

High School Nutmeg Book Selection Committee Volunteer Form

Serving on a Nutmeg Book Selection Committee is a great experience. Before you make a decision about applying, however, there are several things that you need to take into consideration.

Serving on any of the committees is a huge commitment. The High School Committee will read about 60 books. The Book Selection Chairperson compiles the lists (about 15 books per list) and sends committee members the first list in December or early January. From the day you receive that first list you will be reading on the average of two-three books a week until August. That means 350 to 500 pages a week for 38 to 40 weeks. Committee members are responsible for obtaining their own copies of the books.

As a committee member you will be expected to read all the books on the lists, whether they suit your tastes or not. This can be difficult. If you don't like a book right at the start you must at least give it a good try.

Four to five meetings (the number is determined by the chair) are held during the selection process. The Chairperson selects the sites, dates and times of the meetings. Meetings are usually on a weeknight. Depending on where you live, it could be a short or long drive (committee members are from all over the state.) Refreshments are on hand or you can bring your own snack. ****Please know attendance is an important part of the Selection Committee process. Members should plan to attend *ALL THE MEETINGS*.**** At the meetings the merits of each book are discussed. Lively debate is part of the process. To help with this discussion, members are encouraged to participate in online discussions on our wiki site. At the last meeting in September, the committee stays until the final ten books are chosen, along with alternate titles. It is the most important meeting and usually the longest.

The librarians and teachers on the committee are devoted to helping young people connect with quality fiction. If you have participated in the Nutmeg program in the past, you realize that the books you help to select will be read by many students across the state of Connecticut. You will express ideas and opinions that are your own and will make a valuable contribution to the selection of Nutmeg nominees.

Taking into account the above information, please decide if this is a challenge that you are suited for and if it is, please apply to be a volunteer!

Email the following form to:

School Librarians: Lisa Garofalo lgarofalo@ellingtonschools.net

Public Librarians: Ann Marie Naples anaples@westhartford.org

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Member of CLA(circle one) Yes No

Member of CASL(circle one) Yes No

Place of work _____

Past Nutmeg experience (either committee or at work book clubs, classroom work etc.):

Are you willing to read 60-70 titles written for adults and/or young adults this year?

(circle one) Yes No

Are you able & willing to attend 4 to 5 meetings this year? (circle one) Yes No

Please write a short statement of interest about why you would like to be on the High School Nutmeg Book Selection Committee, including how you heard about the committees and what you would bring to the group.

Nutmeg Book Selection Committees are volunteer positions and filling out this form does not guarantee a position on a committee. We will try to respond to everyone by December 1, 2011.

Thank you!