


# COMICS & LIBRARIES

A No-Fear Graphic Novel Reader's Advisory



Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives  
February 2017

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## WE WILL DISCUSS...

1. Introduction / Brief History
2. Educational Benefits
3. Graphic Novels for Children / Teens
4. Graphic Novels for Adults
5. Shelving / Cataloging
6. Resources




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## DEFINITIONS TO KNOW

- *Comic Strip*: A short sequence of 1 page or less
- *Comic Book*: Serialized comics appearing in a magazine- sized booklet
- *Graphic Novel*: Novel –length comics or a collection of comic books that tell a single narrative arc appearing in book form
- *Manga*: Stylized Japanese graphic novel in which both page and panels are read right to left.
- *Anime*: Animation of Japanese origin that can share both style and narrative tropes with manga. Not to be confused with a book; is television or film format.

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# WHAT IS A GRAPHIC NOVEL?



Telling a story through sequential art

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*The Librarian of Congress and the Greatness of Humility*  
The New Yorker, Sunday, February 19, 2017

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### GRAPHIC NOVEL ELEMENTS

- Color
- Line
- Composition
- Frames
- Speech Balloons
- White Space
- Media/Tools
- Artistic Style




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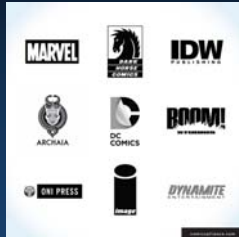
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### MAJOR PUBLISHERS

- Marvel Comics
- DC Comics
- Dark Horse Comics
- Image Comics
- IDW Publishing
- Gemstone Publishing
- Fantagraphics
- Kodansha
- Viz




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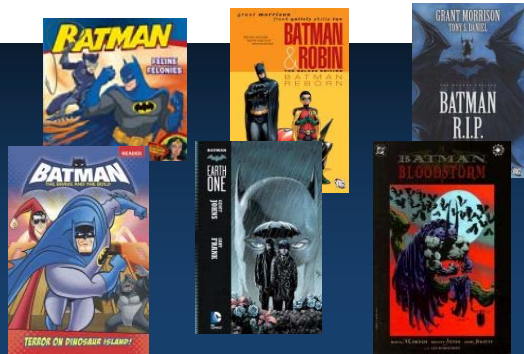
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### POPULAR CHARACTERS ACROSS COLLECTIONS...




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GRAPHIC DOES NOT MEAN...

Explicit Content

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A BRIEF HISTORY (IMAGE VIA: INTERNET PUBLIC LIBRARY)



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EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS



- Reluctant Readers
- Vocabulary Exposure
- Visual Literacy
- Comprehension

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*"Does having read the novelization of the latest superhero movie "count" as having read a book?"*



*"How about a graphic novel based on a line of toys?"*

The Goosebumps Conundrum: What Makes a Children's Book Good?  
The New Yorker  
<http://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/the-goosebumps-conundrum-what-makes-a-childrens-book-good>

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## WHAT GRAPHIC NOVELS OFFER

- They give you all the visual stimulation of a movie with the textual experience of a book
- They give you a different way to experience events both fictional and historical
- They engage both the right and left hemispheres of your brain.



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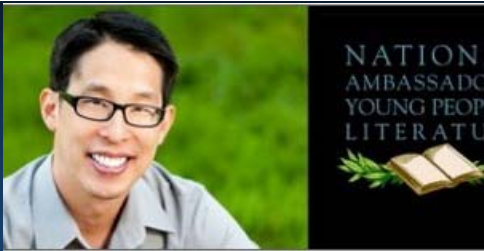
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## MEET GENE LUEN YANG



National Ambassador for Young People's Literature  
2016 MacArthur Genius Grant Honoree

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### AMIRA IN AMERICA

- ALA sponsored Project Welcome conference in Chicago
- Resource for refugees in the process of resettlement
- Free – “Zine” Distribution Model
- <http://thehornbakery.tumblr.com/>
- [lizjaribee.com](http://lizjaribee.com)



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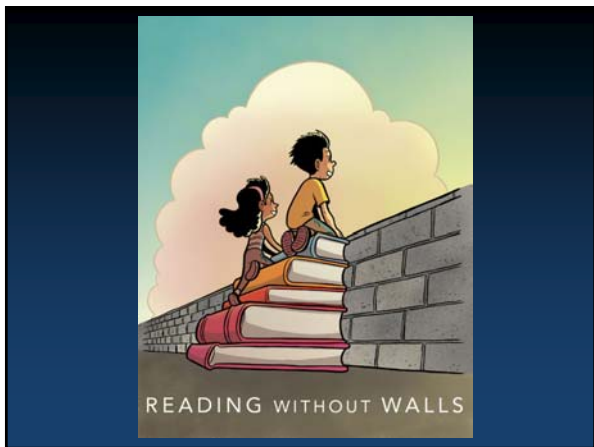
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SCHOOL AGE TITLES:  
BABYMOUSE AND SQUISH



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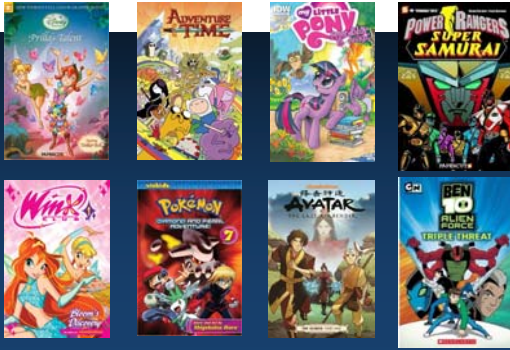
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SCHOOL AGE TITLES – TV



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SCHOOL AGE TITLES



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### SCHOOL AGE NON-FICTION




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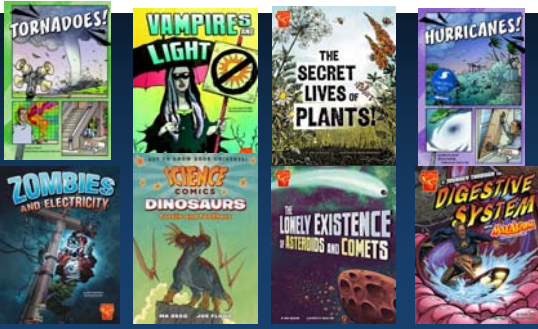
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### SCIENCE TITLES – SCHOOL AGE




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### HOT TITLES – TEEN



Image via: Dc Comics



Image via: geektest.com

- Batman
- Batwoman
- Flash
- Green Arrow
- Green Lantern
- Justice League
- Superman
- Teen Titans
- Wonder Woman

- Avengers
- Captain Marvel
- Deadpool
- Guardians of the Galaxy
- Spider Man
- X-Men

