

# COMMODORE CHRONICLE



VOLUME 2022

ISSUE 1 Fall 2022

Staff - High School

Staff-Middle School

The Pride of Perryopolis... The Band!



Edited by Chloe Harger

About Us:

What's that faint sound you hear approaching the Frazier Football Field every other Friday night? Well, that's the Frazier Commodore Marching Band! We have over 60 members which is a shocking percent of the student body. That's because the marching band has so much to offer. We have everything from musicians, to dancers, to football players that come right off the field to join us for our halftime show!

The Frazier Marching Band has won countless awards over the years, really, go check out the trophies that align the band room, but that's not what it's about. Here in the Frazier Marching Band, we are all about school spirit and building a safe place for everyone. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

2022  
Frazier  
Marching  
Band



#### Upcoming Events:

Sadly, the football season is coming to a closing as we approach the end of October (Senior Night: home, Oct 21 @ 7 p.m.; Halloween show: Northgate Highschool, Oct 28 @ 7 p.m.), but never fear! There will be music all year! We will now be present during indoor sporting events!

As some of you may know, "Pep Band" is a way to create a fun, competitive atmosphere in the gymnasium. It is organized completely by students. Band President Trystan Strickler and Secretary Mike Weister take charge in order to make sure we are productive, as well as having a good time.

We also participate in parades and festivals! Come support us at the Uniontown Halloween Parade on October 26 where we will be dressed in costumes according to sections! Stay tuned for more opportunities to check us out as we Approach the Holidays!



Pep  
Band!



Just a few Drummers ;)

### Why Music is Important:

Now I could easily flood your brain with a bunch of useless facts about how beneficial early music education is, but I'm just gonna cut to the chase and say that music puts smiles on peoples' faces. Music brings people together, all over the world. It gives people something to bond over. Music is one of those things that gives life a little purpose, makes life worth living. We don't need scientific evidence (though there is much out there) to push you towards involving yourself in music. Genuinely enjoying something is a good enough reason to do so.



In The Stands



Let's Grow the band:

Hoco Game

Are you in need of a new hobby? Want to branch out and make some new buddies? Join the marching band! Currently we have nine sections and are looking to expand.

☐ **Wind instruments:**

- Trumpets
- Low brass (a variety of different low voices)
- Clarinets
- Alto Saxophones

☐ **Auxiliary:**

- Majorettes (baton twirlers)
- Color Guard (flag twirlers)
- Dance team

☐ **Drumline:**

- Tennors/Quads
- Snare
- Base
- Cymbals

☐ **A-squad**

- Younger members interested in joining later on

We would also be open to other instruments such as piccolo and mellophone. Note: if you can play an instrument as well as participate in another activity in auxiliary, we'd prefer you'd play an instrument! Auxiliary is an extremely important part of our band, but as of right now, we are looking to add to our sound rather than visuals. Also: **You are required to try out for Drumline and Auxiliary!** Your rank at the tryout will determine which drum you are on. Both drumline and auxiliary will hold clinics leading up to try outs in May.

Please remember that marching band is open to everyone grades 7-12 and possibly younger! No matter who you are, I, Chloe Harger, can assure you that you will not regret expanding your interests into the musical field. Please share this



article with you fellow Frazier Students and see Mr. Gerney (Band Director) and/or Mrs. Babyak (Assistant Band Director) if you have any further questions! We hope to see you this spring!



All Smiles from Dance Team



LH Band Festival



Kennywood Day Parade!

Seniors  
Seniors  
Seniors



# ATTENTION JUNIORS!!!!

## Prepare for Your Senior Year

### **10 Benefits of Community College**

**By Indeed Editorial Team**

Two-year community colleges are popular alternatives to traditional four-year colleges and universities, giving potential students options to pursue a higher education. Many community colleges offer course credits that transfer to four-year colleges, programs that can be completed in two years and schedules that offer flexibility to working or non-traditional students. In this article, we explore what community college is and its advantages so you can decide if it's the right choice for you.

