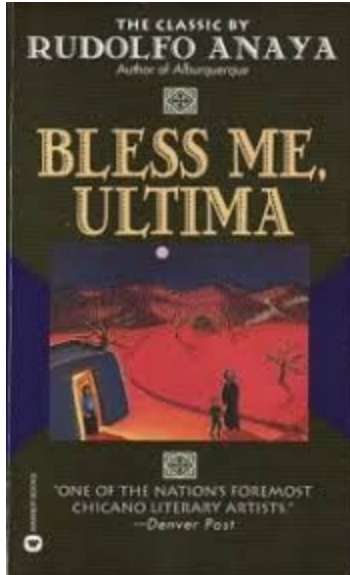


**Esperanza Academy Charter High School
Summer Reading List
Summer 2017**

Rising to 9th Grade:



Honors Perspectives Summer Reading: "Bless Me, Ultima," by Rudolfo Anaya

Non-Honors Classes:

Pick one of the following-

Ask the Passengers -- A.S. King

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier - Ishmael Beah's

Eleanor and Park -- Rainbow Rowell

Speak -- Laurie Halse Anderson

Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian -- Sherman Alexie

When I Was Puerto Rican - Esmeralda Santiago

Black Boy - Richard Wright

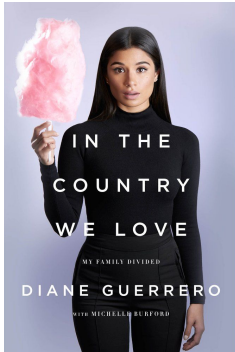
Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your A** - Meg Medina

Out of the Dust - Karen Hesse

Tex - S. E. Hinton (same author as The Outsiders)

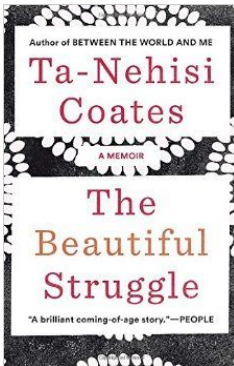
Rising to 10th Grade:

Pick one of the following-



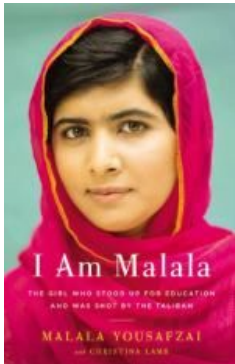
In The Country We Love - *Diane Guerrero*

Diane Guerrero, the television actress from the megahit *Orange Is the New Black* and *Jane the Virgin*, was just fourteen years old on the day her parents and brother were arrested and deported to Colombia while she was at school. Born in the U.S., Guerrero was able to remain in the country and continue her education, depending on the kindness of family friends who took her in and helped her build a life and a successful acting career for herself, without the support system of her family.



The Beautiful Struggle - *Ta-Nehisi Coates*

As young school boys Ta-Nehisi and his older brother Big Bill knew to adhere to the strict ways of their father, Paul Coates, and they didn't agree with his driving determination that his son would rise above the mean streets of West Baltimore. Big Bill eventually dabbled in drugs, got a young girl pregnant, was a terrible student, hung with gang members and procured means of protection in the form of a firearm. Big Bill was more vulnerable than Ta-Nehisi to the lure of the dark side that awaited them beyond the threshold of the family home.

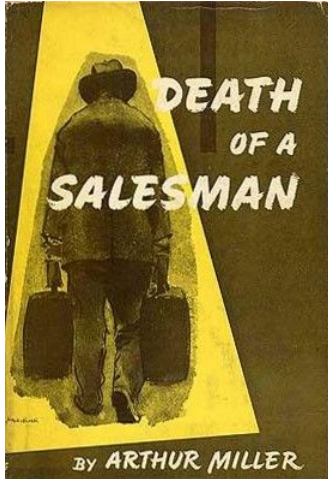


I Am Malala - *Malala Yousafzai* (Suggestion for Honors)

Malala is an outspoken Pakistani girl who campaigns for girls in Pakistan to have equal access to education. Her willingness to stand up for this belief makes her a target for the Taliban, a religious extremist group that has very different ideas about the roles of women in Pakistan society. One day, on the way home from school, Malala is shot in the head, and survives. *I Am Malala* recounts the impact of the attempt on Malala's life on the nation of Pakistan and the world.