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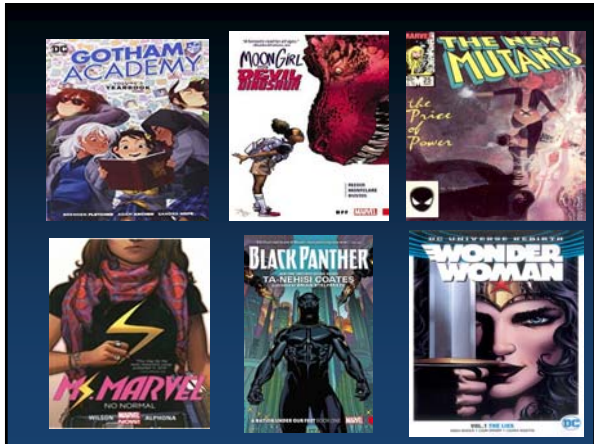
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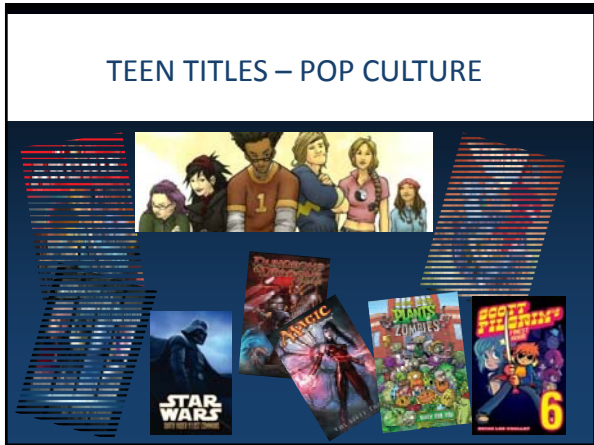
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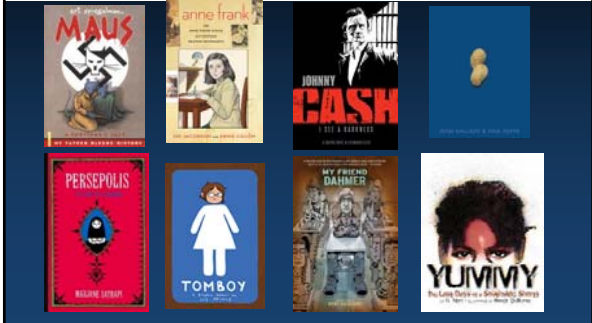
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### GRAPHIC BIOGRAPHIES




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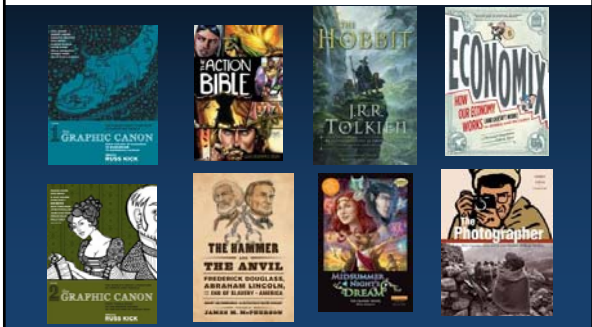
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### GRAPHIC CLASSICS & NON-FICTION




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### SCIENCE TITLES FOR TEENS




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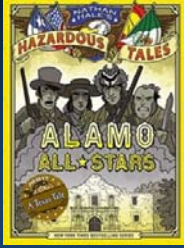
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### HISTORY TITLES FOR TEENS



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### MANGA



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### READING WESTERN COMICS VS MANGA

#### Western

- Reads: L→R
- Usually in full color
- More square panels
- More varied art styles
- Third-person narrative
- More text heavy; narration

#### Eastern

- Reads: R→L ("backwards")
- Usually in black and white
- More fluid layout
- Defined by specific art style
- First-person narrative
- Dialog and visuals move story

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**A** ALL AGES  
No offensive material.

**Y** (Youth, ages 10+) – Appropriate for ages 10 and up. May contain violence.

**T** (Teen, ages 13+) – Appropriate for ages 13 and up. May contain violence, profanity, and semi-nudity.

**OT** (Older Teen, ages 16+) – Appropriate for ages 16 and up. May contain violence, profanity, semi-nudity, and some sexual themes.

**M** (Mature, ages 18+) – Appropriate for ages 18 and up. May contain graphic violence, nudity, profanity, sex, and

**MANGA/ANIME RATINGS**

\*Not necessarily comparable to Western age rating systems

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**MANGA VS. ANIME**

Manga = Text/Book      Anime = TV/Film


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**BROAD MANGA GENRES**

<p><b>Shonen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boys, 10-18 years old</li> <li>• Focus on friendship</li> <li>• Adventures; coming of age</li> <li>• Comedy</li> <li>• Sports</li> <li>• Sci-fi</li> <li>• <i>Shonen Jump</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Shojo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Girls, 10-18</li> <li>• Focus on friendship, love</li> <li>• Comedy</li> <li>• Romance</li> <li>• Paranormal</li> <li>• <i>Shojo Beat</i></li> </ul>
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### POPULAR SHONEN MANGA

- Bleach
- Death Note
- Fullmetal Alchemist



- InuYasha
- Naruto
- One Piece

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### POPULAR SHOJO MANGA

- Dengeki Daisy
- Fruits Basket
- Fushigi Yugi
- Sailor Moon
- Tokyo Mew Mew
- “Alice” series




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### IF YOU LIKE...

