

Monday Morning Eye-Opener October 28, 2024

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

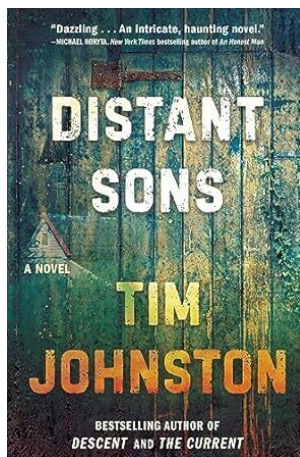
IOWA | State Library of Iowa

October 28, 2024

All Iowa Reads 2025 Titles Announced

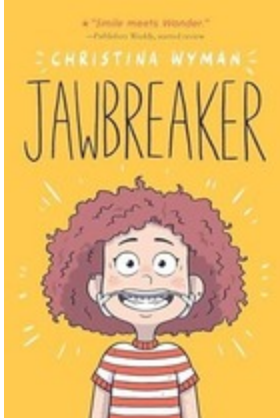
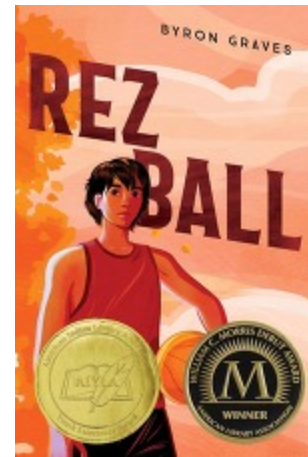


Just last week, the All Iowa Reads books for 2025 were announced on the Talk of Iowa program on Iowa Public Radio. Host Charity Nebbe was joined by two All Iowa Reads Committee members: Kamryn Kronschnabel with Charles City Public Library announcing the adult title and Janeé Jackson-Doering, State Library Youth Services Consultant, announcing the titles for teens and kids. Here we go:



Distant Sons by Tim Johnston. Adult Title: The paths of two young men collide and spark unexpected violence in a Wisconsin town where three boys went missing in the 1970s in this "intricate, haunting novel" Gripping and immersive, this crime novel by bestselling author Tim Johnston becomes so much more: a book about friendship and love and good hard work—and a masterful read about how the most random intersection of lives can have consequences both devastating and beautiful.

Rez Ball by Byron Graves. Teen Title: This compelling debut novel by new talent Byron Graves tells the relatable, high-stakes story of a young athlete determined to play like the hero his Ojibwe community needs him to be. After decades of rez teams *almost* making it, Tre needs to take his team to state. Because if he can live up to Jaxon's dreams, their story isn't over yet.



Jawbreaker by Christina Wyman. Kids Title: This is a funny and fresh middle-grade debut novel about jawbreaking dental drama. Max has a severe overbite. She already has braces, which means she lives on Advil and soft foods after each orthodontist appointment. But now Max has to wear totally awkward orthodontic headgear nicknamed “the jawbreaker.” Could things get any worse?

Established in 2003, the purpose of the **All Iowa Reads** program is to foster a sense of community through reading. Iowans are encouraged to come together in their communities to read and talk about a single book title in the same calendar year. **All Iowa Reads** consists of three programs, each with one title chosen per year: adults, teens ages 12-18, and kids ages 8-12. Libraries, book clubs, schools and other local organizations are encouraged to sponsor discussions of the titles.

In the coming months, the State Library will have multiple copies of all three 2025 titles for Iowa libraries to borrow for their local book clubs—those will travel via IAShares. And by January, we'll be ready to post book discussion questions, promotional materials, and more to the AIR website. Learn more at the button below!

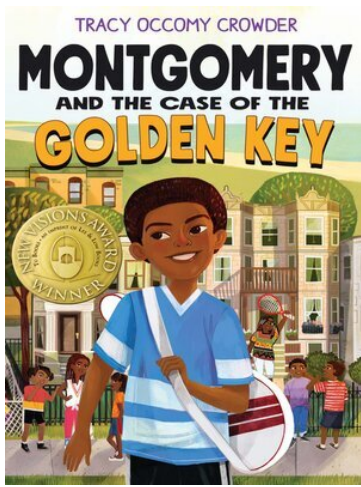
[All Iowa Reads Titles 2025](#)

OverDrive's Next Big Library Read

November 7-21, 2024

OverDrive has announced their next **Big Library Reads** title: [Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key](#) by Tracy Ocomy Crowder. Beginning **November 7** and running through **November 21**, this title will be available for simultaneous use in eBook and eAudiobook formats without waiting lists.

