

DALLAS HOLOCAUST  
MUSEUM CENTER  
for EDUCATION and TOLERANCE

**Big D Reads Selects Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl as the 2016 Title for Middle Students**  
*The Dallas Public Library, Friends of the DPL, DISD and the Dallas Holocaust Museum are Partners*

DALLAS – March 17, 2016 – [Big D Reads](#) is a community service project designed to immerse Dallas in a shared reading experience. A featured book is chosen, and companion books with similar or related themes are selected in order to engage all ages in the experience.

Dallas Public Library and the Friends of the Dallas Public Library are organizing the effort with significant contributions by multiple community partners, particularly the Dallas Holocaust Museum Center for Education and Tolerance and the Dallas Independent School District.

The 2016 book choice is Anne Frank's *Diary of a Young Girl*, a book many remember reading in school and is part of the current 8th/9th grade curriculum. For younger readers, Dr. Seuss's *The Sneetches* and Lois Lowry's *Number the Stars* capture similar themes, while adults will enjoy *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson.

During the month of April 2016, Big D Reads will conduct dozens of special events inspired by the book, including an opening event April 1, a closing event, poetry slams, educational events/speakers, DISD enrichment programs, movie screenings and as many other community interactions as budget allows.

Anne Frank wrote of the common concerns of teenagers including the inherent feeling of isolation and loneliness that consumes the adolescent years. She openly described her struggle to reconcile her inward self with her outward self and feeling misunderstood by everyone around her. And 70 years later, her commentary and observations still resonate.

In partnership with the [Dallas Holocaust Museum Center's](#) Anne Frank exhibit, Big D Reads is encouraging everyone to read [The Diary of a Young Girl](#). If you haven't read it or thought much about it since school, Big D Reads will engage you in a reexamination of the diary and its themes that continue to enthrall readers. Special events, discussions, movie screenings and children's programming at libraries, schools and the museum throughout the month of April will encourage a deeper, shared experience with the literature.

Read with us. We've selected three companion books which touch on the same themes of The Diary of a Young Girl, that will engage readers of different levels: Dr. Seuss's [The Sneetches](#), Lois Lowry's [Number the Stars](#) and Erik Larson's [In the Garden of Beasts](#). There are multiple copies of all these titles available for checkout at any branch of the [Dallas Public Library](#).

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**ABOUT BIG D READS**

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#### **ABOUT THE DALLAS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM/CENTER FOR EDUCATION AND TOLERANCE**

The Dallas Holocaust Museum's mission is to teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred and indifference. The Museum's education programs have had a profound effect on people of all ages. In 2015, 72,502 visitors toured the Museum and many have written, emailed or posted notes that their lives have been transformed by the experience. Through its exhibits and programs, visitors learn about the discrimination, deep-rooted hatred and the attempted annihilation of the Jews and the systematic persecution of others. The Museum is located at 211 N. Record Street, Dallas, Texas 75202. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please visit [dallasholocaustmuseum.org](http://dallasholocaustmuseum.org) or call (214) 741-7500.

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