#### Kiki Kallira Breaks A Kingdom

#### Mandanna, Sangu

Kiki Kallira is a worrier, but drawing is her happy place. So, the day she falls into the mystical world she drew in her sketchbook, she discovers some wonderful and then, not-so-wonderful things like an ancient deity bent on total destruction. Can Kiki overcome her anxiety enough to save both worlds in time?



#### Wonder

#### Palacio, R. J.

Born with extreme facial abnormalities, Auggie Pullman goes from being home-schooled to entering 5th grade at a private school where his new classmates can't get past his face. All he wants is to be treated like an ordinary kid but how much taunting will Auggie have to endure to get there?

#### A Blind Guide To Stinkville

#### Vrabel, Beth

12-year-old Alice lives with albinism and the blindness that comes with it. She didn't think it was a big deal until her family moves to Stinkville and she finds herself struggling to get around town. Alice then enters an essay contest to prove blindness is just a part of who she is, not all that she can be.

#### New From Here Yang, Kelly

When COVID-19 hits Hong Kong, Knox and his family move back to California. But his dad has to stay behind, his mom just got fired, and being the new Asian kid at school with ADHD is a struggle as racism skyrockets. Knox tries to stand up to the hate while finding his place in his new country.



# The Truth According to Blue

#### Yohalem, Eve

Blue Broen is on the hunt for a legendary ship of gold but her overprotective parents would never approve of her mission as she's the local poster child for type 1 diabetes. Will Blue unravel a 300-year-old family mystery and learn to stand up for herself or is she destined to just be "diabetes girl" forever?

# **LGBTQIA+**

# The Mighty Heart of Sunny St. James Blake, Ashley

When Sunny receives a new heart, she makes a "New Life Plan" that involves doing awesome things she could never do before, finding a new best friend and kissing a boy for the first time. Upon meeting Quinn though, her new best friend, Sunny questions whether she really wants to kiss a boy at all.

#### **Hurricane Child**

#### Callender, Kacen

Caroline is born unlucky. She's hated by everyone in school, sees things that no one else can see and worst of all, her mother left home one day and never came back. When a new student, Kalinda arrives, Caroline's luck begins to change and together, they set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother.

### **The Pants Project**

#### Clarke, Cat

Liv knows he was always meant to be a boy but with his new school's terrible dress code, he can't even wear pants. Only skirts. And so, Operation Pants Project begins! This isn't just a mission to change the policy but one to change his life.



#### Rick

#### Gino, Alex

Increasingly uncomfortable with his best friend's explicit talk about sex, Rick Ramsey has never questioned his sexuality much. Now in middle school, he discovers the Rainbow Spectrum club, where kids of many genders and identities can express themselves. Maybe among them, he can discover his own identity.

#### The Insiders

#### Oshiro, Mark

Back home, being gay didn't mean feeling different but at Hector's new school, he couldn't feel more alone. One day while hiding from bullies, he stumbles into the janitor's closet into a room that shouldn't be possible. He meets two new friends from different corners of the country facing similar problems.



### Race & Culture

# Cuba In My Pocket Cuevas, Adrianna

With military service for children looming in 1961 Cuba, Cumba's parents send him to Florida alone but life in the U.S. presents a whole new set of challenges. Lost in a sea of English speakers, Cumba has to navigate a new city, a new school, and new freedom all on his own.



### Lupe Wong Won't Dance

#### Higuera, Donna

Lupe Wong is going to be the first female pitcher in the Major Leagues. She needs an A in all her classes though to meet her favorite pitcher, Fu Li Hernandez, who's Chinese and Mexican just like her. But her plan goes awry when she has to learn the horror that is square dancing in gym class.

### Jada Jones: Rock Star Lyons, Kelly

Jada Jones loves science, so when her teacher announces a class project on rocks and minerals, she feels like she's in her element except one of her teammates doesn't seem to like Jada or her ideas very much. Can Jada figure out a way to make a winning science project and a new friend?



#### Race to the Sun

#### Roanhorse, Rebecca

Through her Navajo ancestors, Nizhoni Begay discovers that she's destined to become a monsterslayer. When her dad disappears, Nizhoni and friends are thrust into a rescue mission. They eventually earn special weapons to defeat their enemy but is that enough for Nizhoni to become the hero she was destined to be?

#### Save Me A Seat

#### Weeks, Sarah

Ravi has just moved to the U.S. from India and has always been at the top of his class whereas Joe's lived in the same town his whole life and has learning difficulties. Both picked on by the biggest bully in their class, they now have a common mission, to take back control of their lives.



## Socioeconomic

# **Crenshaw**Applegate, Katherine

Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times with no money for food or rent. They may have to live in their minivan. Again.

Crenshaw is an imaginary cat and has come back into Jackson's life to help him, but is an imaginary friend enough to save his family from losing everything?

# **Efrén Divided**Cisneros, Ernesto

Efrén worries about his parents. Although he's American-born, his parents are undocumented. His worst nightmare comes true one day when Amá is deported across the border to México. Now more than ever, Efrén must channel his inner hero to help take care of and reunite his family.

# Everlasting Nora

Cruz, Marie

After losing their home in a fire, 12-year-old Nora and her mother live in Manila's North Cemetery in the Philippines. One day, her mother disappears and a loan shark steals her savings. Nora must find a way to earn some money and begin to search for her mother.



### **A Thousand Questions**

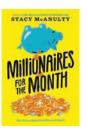
#### Faruqi, Saadia

Mimi has to spend her summer in Pakistan with wealthy grandparents she's never met. She secretly wishes to find her absent father. Meanwhile, Sakina needs to improve her English to get into school but her family can't afford to lose money for tutoring. Incompatible at first, Mimi and Sakina realize they need each other to get what they want.

#### Millionaires for the Month

#### McAnulty, Stacy

After finding a lost wallet, Felix and Benji "borrow" twenty dollars to buy hot dogs. The owner, tech billionaire Laura Friendly, challenges them to spend five million dollars in thirty days. If they succeed, they each get ten million dollars to spend how they want but they soon realize money can't fix every problem.



For more recommendations, visit dppl.org/about/DEI or ask the Youth librarians at 847-376-2839.





# **Library Hours**

Monday - Friday:

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday:

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday:

1 - 5 p.m.

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# #Representation Matters

2<sup>ND</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE



# **Differing Abilities**

#### **Aven Green: Sleuthing Machine**

### **Bowling, Dusti**

Aven Green is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade super sleuth. Her theory is since she was born without arms, all the "arm" cells went to her super-powered brain instead. But can this perceptive detective solve two cases at the same time?



#### Real

#### Cujec, Carol

Charity's brain works differently from most people because of her autism but she's still funny, determined, and kind. So why do people treat her like she's invisible? Enrolled into a public school for the first time, Charity must face her greatest fears and fight to be treated like a real student.

#### Show Me A Sign

#### LeZotte, Ann

It's 1805 and Mary Lambert has always felt safe in her deaf community where everyone communicates in sign language but land disputes are mounting. This attracts a cruel scientist determined to discover the origin of the island's deafness. He decides she'd make the perfect "live specimen" and kidnaps her.

