

SAN MATEO COUNTY LIBRARY YOUTH INCARCERATION OUTREACH PROGRAMS

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PROGRAM 1: COURTS SCHOOL OUTREACH

Courts School Booktalk List

- Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin
- Maximum Ride by James Patterson
- Fresh Off the Boat by Melissa de la Cruz
- American Born Chinese by Gene Yang
- Afterlife by Gary Soto
- Son of the Mob by Gordon Korman
- Who Do You Think You Are? by Tucker Shaw
- Black & White by Paul Volponi
- Crank by Ellen Hopkins
- Hoopster by Alan Sitomer
- Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
- Who Am I Without Him by Sharon Flake
- We Beat the Street by Sampson Davis
- Chew on This by Eric Schlosser
- Hip Deep; Opinions, Essays, and Visions from American Teenagers

Courts School To Do Check List

- Call the youth incarceration facility to get the contact for who is in charge of the “Courts School” and set up an appointment to discuss the project.
- Set up dates and times and determine key staff contacts. San Mateo County Library staff send provide this service quarterly.
- Call to confirm a few days in advance. You may want to call the day of as well to make sure there isn't a lock down or anything else that would prevent your visit.
- Take enough books for all the students.
- Arrive about 20 minutes prior to first class. There are often entry delays.
- Be prepared to leave purses or packs locked in your car.
- Bring info on the local library and library card application. Encourage students to visit the library when they return home.

PROGRAM 2: GIRLS BOOK CLUB

GIRLS Book Club Books

- Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson
- Whale Rider by Witi Tame Ihimaera
- Tequila Worm by Viola Canales
- First Part Last by Angela Johnson
- A Great and Terrible Beauty by Libba Bray
- Body Farm by Patricia Cornwell
- This Lullaby by Sarah Dessen.
- Always Running by Luis Rodriguez
- Lucas by Kevin Brooks
- Light on Snow by Anita Shreve
- Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini
- Saving Francesca by Melina Marchetta
- Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
- Things I Have to Tell You by Betsy Franco
- The Glass Castle
- The Circuit
- Three Cups of Tea
- Rain of Gold
- Persepolis

GIRLS Book Club To Do Check List

2 months before:

- Get fingerprinted.

1 week before:

- Call a week before your visit to remind them you are coming.

The day of:

- Be prepared that there may be lock downs. Call earlier in the day to verify everything is ok.

The evening of:

- Arrive about 15 minutes early. It takes at least ten minutes to get into the unit.
- Leave purses and excessive jewelry in the car as you have to through security.
- Avoid bringing in any pens that are blue or red. Pink and black pens, pencils are okay. Count what you give out and get them back when you are done. They are quite serious about this.
- You can't bring in food.

The group program:

- Give book at the first meeting. Some will read quickly while others read very slow. Discuss over the next weeks.
- Name tags are good and so is an ice breaker. Staff members love to participate in the ice-breakers as well. Have fun! The girls are happy to see us and the staff really is supportive. And the staff does great things with the girls too.

Below are helpful notes from two program staff:

- Week 1: Name tags and markers for everyone. We put a random year on each girl's nametags pertinent to their age spans and went around the circle asking: "Tell us something positive you remember about that year." Go over rules of respect and taking turns with discussions/no cross talking or put downs.
- Week 2: Name tags premade with cute stickers on them (girls liked it!)
- Ice Breaker: Girls chose a colored popsicle significant to a question: Assign a question to each color (flavored) popsicle: " What is your favorite musician, type of music and/or CD?" , What was your favorite or most memorable vacation? What is your favorite book? Name a country/state/city you would like to visit? What are your favorite foods? We had to get creative as the girls wanted another question and many of them chose the same colored popsicle.
- Week 3: We wrote thank cards to the kitchen staff and to one of their staff for donating stickers. We brought one of our favorite children's book: "Love you Forever" which we read out loud to the girls (with their permission) We played a hand game called "San Marico" (a few of the young ladies knew this game, and the rest of us were willing to learn) Very Fun! We tried to keep a sense of community in mind and were flexible enough to allow the girls some lead way to create their own hour with us too!
- Week 4: Ice breaker: Broke up in small groups and had 3 minutes to list as many items we had in common. Played the "telephone" game. Got into trouble for having too much fun!

We divided the book into manageable chapters, stuck large post-its in the front and back covers for note taking, jotting down words that needed defining, chapters that might need discussion, or favorite parts and pages of the book. Each week we took turns reading out loud. We invited/encouraged each girl to take time to actually read the book in between our visits and jot down their questions/concerns and meaningful parts of the book.

Example schedule:

Date	Staff 1 (experienced)	Staff 2
Nov 6 - Nov 20 and Dec 4, 2008	Alison Anson	Christina Olsen
Jan 22 - Feb 12, 2009	Pamela Bilz	Ida daRoza
Feb 26 - Mar 19, 2009	Cynthia Rider	Sarah Lapin
April 2 - April 23, 2009	Karen Choy	Donna Spillane
May 7 - May 28, 2009	Alison Anson	JC Escalante
June 4 - 25, 2009	Martina Tello	Rosemary Jorde