Described as a mystery for the whole family to enjoy, [Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key](#) features 10-year-old Monty Carver, who is out to find the origin of a golden



key found in his southside Chicago neighborhood. The year is 2008 and Monty's neighborhood is one that may or may not host the next Olympic games, that may or may not usher in the next U.S. President, that may or may not have a ghost hanging around 😊

Here's more about the book from the project website: *"In 2008 Chicago, in the Southside community of Washington Park, Montgomery "Monty" Carver had hopes for the best summer ever! Unfortunately, things aren't going as planned. Monty is struggling to prove to his parents that he's old enough to be without adult supervision—especially after a very embarrassing incident with a metal*

detector. Man! So when Monty finds a golden key in Old Lady Jenkins's sunflowers, he decides he's going to unravel the key's mystery all by himself, thank you very much..."

Big Library Read is a global reading program, a worldwide digital version of a local book discussion club. Sponsored by OverDrive, this program represents an opportunity to connect your local readers with book lovers around the world as they read and discuss the same book at the same time without wait lists or holds.

This is a ready-made reading program 😊 We hope you'll point your patrons to **Bridges** on **November 7** to download [Montgomery and the Case of the Golden Key](#) and to **The Big Library Reads** website at the button below for social media graphics, marketing materials, book discussion guide, and a press release to help with local promotion.

[More About Big Library Read](#)



Save the Date, Submit a Session Idea

Oh sure, Halloween is this week, so the new year is still a few months off 😊 But our Education & Training Team is already making plans for **ILOC 2025!** We have a date for our **Iowa Libraries Online Conference** and we have a theme. **January 30, 2025** is the date, **"Access, Adapt, Act: Making Evaluation Count"** is the theme. This is an annual day of online learning is complete with keynote speakers, several breakout sessions, and ample continuing education credits.

In addition, the **ILOC Conference** is noted for showcasing Iowa library staff sharing their experience and expertise. The 2025 theme focusing on evaluation asks why we collect statistics, why we evaluate our efforts, and how we can make stats and evaluations most useful.

Eye-Opener readers are encouraged to submit a proposal to be considered for a breakout session. **Ideas for presentation topics can include:**

- **Using statistics to your best advantage**
- **Finding new ways to collect evaluations**
- **Using Project Outcome or other software to gather evaluation data**
- **Leveraging technology for evaluation**
- **Engaging stakeholders in the evaluation process**
- **Using visualization like infographics to present results in compelling ways**
- **Evaluating impact beyond usage statistics**
- **Showcasing how you used data and evaluations to create/modify library services or facilities**

The **ILOC Call For Proposals** is open now through **November 25th**. Read more about **ILOC** and find a **Google Form** to submit your proposal at the button below. Thanks in advance—and good luck to all 😊

[ILOC 2025 Call For Proposals](#)

Happy Halloween!



Webinars This Week

Webinars this week show below. If you're logged into your **WorkDay Learning** account, these links open to the class descriptions. From there, click "Select Offering" to confirm date and time and to register.

[Check It Out](#)

October 29. 11:00AM-12:00PM

[Library Horizons: What's New From ARSL Conference 2024?](#)

October 29. 1:00-2:00PM

[Pop YS Live: iRead Summer 2025 Preview](#)

October 30. 1:00-2:00PM

[Welcoming Digital Spaces: How to Ensure Your Web Presence is Accessible to All](#)

October 31. 10:00-11:00AM

Register in Workday Learning

NOTE: There is room for more people in the **Reflective Practice Groups**, which are part of the **Trauma Informed Library Practices** grant project that kicked off a few weeks ago. These groups, facilitated by Alyssa Caldbeck (MSW / LISW) focus on creating a safe space to share and reflect on personal experiences at work, gain support from others in similar roles, and continuously learn new perspectives and skills. Six different groups are meeting monthly through the end of the grant project. Find out more and sign up for a group that's right for you at the button below

[Sign Up For Reflective Practice Groups](#)

The *Eye-Opener* will be on hiatus over the next two weeks, look for the next issue on November 18.

And this reminder: all State Library offices will be closed on Monday November 11th for the Veterans' Day Holiday.



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State Library of Iowa

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