



THE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE YOUNG ADULT BOOK AWARD

recognizes the most popular books among MS and HS students in Colorado. Teens nominate their favorite titles and select the winner – adults do not vote.

VOTE @ your SCHOOL or LIBRARY by JAN 8, 2010

Read a nominee ...



Tally: *I have been forced into becoming the one thing I swore never to become. I am the most*

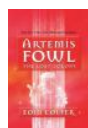
powerful being to walk these grounds. Will that former weak life return to me or will I forever stay a Special?

Read one of these Colorado Blue Spruce nominees:



Cammy: *I go to Gallagher Academy, a secret girls-only spy school. One of my friends claims that there is a spy school for boys too. She's right! and now students from Blackthorne, code name for a secret boys-only spy school, are coming to our school. This is going to be an interesting year...*

Clary: *Simon and I witnessed a gruesome murder of a daemon by Shadow Hunters. Police thought I was crazy... turns out, I can see magical creatures. I got home to discover that my mother had been taken hostage by Valentine's daemons. I have a feeling that my mother and her friend Luke have been keeping secrets from me...*



Artemis: *Well! Never thought I'd be saying this, but I owe the people something. Because they've done a lot for me, and because they are a good group of faeries and because, like it or not, I'm turning into a good guy. Now that's a scary concept isn't it?*

Katniss: *"She's a survivor, that one." That's always been said about me, I'm a survivor, tough. I can take care of myself. I think. But he's always taken care of me too. And now he's my competition. So I have a choice: I can win, prosper and lose everything; or I can lose and stay me. Because They don't own me, do they?*



Ruby: *I'm independent. I can look out for me and Mom- but now Mom's gone. I'm living with my older sister Cora, in my own room, in a fabulous new house, in a private school. But am I happy? Sometimes appearances are more than what they appear to be.*

John: *Sometimes life hits a few road bumps- job opportunities, relationships, raising a family. Some good and some bad, but you get through it all with hard work, frustration, and a little lovin' from an excited puppy. Hey, no one said it was gonna be easy...*



Alex: *OK. I've been pretty reasonable till now. I've saved the world, what, six times; been shot, jettisoned into space, almost assassinated, and now The Aussies want in on the Alex-could-you-save-the-world-for-me club? I should just walk away now -yeah, not gonna happen. So we all know I'll do it...I just don't have to be happy about it.*

Kendra: *A boring summer-Seth and me with the grandparents. Little did we know they were the secret caretakers of Fablehaven, a sanctuary for all sorts of magical creatures! And now my little brother messed it all up and released an evil witch that will destroy the sanctuary, unless we stop her...*



Max: *Ok, so now they want me to save the world from global warming. Wait, wha? I mean c'mon! I save the world from evil corporations who are bent on destroying me. Saving the world is really just a bonus. Oh well...Off we go!*

Percy: *First summer, a god comes after me. Second summer, I get attacked by sea monsters. Third summer I lose friends and now I have to go into this crazy maze to find some inventor? Annabeth's been acting strangely and Grover's weird vision things? For Poseidon's sake, I mean, where can a demigod get some peace and quiet?*



Septimus: *Great! The ghost of the first Hermetic Scribe sends me on a Quest from which no one has returned. Jenna and I have to save Nicko and Snorri who are stuck in time at the mysterious house of Foryx where all time meets...*

Connor: *This is it. I'm leaving tonight. I'm going somewhere-I don't care where. I'm going and I'm staying alive. Until I'm eighteen. Until they can't take me apart bit by bit anymore. Because I'm worth keeping! I never thought I would have to prove that.*



Featured Program

Saturday, November 14, 2009

READ, LEARN, PLAY

NATIONAL GAMING DAY

@ your library

Sat Nov 14 2-4 pm CH (L107)

Play popular board games and help set a national record! Register beginning Nov 1. 12-17

CD Review:

“Say” by John Mayer is another upbeat song; no matter how sad you’re feeling this song will always cheer you up.
-Thy Thy



“Wedding Dress” by Matt Nathanson is one of the best romantic songs that I have ever heard of. It has a great beat, and moving lyrics. The song is very similar to Lifehouse’s “You and Me”
-Thy Thy



Give Up The Ghost by Brandi Carlile is one of her best works. Featuring new and exciting music this CD would make a wonderful addition to your private library or as a gift for family. I give it 5/5
-Moorea

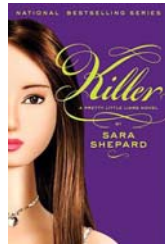


Manga Review

Chibi Vampire, originally released as **Karin** in Japan, is a manga about a vampire girl who instead of sucking blood creates it and then dispels it in tremendous nosebleeds. In this quirky manga you can put aside natural life and laugh for a while as you read about the ridiculous girl and her crush Usui and the new boy at her school. 3/5
-Moorea



Book Review



Killer, the 6th book in the Pretty Little Liars series by Sara Shepard, is a thrilling book that will keep you on edge, always wondering what will happen next. As you get caught in the thrill of the book you feel like you're doing everything with the characters, while at the same time you're telling them not to go there or do this. The book focuses on the life of 4 girls a number of years after their best friend was murdered, and they find out their being stalked by someone who signs every note that he/she sends with one simple letter; A. Although the plot can be shallow at times, Killer combines mystery with style of the upper-class life seamlessly, and with very few flaws. 4 out of 5 stars

Here there be Dragons by James A. Owen. This book was funny. Genuine, laugh out loud, innocent, humor. No Sarcasm or sardonic remarks. Just funny. This book is a pretty accurate representation of what happens when J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Williams are all thrown in together as caretakers of an imaginary, real world. It all starts when John's (J.R.R. Tolkein) mentor is murdered, and the three characters first meet. There follows a daring escape, a harrowing journey, and a fantastic battle - and Captain Nemo? This hilarious parody is well worth reading, if only for the remarks pertaining to classic literature. I recommend it for anyone looking for a great laugh and a fun ride. -Alysa



Fly on the Wall by E. Lockhart is about sixteen-year-old Gretchen Yee who goes to Manhattan High School for the Arts, where everyone strives [and succeeds] in trying to be different, but where she just feels uncomfortably ordinary. So many things just do not seem to be going her way - her parents' upcoming divorce, a distant best friend, and a crush that she has yet to act upon. Additionally, her curiosity over the seemingly mysterious male species is beyond her control, so much so that she wishes she were a Fly on the Wall of the boys' locker room; find out what happens when her wish is very graciously granted!

Well, I personally found this book to be a total weirdie... There were some parts that I just couldn't force myself to read and had to skip over [consisting of extensive descriptions of weird things...], but I am sure many of you will probably enjoy that... \:| Often I felt frustrated with Gretchen and her attitude, and I saw her as quite whiny. But her attitude gradually changed as the situations she was put in gave her new perspective. Though I deemed some areas of the book to be too embarrassing for me to read, they are minimal [also, you may safely skip over those parts; you won't miss out on the whole story]. I found *Fly on the Wall* to be largely humorous. I only wish that the author had written more after Gretchen's experience as a fly. It was a cute, fluffy story and an easy read that I finished within two hours or so. There were additionally some parts of the text that I thought were actually stirring, and that I wanted to preserve and remember forever. Not only that, but the ending was so sweet that I couldn't stop smiling for quite some time... I'd give Fly on the Wall 3.75 stars [yes, I do have to be that specific]!! -Aarti

Movie Review

TAB Recommends...

IN THEATERS Coming October...



Coming November...

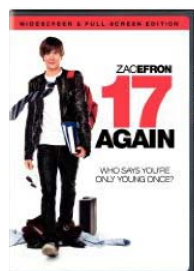
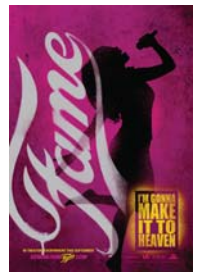


Coming December...



X-Men Origins: Wolverine failed. There's simply no other word for it. Not atrocious or gory or dull - it just... fell flat. Firstly, the plotline was convoluted, and full of errors. There were so many logistical issues, and contradictions to the accepted storyline of Wolverine (the prime example being the fact that Sabertooth is portrayed as his brother!) that I found myself asking, "Why am I watching this?" more than once. All of the characters are in and out so fast that you don't ever get to know anyone other than Wolverine and even he was a let down. The character of Wolverine was grossly underdeveloped, and although Hugh Jackman did a good acting job, he didn't have much to work with. Secondly, the way Wolverine was in the comic books, the cartoon series and the X-men movies was a complete and total opposite to the way he is portrayed in this film. In the cartoons and comics and movies Wolverine is the good guy. He cares about the people who work and fight with him. He's willing to take one for the team, and he has a code of ethics that are, if not perfect, at least something he adheres to. In this film however Wolverine has no ethics or morals. We see him work as a mercenary for the truly horrendous Colonel Stryker and vow revenge on the people who kill his girlfriend, Kayla. The third and biggest problem, I had with Wolverine is that it was so dark. Now Wolverine's story is dark, but Wolverine as a person is not. That's why everyone loves him - because all of these terrible things have happened to him. But instead of turning into a homicidal maniac like Weapon X tried to make him, he chose to be someone else, someone better. In this movie that's gone. In the end nothing changes, nothing is better. Wolverine goes against the hero mindset; the belief that no matter how bad it gets - the good guy always wins. But that doesn't happen, and in the end, you find yourself wondering if the good guy is the good guy after all.... -Alysa N

Got fame? *Fame* is about students from all over the nation bringing their musical and artistic talents to the New York City High School of Performing Arts. Remade for this generation - 4 years in this high school isn't the simplest route to take to reach your dream. Talented students who are singers, dancers, artists, and actors are accepted and all face challenging goals and decisions - choosing between a career and love; disappointing loved ones to pursue their dreams. This movie shows how determination, hard work, and love combine to achieve dreams. I thought this movie was very powerful and energetic. The Fame Soundtrack is out too, for all ears to hear. Rated: PG Rating: 5/5 -Rachel A



Add one magical transformation, a middle-aged man, and a modern high school and what do you get? *Seventeen Again!* This cute family flick was fun and funny with some real life relationship lessons. It all starts when Mike O'Donnell, a regular joe, feels his life is a failure. With the help of his spirit guide he is transformed into a seventeen-year-old boy, and goes to work "fixing" his life. However, he soon realizes that it's not his life that needs help. It's his wife and kid's. Efron played a very convincing role in this movie, proving that he can carry a role. With some open honest dialogue encouraging teen abstinence as well as some great laughs I recommend *Seventeen Again* to anyone looking for a fun time. -Alysa N

TOP 20
RESTAURANTS

Atlanta Bread Company
Chick-fil-a
Chipotle
Cinzetti's
Happy Sumo
Illegal Pete's
Noodles
Old Chicago
Olive Garden
Qdoba
Que Bueno!
Panera Bread
PF Chang's
Pho
Pizza Hut
Red Robin
Smashburger
Sushi Yumi
Taco Bell
Yak & Yeti

Teens Publish: Sites for Teen Writers

Teen Ink <http://www.TeenInk.com>

This print magazine's online component has a professional, dynamic appearance that invites the writer (or reader) to take a closer look. There are places for teens to submit the usual –poetry and fiction, as well as nonfiction and opinion pieces. The most unique section offers teen reviews of colleges and summer programs (for example, the Rockette Intensive, Outward Bound, and Barnard Pre-College). Readers can sort through submissions by “most recent” or “most popular” search options. Registration is free and all online submissions are considered for print. Users are allowed to comment on others' work so there's an opportunity for feedback.

Writing with Writers <http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit>

Free writing advice from Rodman Philbrick, Virginia Hamilton, Jane Yolen, and more! A variety of authors present brief “workshops,” offering suggestions on everything from news to biography to mystery writing. When they finish, children and teens are invited to submit their own writing, and many from around the world have! Teacher's Guides and Related Booklists are also available. Advice on types of writing not usually covered makes this site worthwhile.

The Blue Pencil Online <http://www.thebluepencil.net>

The Blue Pencil Online is a magazine run by the Writing and Publishing Department of Walnut Hill, an arts-oriented high school in Natick, Massachusetts. This extension of their student-run print journal allows teens ages twelve to eighteen to submit verse, prose, drama, or audio readings of already existing works. The writing is reviewed by the faculty, who publish pieces they find compelling and work with the authors to improve their writing. Students can also apply for the Bishop Prizes, named for the poet Elizabeth Bishop, who attended the school and edited **The Blue Pencil**. The prizes are scholarships for the school's summer programs. It combines the convenience of the Internet with the rigorous editing process of a professional publication, which means that any adolescent can submit work regardless of school, status, etc. and know that, if displayed, your work will be alongside a select group of other quality works—not in a **YouTube**-like jumble of everything and anything. It appears to be a great tool for any aspiring adolescent writer.

*By Rebecca Purdy and the Websurfers from the Central Rappahannock Regional Library
From e-VOYA October 2009*



Join our Inklings Writing Club
First Tuesday of the month
4-6pm at College Hill Library
Room L200