### **What is a community college?**

Community colleges are two-year, postsecondary schools that provide education programs leading to associate degrees, professional training or certification in a vocational field. A community college, often called “junior college,” often provides academic programs that track toward a four-year degree at a college or university.

## **What is an associate degree?**

A community college typically offers students a two-year degree known as an associate degree. There are four types of associate degrees, each of which helps you prepare for different academic fields and occupations. Some are meant to be transferred to a four-year institution while others are career-specific and prepare you for employment after graduation.

### **1. Associate of Arts (A.A.)**

A.A. degrees focus on general education and liberal arts in fields like English, history, economics, fine art, music, psychology and sociology. These degrees usually transfer to a four-year institution where they count as preliminary studies toward a bachelor's degree or higher. You have to take general education courses, but your electives build a strong foundation in subjects such as communication, natural science, history, art and music.

### **2. Associate of Applied Arts (A.A.A.)**

An A.A.A. degree has similar requirements to an A.A. degree, but the focus is more vocational. You would pursue an A.A.A. degree if you were serious about working as a graphic artist, for example, but have no plans to transfer to a four-year institution. Your electives in this field would be more career-specific, such as advanced graphic design classes or art education.

### **3. Associate of Science (A.S.)**

Like an A.A. degree, an A.S. degree is considered a transfer degree. The A.S. degree prepares you for fields such as medicine, engineering, computer science and business. You take general education courses but your electives are focused more on science and math.

### **4. Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)**

An A.A.S. degree is more career-focused and, like an A.A.A. degree, is not designed to be transferred. This degree prepares you for employment immediately upon graduation. You might pursue an A.A.S. degree if you were interested in working as a chef, an early childhood educator, a medical assistant, or a welder. While many community colleges offer A.A.S. degree programs, they're more common at [trade schools](#).

## **Reasons to attend a community college**

Consider the advantages of attending community college to determine if it's the right educational path for you:

### **1. Cost of tuition**

Tuition costs of community colleges are often lower than four-year colleges or universities. Many community colleges offer reduced rates for in-state students, making postsecondary education programs more affordable for students who are pursuing two-year degrees. Community colleges may also provide certification programs at lower tuition costs than two-year and four-year degree programs.

## **2. Options for financial aid**

Along with lower tuition costs, most community colleges offer financial aid incentives for students who need assistance paying for college tuition, materials and even transportation or housing. Students can apply for special grant programs or student loan programs that sometimes have lower interest rates than traditional student loans.

## **3. Greater flexibility**

Attending a community college offers students a way to explore higher education at their own pace. This is especially true for students who may have struggled in high school or who aren't sure what they want to study or if college is affordable. Many junior colleges offer part-time academic coursework, allowing students to attend college classes a few days per week and work a full- or part-time job.

Flexibility also can provide a greater school-life balance. Students can build class schedules around their personal life, giving them a healthier balance between school and personal events or work. Many community colleges also provide day and night classes, giving students more ways to balance their personal or work obligations with their academic obligations.

## **4. Trade and vocational focuses**

Most community colleges also offer vocational training programs in addition to associate degree programs. Students who pursue trades in technology, engineering, health care and other vocations have many opportunities to attend specifically designed courses, so they can begin their careers after completing their education. Many of these vocational studies include programs that enable students to earn professional

certifications in a shorter time than traditional two-year and four-year degrees.

## **5. STEM education opportunities**

Many community colleges have associate degree programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), leading to careers in demand by employers. A foundation in STEM subjects allows you to solve problems, develop new ideas and conduct research. The two-year degree program helps you get started quicker in your [STEM-related career](#). Many junior colleges work with local industries and businesses to promote job placement with your new degree.

## **6. Ability to transfer credits**

Even though community colleges don't offer four-year degrees, many provide admissions agreements with public and state colleges that let students transfer their credits toward completing a bachelor's degree. As long as you meet the transferring university's qualification requirements, you can earn your two-year degree at a community college and then transfer for your bachelor's. This is also a more affordable option for many students, too, making community colleges highly advantageous.

