Teachers’ Choices Fact Sheet

**Project Background**
Teachers’ Choices is an annual project of the International Literacy Association (ILA) that began in 1989. Each year, teachers, librarians, and reading/literacy specialists from different regions of the United States read hundreds of new titles donated by North American publishers and choose 30 of their favorites for readers ages 5–14. At least six educators in each area read each book.

**Project Goals**
- Develop an annual annotated reading list of high-quality new books that young people enjoy
- Help educators find books that enrich the curriculum
- Guide young people to books that they might not discover or appreciate without the help of a teacher, librarian, parent, or other adult
- Showcase a diversity of cultures, races, gender identities, and abilities, reflected through authors and illustrators of K–8 literature

Previous Teachers’ Choices annotated lists are available at [https://literacyworldwide.org/get-resources/reading-lists/teachers-choices-reading-list](https://literacyworldwide.org/get-resources/reading-lists/teachers-choices-reading-list).

**Project Areas**
Teachers’ Choices team leaders are selected from five areas of the United States:
- Area 1: Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington
- Area 2: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont
- Area 3: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas
- Area 4: Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming
- Area 5: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin

**Becoming a Team Leader**
ILA members within the United States interested in joining this exciting and worthwhile project are encouraged to apply to become a team leader. To qualify, you must:
- Be employed as an educator in a school or university
- Want to help teachers use children’s and middle grade literature in the classroom
- Have contacts within local school districts in your state
- Live or work within a reasonable distance of participating schools
- Attend both the project’s planning session and the project session during the ILA Conference for all three years of your term
- Possess excellent organizational skills
- Adhere to project deadlines
If you are committed to high-quality literature for children and middle grade readers and possess the necessary qualifications, please visit our website (literacyworldwide.org/choices) to fill out the team leader online application form.

For more information, please contact choices@reading.org.