



Foundation for the Education of Young Women

2009 Irma Rangel School Summer Reading

6th grade: Remember as You Pass Me By, L. King Perez

"In this story narrated in the protagonist's Texas drawl, readers will see the effects of a trying time in history through the eyes of a sympathetic white girl. When Silvy Lane, 12, goes to the post office, her friend Mabelee, who is black, waits outside. Silvy begins to question such practices when she is not allowed to invite her friend to her birthday party. At the same time, the girls' community goes through difficult changes leading up to and immediately following the Brown vs. Board of Education decision." (School Library Journal, 2007)

7th-8th grades: Slant, Laura E. Williams

"Derided by some middle-school boys as "Slant," "Chink" and other derisive terms, 13-year-old Lauren, a Korean adopted at birth by Caucasian parents, wants to have eye surgery to make her eyes rounder. Her best friend Julia thinks Lauren should stick up for herself instead. When Lauren's father discovers her plan, he reveals a painful family secret that helps Lauren look at herself and her eyes in a new light." (Booklist, 2008)

9th-10th grade: Fire From the Rock, Sharon Draper

"An honor student, Sylvia Patterson is thrilled when she is chosen as one of the first black students to integrate all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957. But the racism in her town is terrifying, and she is not sure she can go through with it. Unlike her older brother, she does not want to be a hero and change the world. Besides, many in her black community are against integration; why not stay with her friends, concentrate on academics, and get to college? With stirring complexity, Draper personalizes the civil rights struggle beyond slogans and politics." (Booklist, 2007)

11-12th grades: My Sisters' Voices: Teenage Girls of Color Speak Out, Iris Jacob

Teenage girls write about issues they confront from their own personal, ethnic, spiritual and cultural perspectives. "They express their fears, they write of love and hope, and they demand respect." Ms. Jacob was 18 years old when she edited this book.