## **7. Smaller class sizes**

Most community colleges have smaller classes than traditional universities. This can make it easier for students to get personalized instruction, additional academic support and extra time with instructors to succeed in their coursework. Another benefit to smaller class sizes is the ability to connect more with other students, allowing you to form relationships that can be supportive of your development and academic success.

With smaller classes, instructors can develop lessons that incorporate all their students' learning styles. Additionally, since community colleges

don't require instructors to participate in research and publication activities like universities often do, they can provide additional opportunities for students to seek academic support.

### **8. Growing number of college amenities**

More community colleges are adopting many of the same amenities that traditional universities and four-year colleges offer. For instance, some community colleges may have dorms like four-year universities do, along with other amenities that support college students. Food courts, sports complexes, student recreation centers and other university-style elements are making community colleges much more attractive to prospective students.

### **9. Opportunities for online classes**

Community colleges are also expanding online opportunities, making digital learning more accessible to students. In the past, junior colleges had limited opportunities for taking classes online, but with the growth in technical applications in careers and education, many junior colleges are including more approaches to online learning. This can be important for students who may have busy schedules and need to take one or two online classes to fit their education into their schedules.

### **10. Academic and personal support**

Since community colleges tend to be smaller, they often have more support services for students. Financial and academic advisors, instructors and career mentors help students navigate their post-secondary education. Many of the instructors at junior colleges also have more availability to provide assistance and support to students who need extra help in both their education and personal life. Support services like these can help make attending community college a positive experience.

**Check out the local community colleges**

**Community College of Beaver County**

<https://www.ccbc.edu/>

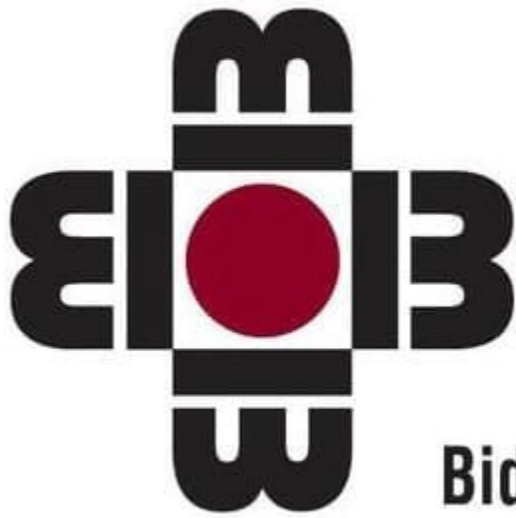


**Community College of Allegheny County**  
<https://www.ccac.edu/>

**Westmoreland County Community College**  
<https://westmoreland.edu/>

**SPOTLIGHT on**





**Bidwell Training Center**

**INTERESTED IN:**

- Free courses, training, and certifications?
- No-Cost Tuition?
- A new career path?



At Bidwell Training Center, we put your education first by offering our programs at no-cost

Invest Your Mind, Not Your Money

At Bidwell Training Center we believe that investing your mind, not your money, is the best practice for furthering your career goals. All programs at Bidwell Training Center are offered at no cost, meaning you can worry less about making ends meet, and focus on graduating quickly with career-ready skills.

Tuition is not charged to students attending Bidwell Training Center, as we receive all funding from the state, foundations, grants, and individual donors. The tuition, fees, uniforms, supplies, and textbooks are covered for all accepted students through state funds.

#### Student Eligibility

To take advantage of Bidwell Training Center's no-cost programs, all admission requirements\* must be met prior to enrollment. You will be required to complete the [two-step admissions process](#) and submit all required documentation, including,

- Proof of Pennsylvanian residency (students must be a U.S citizen or have an eligible non-citizen status and be a resident of Pennsylvania)
- Proof of High School graduation or GED (students must have a high school diploma or equivalent)

Come for a Visit!

You are invited to attend an Information Session any Tuesday or Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., or [contact us](#) to schedule an appointment. Get answers about our programs, including [Culinary Arts](#), [Horticulture Technology](#), [Chemical Laboratory Technician](#), [Pharmacy Technician](#), [Medical Coder/Biller](#), and [Medical Assistant](#).