Action/Historical Fiction/Suspense:

- Afterschool Charisma
- Black Butler
- D Gray-Man



Comedy:

- The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya
- Ouran High School Host Club
- Ranma One Half




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### IF YOU LIKE...



Paranormal Romance:  
-Black Bird  
-The Earl and the Fairy  
-Rosario Vampire



Realistic Romance:  
-Ai Ore!  
-La Corda d'Oro  
-Toradora!

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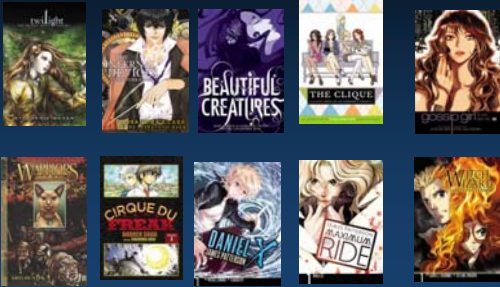
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### POPULAR SERIES ADAPTATIONS



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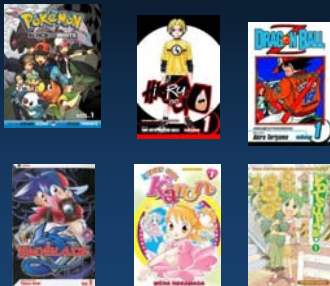
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### CHILDREN'S MANGA

- Pokemon
- Hikaru No Go
- Dragon Ball Z
- Beyblade
- Fairy Idol Kanon
- Yotsuba



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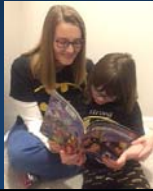
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## GRAPHIC NOVELS FOR ADULTS

(Or for the Kid at Heart!!)



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## GRAPHIC NOVELS AND ADULTS

- Same educational benefits as children and teens
- Crossover appeal with children and teen titles
- Biggest difference: Mature themes and subject matter

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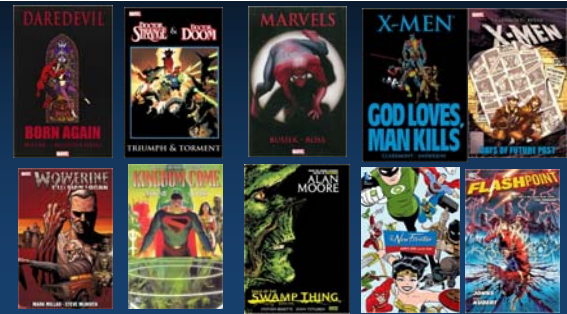
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## SUPERHEROES



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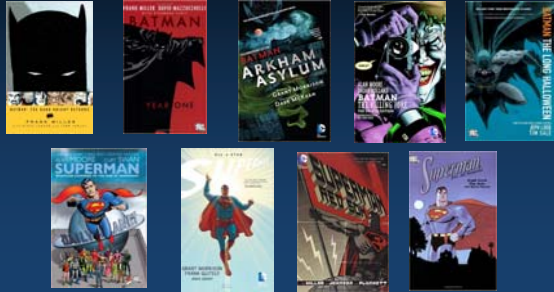
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### BATMAN VS. SUPERMAN



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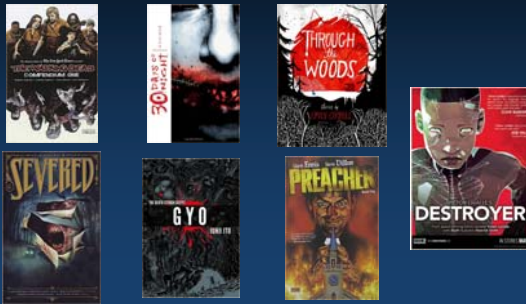
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### HORROR



