## 2019 Spirit of Texas Reading Program for Middle School Reading List

Recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians to encourage youth in grades 6-8 to explore a variety of quality books from Texas authors and illustrators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOOK COVER</th>
<th>TITLE, CALL NUMBER &amp; BRIEF DESCRIPTION</th>
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</table>
| ![I LOVE YOU, MICHAEL COLLINS](image) | **I LOVE YOU, MICHAEL COLLINS**  
**Author:** Lauren Baratz-Logsted  
**Call Number:** [INTERLIBRARY LOAN](#)  
10-year-old Mamie’s class is given an assignment to write letters to the astronauts. All the girls write to Neil Armstrong and all the boys write to Buzz Aldrin. Only Mamie writes to Michael Collins, the astronaut who will come so close but never achieve everyone else’s dream of walking on the moon. |
| ![BONNIE AND CLYDE: THE MAKING OF A LEGEND](image) | **BONNIE AND CLYDE: THE MAKING OF A LEGEND**  
**Author:** Karen Blumenthal  
**Call Number:** [INTERLIBRARY LOAN](#)  
Bonnie & Clyde may be the most notorious - and celebrated - outlaw couple America has ever known. This is the true story of how they got that way. Immortalized in movies, songs, a pop culture references, they are remembered mostly for their storied romance and tragic deaths. But what was life like for Clyde and Bonnie in the early 1930s? Now you’ll get that look. |
| ![ME, FRIDA AND THE SECRET OF THE PEACOCK RING](image) | **ME, FRIDA AND THE SECRET OF THE PEACOCK RING**  
**Author:** Angela Cervantes  
**Call Number:** J CERVANTES  
When Lizzie and Gael share an irresistible challenge, to find the peacock ring that once belonged to artist Frida Kahlo, Paloma decides it is the perfect way to honor her father. |
| ![FINDING ESME](image) | **FINDING ESME**  
**Author:** Suzanne Crowley  
**Call Number:** [INTERLIBRARY LOAN](#)  
12-year-old Esme’s life changes when she discovers dinosaur bones on her family’s peach farm in Texas. Fans of Wendy Maas and Lynda Mullaly Hunt will love this perfectly pitched story about friendship, family, and loss from Suzanne Crowley, the acclaimed author of The Very Ordered existence of Merilee Marvelous. |
THE PARKER INHERITANCE
Author: Varian Johnson
Call Number: Downloadable
When his family relocates to a new town, sci-fi enthusiast Clark Sherman uses his encyclopedic knowledge of the hit TV show, Star Survivors, to both endure and battle the evils he encounters in his terrifying new middle school.

LONE STARS
Author: Mike Lupica
Call Number: INTERLIBRARY LOAN
An uplifting story about role models, football, and tackling fear set in the heart of Friday Night Lights country from the bestselling author of Heat, Travel Team, and Fantasy League. Clay is a quarterback’s dream. But as the season kicks off, Clay begins to notice some odd behaviour from his coach - lapses in his memory, strange mood swings, and more. As the season continues, Clay realizes the real victory will be to help his coach walk onto that famous star logo in the middle of Cowboys Field one last time.