley**

In the searing pages of this classic autobiography, originally published in 1964, Malcolm X, the Muslim leader, firebrand, and anti-integrationist, tells the extraordinary story of his life and the growth of the Black Muslim movement.

***The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life* by Lauren Markham**

Growing up in rural El Salvador in the wake of the civil war, the United States was a distant fantasy to identical twins Ernesto and Raul Flores—until, at age seventeen, a deadly threat from the region's brutal gangs forces them to flee the only home they've ever known. In this urgent chronicle of contemporary immigration, journalist Lauren Markham follows the Flores twins as they make their way across the Rio Grande and the Texas desert, into the hands of immigration authorities, and from there to their estranged older brother in Oakland, CA.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Reading Log (Public Service)

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