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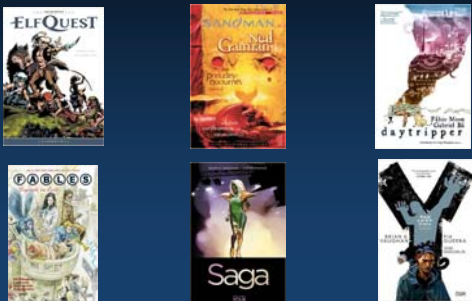
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### SCIENCE FICTION / FANTASY



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### BIOGRAPHICAL FICTION, MEMOIRS AND NON-FICTION



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### GENERAL FICTION



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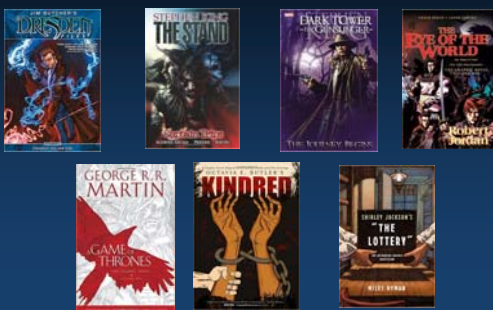
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### BOOK ADAPTATIONS



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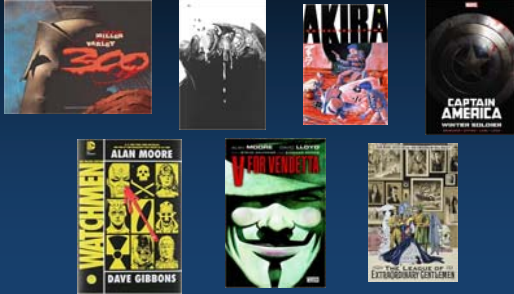
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### GRAPHIC NOVELS AT THE MOVIES




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### CATALOGING & SHELVING FOR GRAPHIC NOVELS

So where do I put this stuff?

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### CATALOGING (SORRY, DEWEY!!)

- Using 741.5... is not a great idea!
- Can shelve with fiction collection (still not the best)
- Use stand alone collection codes or stickers (the Best!!)
  - GN (or GRAPHIC) + Cutter
  - By Character = GN + Character (i.e. GN Batm = Batman titles)
  - By Series = GN + Series title (i.e. GN Fabl = Fables series)
  - By Author = GN + Author Last Name (for standalone titles)

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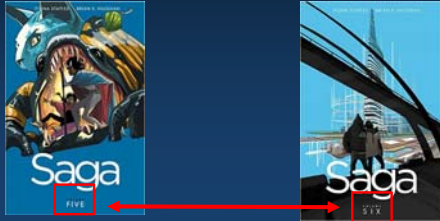
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## CATALOGING

- Catalog individual volumes on separate records
- Easier for placing holds on the right volumes!



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## SHELVING

- Shelf by audience – absolutely DO NOT interfile...
- “But they want the Walking Dead...”
- Graphic Non-Fiction is it’s own genre; shelve accordingly



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## BEST PRACTICES - MARSHALL CO.



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**RESOURCES**

How Do I Find This Awesome Stuff?

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**SOURCES FOR SELECTION**

- Beginner/ Not enough time...
- Intermediate/Advanced
- B&T/Ingram
- Amazon.com Best Sellers
- NYT Best Sellers
- SLJ/PW
- ALA Lists\*




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### SELECT LIKE THE PROS...

- Get it for free if you tell your favorite comic book shop you're a librarian!
- Published by Diamond Comic Distributors, Inc.
- Best features:
  - Annual Free Comic Book Day preview
  - Top 10 Lists:
    - Graphics
    - Manga
    - DVDs
    - Games (tabletop)
    - Books (F/NF)




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### BLOGS TO FOLLOW...