[Schedule a tour now](#) or [get more info](#).

Are You Eligible to Train for a Rewarding Career at Bidwell Training Center? Get More Info...

If you're interested in discovering your future career and exploring whether Bidwell Training Center is right for you, [fill out the form](#) on this page to receive more information.

For immediate questions, call 412-402-9761

**Mark your calendar!!!**

**Monday, December 19, 2022**

**Frazier's Festival of Lights!**

**More information to come...**



## **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

Trib Total Media is looking for students to apply for its popular scholarship program, which this year is adding a business, marketing and technology component.

Trib Total Media's Journalism Scholarship Program began in 2019 with the launch of the Jim Borden Memorial Scholarship in honor of Tribune-Review managing editor Jim Borden. In 2020, the Trib launched its Scholarship for Diversity in Media. And now, in 2022, Trib Total Media is offering the Business, Marketing & Technology Scholarship.

"We launched our Scholarship Program in 2019 to encourage, develop and inspire the next generation of promising young journalists," Trib Total Media President and CEO Jennifer Bertetto said. "You don't have to be a writer to work for a media company. Through this new scholarship, we are offering an opportunity for students to learn and grow on the business side of our organization."

The Trib Total Media Business, Marketing & Technology Scholarship is open to high school seniors or current college students, from Western Pennsylvania, with a major in business, marketing, computer science, or information technology, the company said.

Scholarship recipients will each receive up to \$30,000 in scholarship funds awarded in annual installments of up to \$7500. The students are required to stay in the approved course of study through graduation and complete summer internships with Trib Total Media each year of the program.

Once they graduate, the students will receive an offer of full-time employment.

Tribune-Review reporter Julia Felton, 2020 recipient of the inaugural Jim Borden Memorial Scholarship, said the scholarship played an integral part in her ascension to the Pittsburgh City Hall beat.

"While I was in college I wrote for the college newspaper and did some things like that, but having the experience of actually working for a real newspaper and having the opportunity to go out and interview people and go to press conferences and write real content that people read really gave me a much broader understanding of the field," Felton said.

"It helped me to really refine my skills in a way that you really can't do just in a classroom. So, by the time I graduated, I already knew exactly what to expect from the job (because) I had been doing the job for a year. I had some experience and kind of knew what I was doing so I was really able to kind of hit the ground running in a way I would not have been able to do without that scholarship."

Felton benefited from working alongside experienced, professional reporters.

"It was nice to have some experienced people to answer the silly questions that you have the first time you try something. It was also cool to see how they worked. I overheard other people doing interviews and was like 'Wow, that was a really good question that they asked. I'll have to remember that.' Or you would hear how people would get sources to warm up to them and pick up on things that you don't necessarily get from a text book."

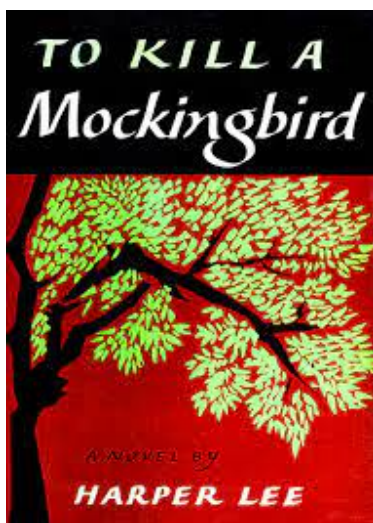
Applications are now being accepted for all three scholarships. Qualified applicants can apply online at <https://tribtotalmedia.com/> under the Career & Scholarship Opportunities tab. The deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2022.