Rising to 11th Grade:

Everyone Must Read:

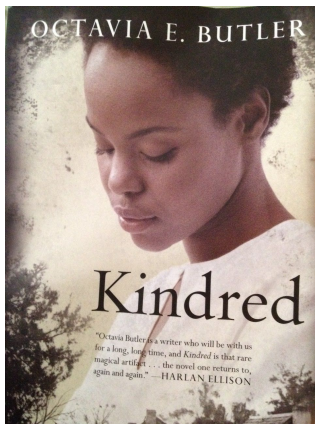


Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller

Willy Loman is a less than successful salesman, who is struggling with accepting his shortcomings and those of his son, Biff. Through the use of flashbacks and present time storytelling, readers can expect to be immersed in a world of failed hopes and dreams. Familial relationships, particularly those between a father and son are explored in this play, where Arthur Miller begs readers to question how far a person is willing to go in order to reach the American Dream.

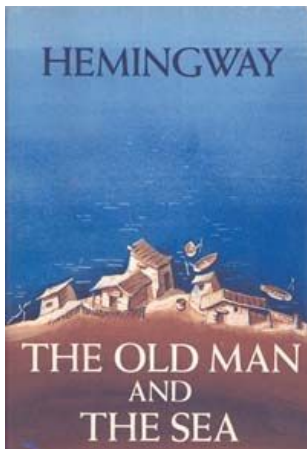
AND Then:

Choose One of the Three:



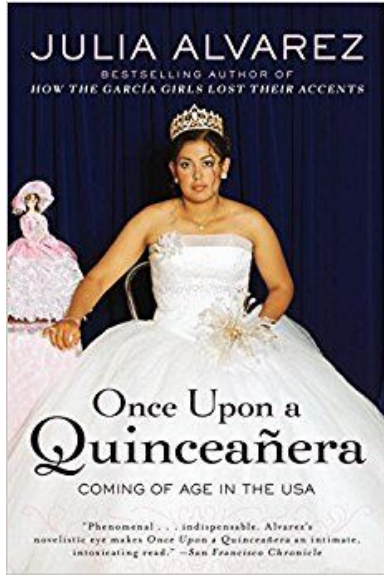
Kindred by Octavia Butler

A science-fiction novel that follows an African-American woman, Dana, and her time-traveling journey between 1970's California and pre-Civil War slave plantation in Maryland. As her trips to the past become more frequent, she comes to realize that she is being sent back to see her ancestors: a white slave owner and a black freewoman who has been forced into slavery. *Kindred* challenges readers to examine the relationship between gender, race, and power.



Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

Santiago, an old fisherman, hasn't caught anything in 84 days. He's discouraged. His friend and former sailing mate, Manolin, longs to help him, but Manolin's parents refuse because of Santiago's poor fishing record. On day 85, Santiago feels a tug he knows to be the fish he's been looking for. But the fish is so enormous and strong that for several days it pulls him farther out to sea. Hemingway details the valiant struggle between man and fish, lauding the old man for his perseverance despite the fact that sharks ultimately eat his prize fish.



Once Upon a Quinceañera by Julia Alvarez

Julia Alvarez, the Dominican-American author of *In the Time of the Butterflies*, writes this nonfiction book about the quinceañera—its history, how it changed when it came to the United States, and how it looks today. Through this, she also examines what it means to be a teenage Latina in today's world. Ultimately, a quinceañera is about leaving behind childhood and becoming a woman. In exploring this, Alvarez examines every aspect of the coming-of-age party, from the dress to the court to the family relationships in the background. Alvarez also looks at how girls are being pushed to become women earlier and earlier. This book is recommended for anyone who enjoys nonfiction, Alvarez's other stories, or deep dives into their own or other cultures.

Rising to 12th Grade:

The Namesake - Jhumpa Lahiri

Parable of the Sower - Octavia Butler

White Teeth - Zadie Smith

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe - C.S. Lewis

Between the World and Me - Ta-Nehisi Coates

This Will Make You Smarter - John Brockman

Beautiful Music for Ugly Children - Kirstin Cronn-Mills

Outliers- Malcolm Gladwell

Brave New World- Aldous Huxley