

# Incoming 8th Grade Summer Reading for 2018-2019

*Calle Mayor Middle School*

## Exploring Human Potential

### Concept:

In 8th grade, we will be focusing on our transformation from middle school students into high school students. These summer reading books have been selected to inspire students by allowing them to experience stories that explore human achievement. Students will be incorporating themes and ideas from their summer reading into their 1st Quarter work in 8th grade English.

### Assignment:

The assignment has two parts:

1. It is suggested that all students read **No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits**, by Jordan Romero (with Linda LeBlanc).
2. Additionally, all students will read one (or more) of the books from the “Book Choice” list below.
3. Keep a *Reading Chart* of all the books you read. List the title, author, and number of pages.

Read **No Summit Out of Sight** and one (or more) of the following:

<b>After Tupac and D Foster</b> <i>Woodson, Jacqueline</i>	<b>Kotuku</b> <i>Savage, Deborah</i>
<b>Airborn</b> <i>Oppel, Kenneth</i>	<b>Messenger</b> <i>Lowry, Lois</i>
<b>Caminar</b> <i>Brown, Skila</i>	<b>Okay for Now</b> <i>Schmidt, Gary</i>
<b>Chains</b> <i>Anderson, Laurie Halse</i>	<b>Outcasts United</b> <i>St. John, Warren</i>
<b>Down Dark Hall</b> <i>Duncan, Lois</i>	<b>The Power of Half</b> <i>Salwen, Kevin</i>

### **After Tupac and D Foster** (Realistic Fiction)

*Woodson, Jacqueline*

In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur’s music, as together, they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.

### **Airborn** (Sci-Fi/Fantasy)

*Oppel, Kenneth*

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth’s surface.

### **Caminar** (Realistic Fiction in Verse)

*Brown, Skila*

Carlos, a young boy living in remote Guatemala, yearns to be a man and defend his village from the soldiers who are seeking Communist rebels. The story, told in verse, is inspired by true events.

### **Chains** (Historical Fiction)

*Anderson, Laurie Halse*

As the Revolutionary War begins, Isabel wages her own fight for... freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, become the property of a New York City couple, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel.

**Down Dark Hall (Mystery/Suspense)**

*Duncan, Lois*

Why does the exclusive boarding school Blackwood have only four students? Kit walks the dark halls and feels a penetrating chill. What terror waits around the next corner?

**Kotuku (Historical Fiction)**

*Savage, Deborah*

All Wim wants is to be left alone, to finish her senior year in peace and spend time with her dogs and the horses at Dune Stables. Soon Wim's quiet and safe routine is turned upside down, spilling out secrets too painful to face and too important to ignore. It will take every ounce of Wim's courage to sift through the secrets and open her heart to love again.

**Messenger (Sci-Fi/Dystopian Fiction)**

*Lowry, Lois*

Matty has been invaluable as a messenger. Now he must risk everything to make one last journey through the treacherous forest with his only weapon, a power he unexpectedly discovers within himself.

**No Summit Out of Sight (Memoir)**

*Romero, Jordan*

At the age of 15, Romero became the youngest person to climb the Seven Summits, the tallest mountain on each continent. From the first climb, Mount Kilimanjaro, where he set the record as a 10-year-old, to Everest at a record-setting 13, each peak presented unique and more difficult challenges. Romero's voice comes through, as he excitedly describes, in first-person narrative, his emotions, hardships, occasional doubts, and reactions to foreign countries and cultures.

**Okay for Now (Young Adult Fiction)**

*Schmidt, Gary*

Doug Swietek faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation, but when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.

**Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team... (Non-Fiction)**

*St. John, Warren*

St. John presents the remarkable, inspiring story of a persevering female coach, soccer team of refugee boys, and the Georgia town that is their home. Featuring pivotal soccer games and anecdotes about interactions between a coach and her players, tension among the boys, family responsibilities, and a town wrestling with its changing identity, St. John delivers a vivid, cohesive story about hope and determination.

**The Power of Half (Memoir)**

*Salwen, Kevin*

Warm, funny, and deeply moving, *The Power of Half* is the story of how one family grew closer as they discovered that half could be so much more.