# Check out these!

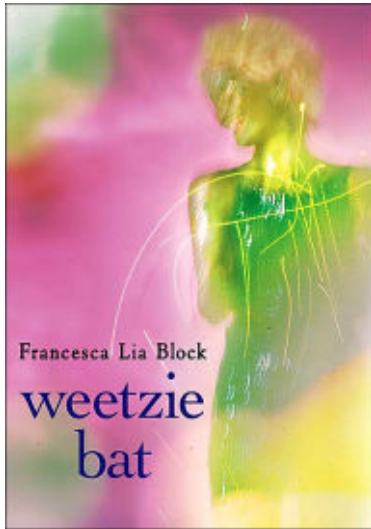
## How many have you read?

THE LIST OF INDISPENSABLE BOOKS TO CHECK OUT.



### To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee's seminal coming-of-age story set in the fictional southern town of Maycomb, Alabama. Primary themes of interest to high schoolers: racial injustice, moral and spiritual growth, courage and integrity, innocence and experience.



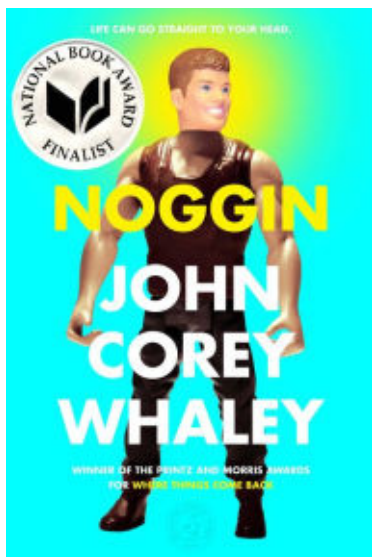
[Weetzie Bat](#), by Francesca Lia Block

High school is a time when you get to build your own environment in a way you just don't in junior high. Most teens get more freedom, high schools tend to have different and often bigger populations, and for many of us, our friends are suddenly at the center of our existence. Weetzie is a girl with a home life that's lacking, who builds her own magical world with the friends she's crazy about. She dresses exactly how she wants to (white-dyed hair, pajamas), does whatever she wants (Jayne Mansfield impressions, drives under palm trees), and makes lots of mistakes she never regrets, because mistakes are part of living. She's a reminder of the big-sky world that's out there beyond halls and grades and cliques.



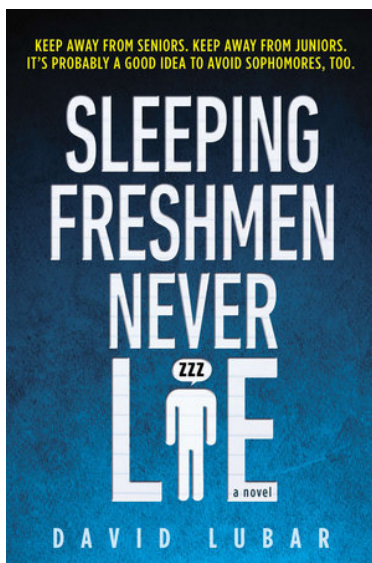
[This One Summer](#), by Jillian and Mariko Tamaki

Outgrowing your friends, seeing your friends outgrow you, watching the infinitely complicated lives of older teens unfolding close up—kinda like high school, this is what *This One Summer* is about. It's a delicately told, emotionally brilliant graphic novel about two friends reuniting in a summer vacation town, and finding their slight age difference suddenly matters—Rose is fascinated by the drama surrounding the life of an older convenience store cashier, while Windy still wants to enjoy the childish fun of previous seasons. The book's gentle arc provides a blueprint for anyone feeling the tug of growing older.



[Noggin](#), by John Corey Whaley

In this extraordinary near future tale, 16-year-old Travis is woken from a very long sleep after his cryogenically frozen head, separated five years earlier from his terminally ill body, is transplanted onto a donor body. He wakes up feeling as if no time has passed, but the world—including his parents, best friend, and girlfriend—couldn't help but move on without him. He's left navigating a strange new planet where nobody, not even those who love him best, can truly understand what he's going through or what he needs. You don't have to lose your head to understand how that feels.

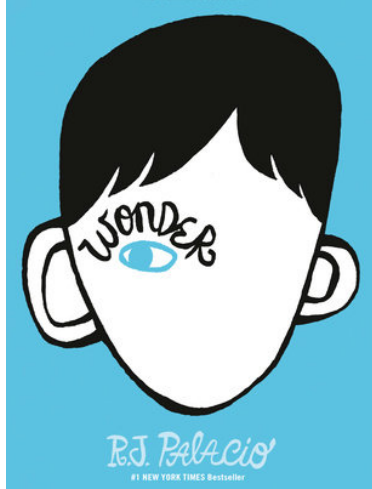


*Sleeping Freshman Never Lie*

by David Lubar

Wouldn't it be great if you got a manual on how to survive high school? Scott Hudson thinks so, which is why he's writing one for his soon-to-be sibling. To make sure his future little brother or sister has an easier time than he does, Scott covers everything from bullies to unrequited love to how to survive on too little sleep.

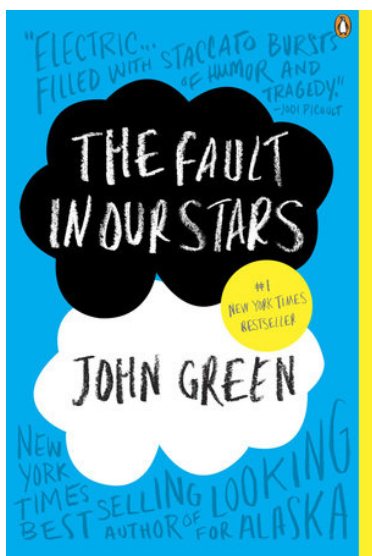
"A beautiful, funny and sometimes sob-making story of quiet transformation."  
—The Wall Street Journal



## Wonder

by R.J. Palacio

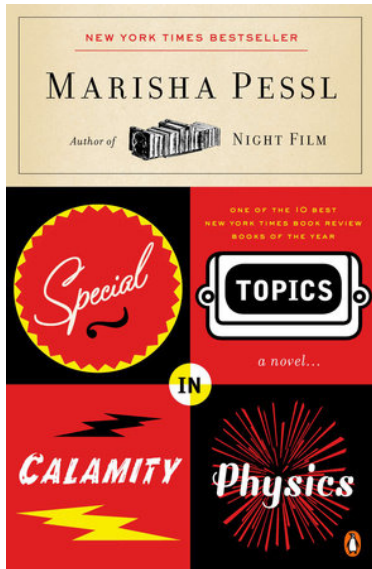
How many of us wish we had been kinder in high school? Would you go back and be more accepting, generous, or aware of other people's challenges? I would. Help prepare your rising freshman to be the person you wish you had been by asking them to read *Wonder*. It's "technically" a middle grade book, but it's never too late to instill kindness in our kids before they hit the high school halls.



## The Fault in Our Stars

by John Green

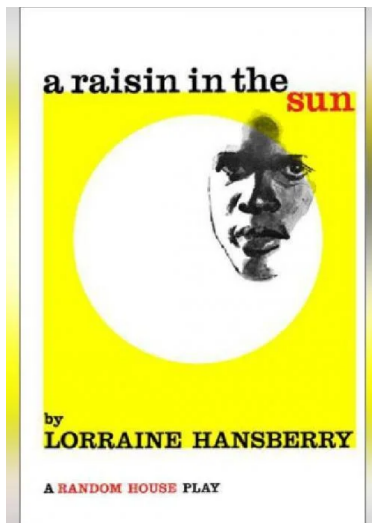
Hazel and Augustus are the modern day Romeo and Juliet, but with a twist. This is the romance story of romance stories for teens. After reading this, crushing on the guy in English class won't seem so tragic.



