

Summer Battle of the Books (B.O.B.) 2019

Thank you for your interest in the Library's 2019 Summer Battle of the Books Program! The B.O.B. program is a fun reading competition just for teens! Hartford will compile a team of 2-5 teens that will represent Hartford at the B.O.B. competition between other libraries in the Monarch System. Participants must be in 6th-12th grade. If more than 5 teens are interested in being a part of the B.O.B. competition, there will be a semifinal round to see which teens will continue on to the final competition. Participants will be asked to attend 1-2 meetings throughout the summer. Meetings are not mandatory, but strongly encouraged. These meetings will offer participants a chance to learn more about the program, meet with team members, and get any questions they may have about the program answered.

As for the competition, teams will compete against each other answering questions about the books on the list. For example, a question may state, "Which book has a character that finds out he is the son of Poseidon?" The team would answer, "The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan." Questions about all of the books will be asked and will range in difficulty. Teams gain points for every answer they have right. In the end, whichever team has the most points wins! Parents, family members, and other supporters are more than welcome to come and watch the final competition, which will take place on **Friday, July 26 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Lomira Quad/Graphic Community Library (427 S. Water Street, Lomira, WI)**. Participants must secure their own transportation to the final competition.

Below are the list of books for the program:

*The age range listed next to each book is only the suggested age recommended by reviewers.

- Arlo Finch in the Valley of Fire by John August (9 and up)
- Aru Shah and the End of Time by Roshani Chokshi (9 and up)
- Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi (13 and up)
- The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya (10 and up)
- Hidden Figures: Young Readers Edition by Margot Lee Shetterly (8 and up)
- New Kid by Jerry Craft (9 and up)
- The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney (11 and up)
- See You in the Cosmos by Jack Cheng (10 and up)
- The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle by Leslie Connor (8 and up)
- The War Outside by Monica Hesse (13 and up)

You do not have to read all of the books on the list in order to participate in the program.

While you may be quizzed on the books as an individual to see if you will advance to the final competition at Lomira, many teens in the past have not read all of the books and advanced to the final round. For the final competition, you will be part of a team. Working together with your team members and pooling your collective knowledge about the books you've each read is what B.O.B. is all about. Of course, you're more than welcome to read all the titles if you'd like!

Parents:

All of the books on the list are for youth ages 9-18. Each of these books have been read and reviewed by the Youth Services Librarian. They all have created buzz within the reading world due to their literary merit, popularity with youth, and value. Books were also chosen by Youth Librarians in the Monarch Library System and reflect this year's Summer Reading Program Theme, "A Universe of Stories." As public libraries, we aim to be inclusive and diverse serving everyone's needs/interests, reading levels, and abilities.

The Jack Russell Memorial Library strongly suggest you review these titles yourself in order to gain a better understanding of what each of the books is about. A helpful reviewing site is commonsensemedia.org. On this site you will find reviews from teens, parents, and other readers of the books. It is completely okay if you make a personal choice to not allow your teen to read one or more of the titles on the B.O.B. list. Please be aware though that if you do not agree with a book's content and/or do not allow your teen to read one of the books it does not mean the title will be removed from the B.O.B. list overall. It is simply your personal choice as a parent to have your child not read one of these titles. In addition, any titles you personally decide to have your teen not read does not mean your teen's team will be exempt from answering questions about the book. However, as stated before your teen will be a part of a team, meaning other team members may have read the book and will know the answer to the question. While your teen may be quizzed on an individual level about all the books on the list to see which teens advance to the final competition at Lomira, many teens in the past have not read all of the books and advanced to the final round.

*If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact the Youth Services Librarian, Jessica at 262-673-8240.

I have received, read, and understand the agreement above. *Please return to the Youth Services Desk when signed. Anyone who does not return a signed permission slip will not be allowed to participate in the B.O.B. 2019 Summer Competition.

Signature of teen participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent: _____ Date: _____