

Dixon Homestead Library

Book Review Teen Volunteer Program

Read Books – Write Reviews – Earn Hours

How does it work?

Read a book, write a review, and earn 30 minutes of volunteer time.

Who can submit reviews?

Teens ages 14 - 17 years old who are Dumont residents.

Which books can I review?

You can review any book of your choosing. It can be fiction, non-fiction, biography, graphic novel, manga, audiobook etc. - - as long as it is considered Middle Grade or Young Adult.

What are the guidelines?

- 200 – 400 word count (please try not to go over 400 words).
- A Middle Grade or Young Adult book of your choosing.
- Include a brief summary of the plot. (Try to keep this to only 1 - 2 sentences.)
- Discuss various aspects of the material. Some topics you can think about include:
 - What did you think of the characters?
 - How was the writing style?
 - If it was a non-fiction title, how accurate was the information?
 - If it included images, how did it help with the progression of the story?

Include whether or not you would recommend the material. It is completely acceptable to dislike the book, however you need to be able to explain why.

Where can I find examples of reviews?

The best reviews to look at are Professional reviews, such as those found from Voya, Booklist, School Library Journal, New York Times, Kirkus, Teen Librarian Toolbox, etc. Some of these reviews are available through the Library Catalog. Just search for a title, click on “Full Display,” scroll down, and click on “Explore Summary, Professional Reviews, and More”.

I wrote my review, now what?

You must fill out the online form. Give us a week to review your work. If it passes our guidelines and disclaimers, your review will be posted on our website and printed out for viewing. You will

also receive an email confirmation of your receipt of 30 minutes of volunteer work added to your time tracker.

Disclaimers

- All reviews must be written by the person submitting it.
- There is a limit of 6 reviews per week with a maximum cap of 48 hours total. This means that if you reach this cap in 1 year, you will not be able to earn additional volunteer time through review writing the next year.
- All reviews will be posted to the Teen Events section of our website and put in a binder that will be made available to Dixon Homestead Library users.
- Unless otherwise indicated on the submission form, reviews that are posted will be marked as: Anonymous, X Grade
- Reviews will not be edited or altered. However, if necessary edits are required, we have the right to ask for re-submission.
- Plagiarized materials will be immediately denied and returned without merit.
- If you need hours ahead of a certain deadline, please reach out to the Youth Services Librarian at least 2 weeks prior to the due date.

Have more questions?

Email youth@dumont.bccls.org