### *Special Topics in Calamity Physics*

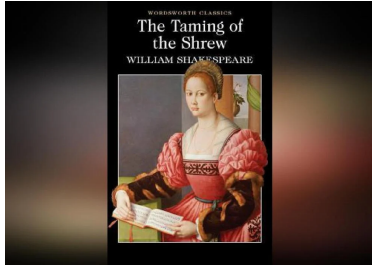
by Marisha Pessl

Blue van Meer has a head full of knowledge, but no friends. She and her father Gareth move too often for her to make any. She thinks things might be different when she starts at the prestigious St. Gallway School and meets the Bluebloods. That is, until students start dying. This book will take you through the canon of books kids read (or are supposed to read) in high school, while captivating you with a devilish murder mystery. Who says high school has to be dull?



- Author: Lorraine Hansberry

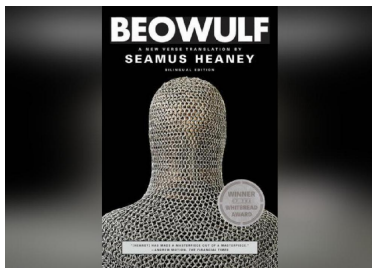
The story follows the Youngers, a working-class Black family living on the South Side of Chicago who move to an all-white neighborhood during a time of desegregation. In 1959, Lorraine Hansberry became **the first Black playwright** to get a play produced on Broadway. The **title of the play** comes from "Dream Deferred," a poem by Langston Hughes.



## #40. The Taming of the Shrew

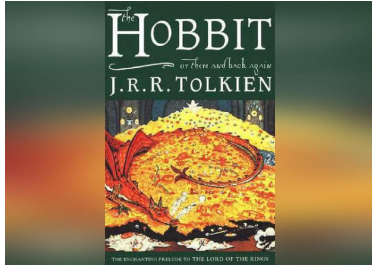
- Author: William Shakespeare

This five-act comedy tells the story of the courtship of the headstrong Katharine and the money-grubbing Petruchio, who is determined to subdue Katharine and make her his wife. After the wedding, Petruchio drags his new wife through the mud to their new home in the country. He proceeds to starve and deprive her of sleep to make his new bride submissive. The play, one of Shakespeare's most popular, **has been both criticized** for its abusive and misogynistic attitude toward women, and praised as a challenging view of how women are supposed to behave.



"Beowulf" is **an epic poem**—an original manuscript copy is housed in the British Library—of 3,000 lines. It was written in Old English somewhere between 700 and 1000 A.D., and tells the story of Beowulf, a nobleman, and warrior in Sweden who is sent to Denmark to fight a swamp monster called Grendel.





## The Hobbit

- Author: J. R. R. Tolkien

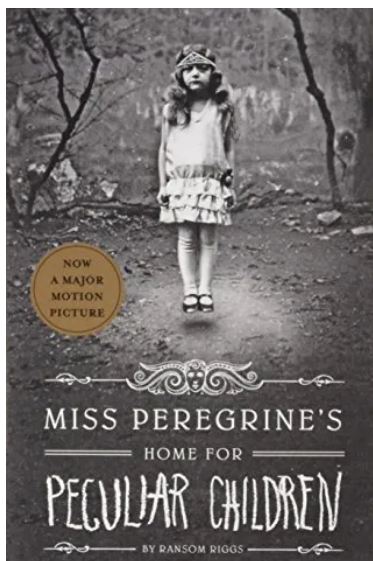
In this prequel to **The Lord of the Rings** trilogy, readers tag along with Bilbo Baggins, an unassuming hobbit who is convinced to go on an adventure by the wizard Gandalf. Bilbo finds there is much more to himself than he thought—and he finds a certain ring, too. "The Hobbit," written in 1932, contains many of the building blocks—an epic quest, an unwilling hero, elves, and goblins—that modern fantasy writers still reference today.



## The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton (1967)

Then-18-year-old S. E. Hinton set the groundwork for YA fiction when she wrote *The Outsiders* in high school, with a book that spoke directly to her peers. Ponyboy's journey shows that things can go too far very quickly when you're willing to do anything to belong.

