2009 Michigan Notable Books Programming Ideas
from the Michigan Center for the Book

The 2009 Michigan Notable Books list is the Library of Michigan's annual selection of up to 20 recommended books featuring high-quality titles with wide public appeal that are either written by a Michigan resident or about a Michigan-related topic. These titles offer wonderful programming opportunities for a diverse range of your community members. The Michigan Center for the Book has created a list of general tips and specific ideas for each book on the 2009 Michigan Notable Books list. Please share your programming ideas with us!

Suggestions for the Michigan Notable Books list:

- Do an exhibit of the 2009 Michigan Notable Books.
- Do an exhibit of Michigan Notable books through the years.
- Do an exhibit of Michigan Notable books through the years on a similar topic, i.e. automobile industry, children’s books, nature, architecture, novels set in Detroit, etc.
- Arrange a visit from one of the 2009 authors.

Supporting sites and information:

Exhibit information:

- For ideas about exhibits, view library exhibits online at the Smithsonian Institution (www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Online-Exhibitions).
- For visual marketing ideas, see www.fibre2fashion.com/industry-article/6/547/the-art-of-visual-merchandising1.asp or Visual Merchandising: Window and In-store Displays for Retail. Tony Morgan, Laurence King, 2008.

Author Visit information:

- Find information on how to set up author visits, including sample contracts, tips and to do lists at www.michigan.gov/authorvisits.
- To see if an author will do library events, contact Randy Riley (rileyr1@michigan.gov) or Kris Rzepczynski (rzepczynskik@michigan.gov).

Michigan Notable Books and Tour information:

- Current and previous Michigan Notable Book lists are at www.michigan.gov/notablebooks.
- The 2009 Michigan Notable Book Author tour schedule is at www.michigan.gov/notablebooks.
- For Michigan Notable Book posters, bookmarks or book cover medallions (12 for $2.50), please contact Kim Laird (lairdk1@michigan.gov). Requests are subject to availability.
Suggestions for individual Michigan Notable Books:

- Offer read-a-likes for your readers.
- Do an exhibit based on the book content.
- Arrange a presentation based on the book content with a local community group.
- Arrange a trip to a destination linked to the book.

_Asylum for the Insane: A History of the Kalamazoo State Hospital_ by William Decker

Exhibits:
- Books and archival materials on Michigan state hospitals.
- Historic public buildings.

Presentations:
- Local mental health group
- Historic building preservation society
- Nursing or medical group on the evolution of medical treatment for mental illness.

Read-A-Likes:
- _Eloise: Poorhouse, Farm, Asylum, and Hospital, 1839-1984_. Patricia Ibbotson, Arcadia, 2002.

_The English Major_ by Jim Harrison

Exhibits:
- Books by Jim Harrison.
- Biographical materials on Jim Harrison

Presentations:
- Movies based on Jim Harrison books, such as _Legends of the Fall_ and _Wolf_.
- Nature groups such as the Sierra Club.
- English departments at local high schools and colleges.

Read-A-Likes:

_The Expeditions_ by Karl Iagnemma

Exhibits:
- Books on the Upper Peninsula.
- 19th century naturalists and naturalism.
- Frontier life
Presentations:
- Re-enactors of the early 19th century to speak on life in Michigan in that era.
- Early naturalists by a biology/history or forestry professor.
- 19th century Upper Peninsula by a history professor.

Read-A-Likes:

**Historic Cottages of Glen Lake by Barbara Siepker**

Exhibits:
- Books & ephemera on Michigan cottage architecture.
- Range of historic architecture in Michigan.
- Historic Leelanau area.

Presentations:
- Historic preservation societies, either municipal or private.
- Architectural societies.

Read-A-Likes:

**“Jiffy” A Family Tradition: Mixing Business and Old-Fashioned Values by Cynthia Furlong**

Exhibits:
- Books & ephemera on Michigan food manufacturers, such as Jiffy, Sanders, Kellogg’s, Vernor’s, etc.

Presentations:
- Cooking demonstration from a local chef using Michigan products.

Trips:
- Tour of the Jiffy plant in Chelsea. Tour scheduling at (734) 475-1361.

Read-A-Likes:

**Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Mostly True Stories of Growing Up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka**

Exhibits:
- Michigan author biographies.
Biographies of Flint natives.

Presentations:
- Historical society on Flint history.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters on siblings

Read-A-Likes:

**Looking for Hickories: The Forgotten Wildness of the Midwest by Tom Springer**

Exhibits:
- Books on Michigan wilderness.
- Midwest barns.
- Hiking in Michigan.

Presentations:
- MSU extension office naturalist.
- Michigan United Conservation Clubs speaker.
- Centennial farms.
- Local chapter of the Nature Conservancy or Sierra Club.
- Hiking group.

