

Book Selection for Adelante 2019-2020

September 18

A Fighting Chance by Elizabeth Warren

This 2014 memoir of Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren recounts her life beginning in a working-class family in Oklahoma through to her win of a Senate seat at age 62. “In this passionate, funny, rabble-rousing book, Elizabeth Warren shows why she has chosen to fight tooth and nail for the middle-class”.

C-2, U-2

October 16

Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America

by Beth Macy

This New York Times and Indie bestseller documents the devastating opioid crisis in America.

C-1, U-1, (also audio and cloud library versions)

December 4

Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings in Chicago’s South Side

by Eve L. Ewing

Ewing, a former student and teacher in Chicago Public Schools, is now a scholar studying them. She documents Chicago schools’ history of racism and inequality and shows the impact Mayor Emanuel’s school closing had on the African American community.

C-2, U-1

January 15

Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother’s Will to Survive by Stephanie Land

Memoir of her time working as a maid---“a beautiful and gritty exploration of poverty in America”.

C-5, U-2

February 19

Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson

In this short, passionate book, Dyson argues that to make true progress in racial division in the U.S., we must face some difficult truths about the historical and ongoing racism and ignoring of the grievances of black people. It’s a 2017 bestseller on numerous “Best Books of 2017” lists.

C-4, U-2

March 18

A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win WWII by Sonia Purnell

The untold story of Virginia Hall whose WWII spying in France helped defeat Hitler. She was marked as “the most dangerous of Allied spies” by the Gestapo who vowed to catch and stop her.

C-8, U-3

April 15

No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us by Rachel Louise Snyder

Snyder is a journalist who gives an account of the scope of domestic violence, explodes the myths surrounding it, and explores what it will take to truly address it.

C-1, U-1

May 20

Antisemitism Here and Now by Deborah Lipstadt

Lipstadt deals with antisemitism on the Right and the Left in the U.S. and elsewhere.

C-1, U-1

June 17

The Liar's Club by Mary Karr

Karr's memoir of her Texas childhood in a dysfunctional family.

U-1

July 15

A Spark of Light by Jodi Picoult

Picoult's novel uses a standoff with a gunman at a women's health clinic as the setting to explore the nuances of the controversial debate over abortion rights.

C-7, U-5 (also audio and iCloud library versions)

August 19

On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous by Ocean Vuong

The novel takes the form of a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. It begins with the family's history in Vietnam and reveals parts of his life that the mother does not know of. “It is a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity.” Named one of the most anticipated books of 2019.

C-3, U-2

