Ross, Rebecca
Divine Rivals
Read this one if you want journalist rivals with a healthy dose of star-crossed angst and wartime action. Magic brings them together; will the reawakened gods tear them apart?

Thanh Tran, Trang
She is a Haunting
Do you believe in ghosts? How about that ghosts creep in to your dreams, your walls, your flowerbeds, your very marrow? Jade didn’t even want to come visit her father in Vietnam in the first place. Now, everywhere she looks, there is rot, anger, and unraveling. It’s not pretty to look at, but it’s impossible to look away.

White, Andrew Joseph
The Spirit Bares Its Teeth
Dark academia to the extreme. How do you thrive when the whole world doesn’t believe you are who you are? Do you fight to find allies and a place to belong or do you give up and listen to the anxiety rabbit within you?

Zoboi, Ibi
Nigeria Jones
An amazing book for anyone fascinated by cults and ready to love a deeply frustrating protagonist. Nigeria is stuck in a mess of a Movement, controlled by her father and fighting with all she’s got to break free. Her choices don’t always make sense, but she is brave and she is memorable.

FOCUS ON NONFICTION

Edinger, Monica
Nearer My Freedom: The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano by Himself
Real people are so complicated. Olaudah Equiano led a rough life - enslaved on three continents, he survived as he had to in dangerous world. Even in his own telling, he is not always noble or good, but he is interesting.

Mufleh, Luma - From Here
Mufleh is a refugee activist and a gay Muslim woman who grew up in Jordan knowing that if she stayed she would be killed for her sexuality. When she finally found a way to escape to the U.S. her family was powerful enough to send the FBI after her. If memoirs that seem almost too wild to be true are your thing then this one is for you.

Rusch, Elizabeth
The 21: The True Story of the Youth Who Sued the U.S. Government Over Climate Change
Some very brave children – many of them from Oregon - teamed up with some clever attorneys to sue the government, shedding light in a dramatic way on harmful environmental policies.

Slater, Dashka
Accountable: The True Story of a Racist Social Media Account and the Teenagers Whose Lives It Changed
When people say they don’t like nonfiction, they don’t mean nonfiction like this. It is jaw dropping, infuriating, and has a lasting impact.

2024 BOOK RAVE
Best books for teen readers as chosen by Oregon’s young adult librarians

www.oyanpeeps.wordpress.com
oyan@olaweb.org
Albertalli, Becky
*Imogen, Obviously*
Lighthearted and meaningful all at once. What’s the line between friendship and romance? What do you do when you find yourself questioning who you are and who you’re attracted to? Discover Imogen’s answer as she makes new friends, has new crushes, and discovers a new part to her story.

Bouley, Angeline
*Warrior Girl Unearthed*
The second book by Angeline Bouley hits on so many levels. It’s thrilling, witty, and exciting. It is a primer on the multilayered failures of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. It’s an indictment of the ongoing pattern of harm to indigenous women. And just for the fan, Daunis from *Firekeeper’s Daughter* reappears in a deeply satisfying supporting role.

Hazelwood, Ali
*Check & Mate*
Mallory Greenleaf hasn’t touched chess in four years but at her best friend’s urging plays in a tournament where she is paired with and then beats the world chess champion...whoops. It is serving slow-burn rivals to romance against the backdrop of competitive chess.

McGoon, Kekla
*The Minus-One Club*
Found family, self-discovery, and heartbreak. Read this one if you want your heart broken and put back together again, over and over. Will the end leave you shattered into a million pieces or stitched back together with hope?

McCullough, Joy
*Enter the Body*
This novel-in-verse is Shakespeare, but make it feminist. In the room beneath a stage’s trapdoor, the dead girls of Shakespeare’s plays have their stories told. But they get to choose how their stories are told.

Ness, Patrick
*Different for Boys*
This is *Heartstopper* but with even more of the messy reality of boys coming to terms with sexuality in a small town. The illustrations, strategically censored content, and the story will break your heart, but the cracks will let hope in.

Oshiro, Mark
*Into the Light*
Three timelines and two narrators tell a story of religious trauma, PTSD, abandonment, and the toll extracted from those whose autonomy is stripped from them. The conclusion to this thriller is revealed piece by piece and by the end, you will be ready to help Manny set the world on fire, for him and all the kids like him who have been mistreated.