- io9
- iFanboy
- DC Women Kicking Ass
- The Mary Sue
- Bleeding Cool
- The Beat
- Good Comics for Kids (School Library Journal)
- No Flying No Tights
- Graphic Novel Reporter
- Manga.about.com
- Anime News Network

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### MORE WEBSITES!

- Popular Graphic Novels for Adults  
<https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/adult-graphic-novels>
- Graphic Novels: Suggestions for Librarians  
<http://ncac.org/resource/graphic-novels-suggestions-for-librarians>

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### CURRICULUM GUIDES & DISCUSSION RESOURCES

The screenshot shows the Random House Teachers & Librarians website. The main heading is "Graphic Novels Educators' Guide". Below it, there is a search bar and a "NEWSLETTER" sign-up section. A small graphic novel cover is visible on the left side of the page.

Random House Children's Books  
<http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/>

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### NOVELIST

The screenshot shows the Novelist website interface. It features a search bar at the top with the text "Example: Life of Pi". Below the search bar, there are sections for "Recommended Reads Lists" and "I'm in the mood for books that are...". A dropdown menu is open, showing various categories like "Graphic Novels", "Action and Crime Graphic Novels", etc.

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### KENTUCKY LIBRARIES UNBOUND (OVERDRIVE)

- <https://kyunbound.overdrive.com>
- Graphic novels for a variety of ages
- Available to all consortium members!

The logo for Kentucky Libraries Unbound includes the text "Kentucky Libraries Unbound" and "eBooks • audiobooks • and more" below it.

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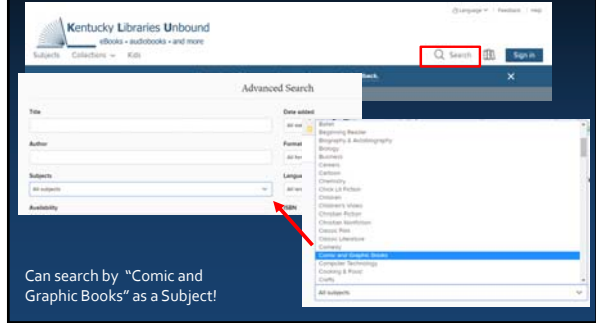
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### KENTUCKY LIBRARIES UNBOUND (OVERDRIVE)




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### GRAPHIC NOVEL PRINT RESOURCES!

- **101 Outstanding Graphic Novels**  
by Stephen Weiner, Nantier-Beall-Minoustchine Publishing, 2015
- **100 Greatest Graphic Novels : the Good. The Bad. The Epic.**  
by Katrina Hill, Alex Langley, Krause Publications, 2016
- **Graphic Novels Core Collection**  
edited by Kendal Spires, Gabriela Toth, and Maria Hugger. Grey House Publishing, 2016
- **Read On...Graphic Novels : Reading Lists for Every Taste.**  
by Abby Alpert, Libraries Unlimited, 2012

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### Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

- Search KDLA's Catalog for professional titles and more:
- <http://kdl.ky.gov/common/Pages/WorldCatDiscovery.aspx>




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### KDLA RESOURCES

- **The Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Children and Tweens**  
by David S. Serchay, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2008  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/za4nbyk>
- **The Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Adults**  
by David S. Serchay, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2010  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/i9akaix>
- **Wonderfully Wordless: The 500 Most Recommended Graphic Novels and Picture Books**  
by William Patrick Martin, Rowman and Littlefield 2015  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/hq4wvzr>

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### MORE KDLA RESOURCES!!

- **Library Collections for Teens : Manga and Graphic Novels**  
by Kristin Fletcher-Spear and Merideth Jenson-Benjamin, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2011  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/jrmx892>
- **Developing and Promoting Graphic Novel Collections**  
by Steve Miller, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2005  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/jzmrkc5>
- **The Reader's Advisory Guide to Graphic Novels**  
by Francisca Goldsmith, American Library Assoc., 2010  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/z4h3q9e>
- **Comic Book Collections for Libraries**  
by Fagan & Fagan, Libraries Unlimited, 2011  
Record Link: <http://tinyurl.com/lisywqs>

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### GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK KITS FROM KDLA!!

