

The Amelia Bloomer Project 2016



Teen Fiction and Non-fiction

Amelia Bloomer Project presents
the best books with significant
feminist content published
within the last 18 months

***Burge, Kimberly.** *The Born Frees: Writing with the Girls of Gugulethu.* Gr.9-up. In the South African township of Gugulethu, young women from the first generation born post-apartheid explore the challenges that they and their community face, including sexism, classism, sexual abuse, HIV/AIDS, and poverty.

***Carmon, Irin, and Shana**

Knizhnik. *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.* Gr.8-up. Why has Ruth Bader Ginsburg become the subject of memes, art, and feminist baby Halloween costumes? Carmon and Knizhnik explore the justice's history of legally justifying the equality of women and all marginalized people.

Collins, Petra, ed. *Babe.* Gr.10-up.

Young women photographers critique the ideal of beauty with thought-provoking photos that, without shame, celebrate the realistic and sometimes unsanitary female body.

Dunnigan, Alice (author) and Carol McCabe Booker (editor). *Alone atop the Hill: Autobiography of Alice Dunnigan, Pioneer of the National Black Press.*

Gr.9-up.

In her autobiography, Alice Dunnigan explores the intersecting forces of racism and sexism, which she fought throughout her life and her career as a groundbreaking black female journalist.

Ellis, Samantha. *How to Be a Heroine: Or, What I've Learned from Reading Too Much.* Gr.9-up.

Ellis, a playwright and journalist, reflects on how the heroines of classic novels have shaped her life and her ideas about gender roles, ideas of womanhood, and feminism.

Eltahawy, Mona. *Headscarves and Hymens: Why the Middle East Needs a Sexual Revolution.* Gr.10-up.

Egyptian American feminist Mona Eltahawy crafts a passionate argument about the widespread legal & cultural issues facing girls and women in the Middle East and North Africa. She also explores her own journey into claiming a feminist identity.

Harding, Kate. *Asking for It: The Rise of Rape Culture—and What We Can Do About It.* Gr.10-up.

With insight, humor, and thorough research, Harding tackles rape culture, including misconceptions and myths, its consequences for men and women of all ages, and how we can change it.

Hirshman, Linda. *Sisters in Law.* Gr.10-up.

This dual biography recounts the separate paths the first and second women to serve on the Supreme Court took to their goal of legal equality for women.

Swaby, Rachel. *Headstrong: 52 Women Who Changed Science—and the World.* 2015. Gr.9-up.

Swaby highlights the accomplishments of women in science throughout history to help provide role models for girls and women pursuing science today.

The Amelia Bloomer Project is part of the Feminist Task Force of the American Library Association's Social Responsibility Round Table.

The **2016 Amelia Bloomer Project**

Committee Members are: Katie Dersnah Mitchell, co-chair, Saline District Library (MI); Linda Parsons, co-chair, The Ohio State University, Marion (OH); Ann Bever, Dallas Public Library (TX); Kate-lyn Browne, University of Northern Iowa (IA); Kelly Dickinson, National Cathedral School (DC); Emily Fear, Sewickley Public Library (PA); Melissa Nemitz, West Windsor Public Library (NJ); Gesse Stark-Smith, Multnomah County Library (OR); Lizz Zitron, Pacific Lutheran University (WA); and Caitie Morpew (alternate), Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (PA).

An asterisk (*) indicates that a book is one of our Top Ten titles.

Young Adult/Fiction

Arnold, Elana K. *Infamous*.

Gr.10-up.

Using fairy tales as a metaphor for her own life, Sephora finds a way through her great shame and deep humiliation.

Crowder, Melanie. *Audacity*. Gr.7-up.

After emigrating from Russia to America, Clara defiantly pursues an education and becomes a union organizer. Despite being beaten, jailed, and blacklisted, she refuses to be silenced.

***Diamant, Anita.** *The Boston Girl*.

Gr.9-up.

Unwilling to accept the rigid restrictions of her youth at the beginning of the 20th century, Addie Baum fought to be true to herself. Mentors and friends sustain her as she grows to be an independent, educated woman.

Donnelly, Jennifer. *These Shallow Graves*.

Gr.7-up.

Not satisfied with the prospect of marriage and settling into an idle existence, Jo Montfort risks her fortune, family, friends and life when she defies society's expectations by investigating the mysterious death of her father.

Frank, E.R. *Dime*. Gr.10-up.

Dime is looking for love and security when she finds Daddy, Brandy, and L.A. She believes she is loved even as she is groomed to work as a prostitute. When a much younger girl joins their "family," Dime realizes that she has to break the cycle.

Hartzler, Aaron. *What We Saw*. Gr.9-up.

As evidence of a gang rape starts to spread on social media, Kate struggles to be a force for truth and an advocate for justice while determining who she can trust.

Lasko-Gross, Miss. *Henni*. Gr.8-up.

Young Henni questions the subjugation and gender stereotypes of the theocratic society she lives in and strikes out on her own to discover truth and freedom.

Lee, Stacey. *Under A Painted Sky*. 2015.

Gr. 7- up.

In 1849, on the run from the law and disguised as boys, Sammy and Andy work together to survive and seek their freedom in the face of racism, sexism, stampedes, and deadly disease.

***Mathieu, Jennifer.** *Devoted*. Gr.7-up.

Raised with a strict fundamentalist adherence to the Bible, Rachel Walker has been taught that women can only become a loving helpmate to a husband. When a former member of her church moves back to town, Rachel begins to see other possibilities.

Murphy, Julie. *Dumplin'*. Gr.9-up.

After deciding to enter Miss Teen Blue Bonnet Beauty Pageant, Willowdean and her friends defy expectations based on beauty and gain a greater sense of confidence and self worth.

Rabb, Margo. *Kissing in America*. Gr.9-

up.

Sixteen-year-old Eva Roth confronts the complexities of grief, relationships, and love of all kinds as she begins to forge her own voice and path as a woman and a poet.

Summers, Courtney. *All The Rage*.

Gr.10-up.

Since Romy Grey accused the sheriff's son of rape, she has been ostracized and bullied by the community. When her former friend goes missing after a party Romy must decide if she's willing to raise her voice against the cultural tides of silence and shame.

Wiviott, Meg. *Paper Hearts*. Gr.7-up.

Based on a true story, this novel in verse gives voice to a group of young women who banded together to survive and reclaim their personhood in the face of the dehumanizing cruelty of Auschwitz.

Young Adult/Non-fiction

***Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi.** *We*

Should All Be Feminists. Gr.7-up.

Adichie's personal essay explains why she chose to be true to herself and work towards societal change in gender attitudes.

***African American Women:**

Photographs from the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Gr.6-up.

Photographs from the nineteenth century to the present depict the diverse experiences of African American women and their ongoing importance in American history.