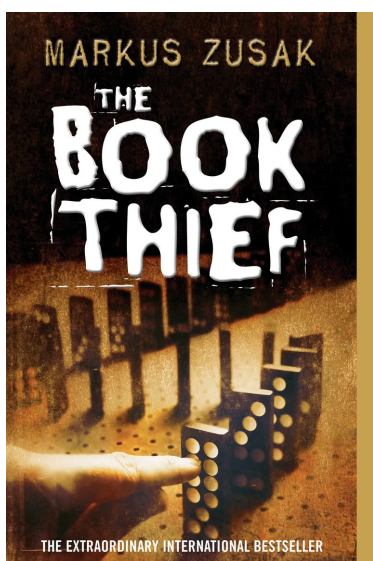




## Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs (2011)

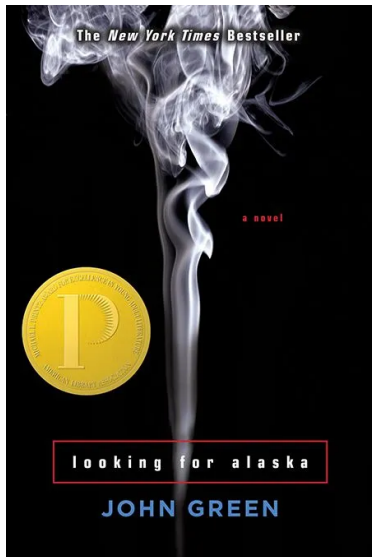
This delightfully weird boxed set starts out when Jacob Portman journeys to a mysterious island off the coast of Wales following a terrible family tragedy.

There, he finds the ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children and so, so much more.



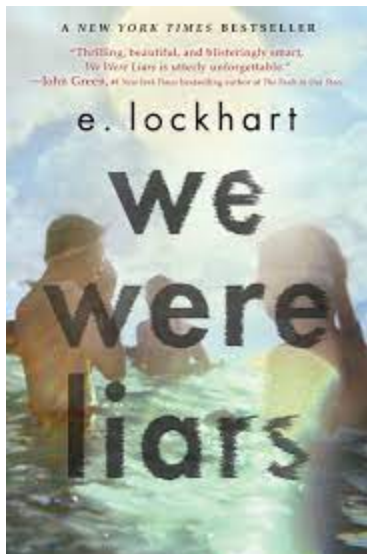
## The Book Thief by Markus Zusak (2005)

Even reluctant readers will find something to love in this absorbing *New York Times* bestseller. It explores a Nazi society in which a young girl's passion for reading feeds her soul when all else seems hopeless.



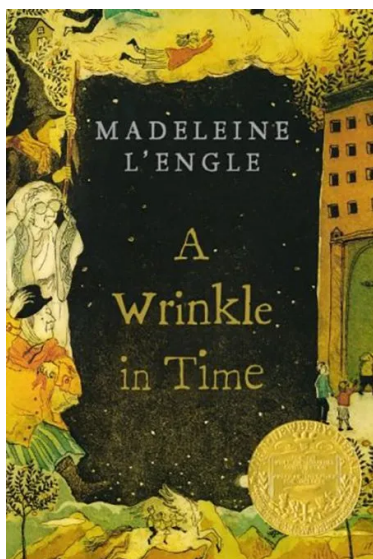
## **Looking for Alaska by John Green (2005)**

**John Green's debut into contemporary fiction offers up a new perspective from the kid who isn't the nerd or the most popular, but somewhere in between. The protagonist leaves his safe, predictable life looking for The Great Perhaps, a concept that will entice any teen who feels a bit restless.**



## **We Were Liars by E. Lockhart (2014)**

**This suspenseful thriller has it all: A private island where the well-heeled Cadence spends her time, mysterious goings-on and a group of friends who aren't what they seem. The twist at the end will floor your teen, guaranteed.**



## **A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle (1962)**

**When Meg and her little brother Charles Wallace find a strange woman in their kitchen one stormy night, they never expect the adventure that will follow. Sci-fi fans shouldn't miss this classic that will also entice those who don't typically enjoy the genre.**

Do you have a book you would like to recommend? Please email the title, author, and a summary (max 500 words) to [vrafail@fraziersd.org](mailto:vrafail@fraziersd.org).