

**XAVIER COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL
SUMMER READING 2022**



Dear Incoming Honors Junior,
(Conflict, Social Justice, and Literature)

We hope that this letter finds you well and anticipating the end of a rewarding year. We hope that you will have many good experiences and make many good decisions before we see you again in August. One of those decisions we would like to help you with is the decision to remain engaged in some kind of academic activity this summer. It is our belief that encouraging students to read year-round is a key element in the development of lifelong learners. While the summer is certainly time to be away from school, we hope that it is not a time to stop reading, thinking, and growing.

For summer work:

You will read two books this summer (see below). These required works will be part of the overall theme of the year. These books have been selected for their interest level and readability as well as for their challenging, compelling content. In short, you should expect to think, but they should be fun to read.

Required Books:

- ***One Day: The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary 24 Hours in America*** by Gene Weingarten
“That Sunday between Christmas and New Year’s turned out to be filled with comedy, tragedy, implausible irony, cosmic comeuppances, kindness, cruelty, heroism, cowardice, genius, idiocy, prejudice, selflessness, coincidence, and startling moments of human connection, along with evocative foreshadowing of momentous events yet to come...Many of these events never made it into the news; they were private dramas in the lives of private people. They were utterly compelling. *One Day* asks and answers the question of whether there is even such a thing as ‘ordinary’ when we are talking about how we all lurch and stumble our way through the daily, daunting challenge of being human.”
- ***Eleanor & Park*** by Rainbow Rowell
“Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the story of two star-crossed misfits—smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try.”

Summer Reading Assignment:

Over the course of the summer, your task is to carefully read and annotate **both books**. Within the first meetings of class, you will be responsible for completing various assessments. These assessments will rely on an understanding of the Grad @ Grad components (use link to remind yourself about these qualities), personal reflection, and true knowledge of the books as a whole. Be prepared to rely on the content and knowledge throughout the course, so take good notes you can refer back to as needed. These books are meant to be touchstones for the course and content, so please be ready to apply your reading to discussions, themes, and assignments.

<https://www.xavierprep.org/about/grad-to-grad.cfm>