- American Born Chinese / Gene Luen Yang  
<http://tinyurl.com/h8nlxwz>
- Babymouse / Jennifer L. Holm  
<http://tinyurl.com/h67uzbu>
- El Deafo / CeCe Bell  
<http://tinyurl.com/zndupax>

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**GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK KITS FROM KDLA!!**

- Out From Boneville / Jeff Smith  
<http://tinyurl.com/gqatfad>
- Persepolis / Marjane Satrapi  
<http://tinyurl.com/gg87uma>
- Rapunzel's Revenge / Shannon & Dean Hale  
<http://tinyurl.com/ituonn3>

\*\*COMING SPRING 2017\*\* March, Volume 3 / John Lewis

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**PROGRAMMING KITS FROM KDLA!!**

- Comic Manga Mania : Understanding Anime, Manga and Graphic Novels (Teen Thematic Programming Kit)  
<http://tinyurl.com/gpdmrvh>
- Includes:
  - Books on anime, manga, comics
  - Kiki's delivery service, vol. 1 / Hayao Miyazaki
  - Princess Mononoke, vol. 1 / Hayao Miyazaki
  - Fruits basket, vol. 1 / Natsuki Takaya
  - Fullmetal alchemist, vol. 1 / Hiromu Arakaw
  - Batman : the Dark Knight returns / Frank Miller, Klaus Janson
  - Marvels / Kurt Busiek, Alex Ross

For more information about KDLA Kits:  
<http://kdl.ky.gov/librarians/kits/Pages/default.aspx>

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FREE  
COMIC  
BOOK  
- DAY -  
May 6, 2017

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### THINK OUTSIDE THE ALA/LOCAL CIRCUIT...



- Conventions:**
- Cincinnati Comic Expo
  - Lexington Comic Con
  - New York Comic Con
  - Comic-Con International: San Diego

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### GN COLLECTION ACTION PLAN

[HTTP://WWW.DIAMONDBOOKSHELF.COM/HOME/1/1/20/181?ARTICLEID=37813](http://www.diamondbookshelf.com/home/1/1/20/181?articleid=37813)

- Determine Needs
- Find an Expert (...or grow your own!)
- Purchase Titles
- Decide How To Catalog
- Decide Where to Shelf
- Market the "Merchandise"
- Evaluate Circ Data
- Poll the Customers




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### A FINAL REMINDER...

- You are your best reviewer...
- Promote your collection!
- Frequent your local shops!




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## QUESTIONS?



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## WRAP-UP

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## KDLA LISTSERVS

For Public Library Youth Services Librarians & Staff:

- **KYAC** is a discussion list devoted to those who work with children and teens in the library. By using this LISTSERV®, individuals from around the state will have the chance to ask questions, share ideas, voice concerns, and make valuable contacts all through their e-mail.
- **TO SUBSCRIBE:** To join the list, send email with the subject "KYAC" to [Krista.King-Oaks@ky.gov](mailto:Krista.King-Oaks@ky.gov). In the body of the message, list your name and the name of your library. You will be emailed instructions for posting to this moderated discussion list.
- See the KDLA website for more information on our many listservs – for technology, adult services, bookmobile/outreach, & more!  
<http://kdl.ky.gov/librarians/staffdevelopment/Pages/listservs.aspx>

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**Panel Discussion**  
**New Graphic Novels for Your Library**  
 Tuesday March 14  
 1 PM CDT  
 Register at Booklist Webinars

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Conversations Around Early Literacy: A Webinar Series with Saroj Ghoting**

Part 1 is a large-group instructional session.  
 Part 2 is a small-group session with 1-on-1 feedback.

**Part 1: Thursday, March 2**      **All webinars are 1-2pm ET (12-1pm CT)**  
**Part 2 (Choose ONE):**

- Thursday, March 9
- Tuesday, March 14
- Thursday, March 23

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**FOLLOW KDLA ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**

@KDLALibDev      KDLA CE

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QUESTIONS?

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