Read-A-Likes:

**Measure of the Heart: a Father’s Alzheimer’s, a Daughter's Return by Mary Ellen Geist**

Exhibits:
- Materials and local resources for caregivers.
- Materials and local resources on dementias.

Presentation:
- Social worker on care giving
- Doctor on Alzheimer’s and related dementias.
- Area Agency on Aging on local resources and issues.

Book discussion:
- Invite local caregiver and Alzheimer’s support groups.

Read-A-Likes:

**The Model T: A Centennial History** by Robert Casey  
Exhibits:  
- Model T and/or other early car model books & ephemera.  
- Ford Motor Company books & ephemera.  

Presentations:  
- Model T owners group or other car enthusiast groups.  
- Historic car show organizers.  
- Historical society on Ford, auto industry or life in Detroit for plant workers.  

Trips:  
- National Automotive History Collection at the restored Skillman Branch of the Detroit Public Library.  
- The Henry Ford Museum.  
- The Ford Rouge Factory Tour.  

Read-A-Likes:  

**Ninety Years Crossing Lake Michigan: The History of the Ann Arbor Car Ferries** by Grant Brown  
Exhibits:  
- Transportation on the Great Lakes  
- Great Lakes car ferries.  

Presentations:  
- Maritime historical societies.  
- Railroad historical societies.  
- History travel groups.  

Read-A-Likes:  

**A Picturesque Situation: Mackinac Before Photography, 1615-1860** by Brian Leigh Dunnigan  
Exhibits:  
- Early maps and atlases of Michigan.  
- Mackinac area history.  

Presentations:  
- History of Mackinac area by a historian.
Travel program on Mackinac yesterday and today.

Trips:
- Mackinac State Parks (Fort Mackinac, Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Old Mill Creek Discovery Park)

Read-A-Likes:

**Ravens in the Storm: A Personal History of the 1960s Antiwar Movement** by Carl Oglesby

Exhibits:
- 1960s Ann Arbor.
- Student antiwar movement.
- Current antiwar movement.

Presentations:
- History of the 1960s by a historian or professor.
- History of student movements by a historian or professor.
- 1960s antiwar movement and current antiwar movement.
- Remembrances of the era locally by historical group.

Read-A-Likes:

**Roadie: the Misunderstood World of a Bike Racer** by Jamie Smith

Exhibits:
- Bike racing in general.
- Michigan bike trails and races.

Presentations:
- Local bike club on Michigan races.
- Local or state bike trail administrator.

Read-A-Likes:
Sirens of Chrome: the Enduring Allure of the Auto Show Model by Margery Krevsky
Exhibits:
- Modeling across industries.
- Detroit auto show books & ephemera.
- Auto advertising books & ephemera.
Presentations:
- Car club owners group.
- Automotive history group.
Read-A-Likes:

Summer Dreams: the Story of Bob-lo Island by Patrick Livingston
Exhibits:
- Michigan vacation destinations.
- Amusement parks in Michigan.
Presentations:
- History of Bob-lo Island by historian or local history group.
- History of Detroit by historian or local history group.
Read-A-Likes:

The Toledo War: The First Michigan-Ohio Rivalry by Don Faber
Exhibits:
- Founding of the state.
- 19th Century MI history.
- Early Michigan atlases and maps.
Presentations:
- Local history group on Michigan’s path to statehood.
- Re-enactor group on life in the 1830s and Michigan military groups.
Read-A-Likes:
- *Rise and Fall of Toledo, Michigan...the Toledo War!* Sister Mary Karl George, Michigan Historical Commission, 1971.
War as They Knew It: Woody Hayes, Bo Schembechler, and America in a Time of Unrest by Michael Rosenberg
Exhibits:
- Michigan college football teams’ history.
- Famous football coaches.
Presentations:
- University of Michigan football history by a professor or historian.
- History of University of Michigan in the 1960s by a historian or the alumni society.
Read-A-Likes:

When the Church Becomes Your Party: Contemporary Gospel Music by Deborah Smith Pollard
Exhibits:
- Gospel Music
- Detroit music scene, either current or historical.
- African-American churches and gospel.
Presentations:
- Performance by gospel group.
- Historic or current Detroit music scene by historian or producer such as Rev. Robert Jones, host of WDET’s gospel show “Deep River.”
Read-A-Likes:

Who’s Jim Hines? by Jean Alicia Elster
Exhibits:
- Great Depression in Detroit.
- Michigan young adult historical novels.
Presentations:
- Young adult historical author.
- Detroit historian or storyteller.
Read-A-Likes:
Wreck of the Carl D.: A True Story of Loss, Survival, and Rescue at Sea by Michael Schumacher

Exhibits:
- Michigan shipping industry.
- Michigan shipwrecks.

Presentations:
- Michigan shipwrecks by a historian
- History of Great Lakes shipping by a historian.

Trips:
- Great Lakes Maritime Collection at Alpena County Library.

Read-A-Likes: