

# Featured Titles for Schools

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library \* October 2008

## Featured Titles

**Amulet: The Stonekeeper** by Kazu Kibuishi \*

**Atomic Robo** by Brian Clevinger

**Baby Sitters Club** series adapted by Raina Telgemeier

**Clan Apis** by Jay Hosler

**Coraline** by Neil Gaiman

**Fairy Tail** by Hiro Mashima

**Fever** by Hee Jung Park

**Flight Explorer** edited by Kazu Kibuishi \*

**Gear School** by Adam Gallardo

**Glister** by Andi Watson \*

**High School Debut** by Kazune Kawahara

**Hikkatsu!** by Yu Yagami \*

**Isadora Duncan: A Graphic Biography** by Sabrina Jones

**Jellaby** by Kean Soo \*

**Korgi** by Christian Slade

**Laika** by Nick Abadzis

**Magical Life of Long Tack Sam** by Ann Marie Fleming

**Merchant of Venice** adapted by Gareth Hinds

**Minister Jade** by Steve Bialik

**Monster Zoo** by Doug TenNapel

**Palette of 12 Secret Colors** by Nari Kusakawa \*

**Otto's Orange Day** by Frank Cammuso and Jay Lynch

**Rapunzel's Revenge** by Shannon and Dean Hale

**Runaways: Dead End Kids** by Joss Whedon

**Salt Water Taffy** by Matthew Loux \*

**Shirley** by Kaoru Mori \*

**Stuck in the Middle: 17 Stories from an Unpleasant Age** by Various Creators

**Sugar Sugar Rune** by Moyocco Anno

**Town of Evening Calm, Country of Cherry Blossoms** by Fumiyo Kouno

**United States Constitution: A Graphic Adaptation** by Jonathan Hennessy

**Wall: Growing up Behind the Iron Curtain** by Peter Sis \*

**War at Ellsmere** by Faith Erin Hicks

## For Schools

**All Star Superman** by Grant Morrison (HS)

**American Born Chinese** by Gene Luen Yang (MS-HS)

**Annotated Northwest Passage** by Scott Chantler

**Batman: Year 100** by Paul Pope

**Blue Beetle** series by Keith Giffen (MS-HS)

**Bone** series by Jeff Smith (MS-HS)

**Cartoon Guide to...** by Larry Gonick (HS)

**Castle Waiting** by Linda Medley (ES-HS)

**Clan Apis** by Jay Hosler (ES-MS)

**Comics Classics Shakespeare** adapted by Various Creators (HS)

**Courtney Crumrin** series by Ted Naifeh

**Dignifying Science** by Jim Ottaviani (MS-HS)

**Doctor Strange: The Oath** by Brian K. Vaughan (MS-HS)

**Elk's Run** by Joshua Hale Fialkov

**First in Space** by James Vining (MS-HS)

**Flight** series by Various Authors (HS)

**Garage Band** by Gipi (HS)

**Girl Genius** by Phil and Kaja Foglio (HS)

**Graphic History** series by various authors (ES-MS)

**Houdini: The Handcuff King** by Jason Lutes (MS-HS)

**Immortal Iron Fist** series by Ed Brubaker (MS-HS)

**Iron West** by Doug TenNapel (MS-HS)

**Japan Ai: A Tall Girl's Adventures in Japan** by Aimee Major-Steinberger (MS-HS)

**Journey into Mohawk Country** adapted by George O'Connor (MS-HS)

**King Lear** by Gareth Hinds (MS-HS)

**Levitation: Physics and Psychology in the Service of Deception** by Jim Ottaviani (MS-HS)

**Manga Shakespeare** series by various authors (MS-HS)

**Maus** by Art Spiegelman (HS)

**Merchant of Venice** by Gareth Hinds (MS-HS)

**Mouse Guard: Fall 1152** by David Peterson (MS-HS)

**Notes from a War Story** by Gipi (HS)

**Persepolis** by Marjane Satrapi (HS)

**Pyongyang: A Journey into North Korea** by Guy Delisle (HS)

**Re-Gifters** by Mike Carey (MS-HS)

**Satchel Paige: Striking Out Jim Crow** by James Sturm (MS-HS)

**Shakespeare's Hamlet** adapted by Tintin Pantoja (MS-HS)

**The Arrival** by Shaun Tan (ES-HS)

**The P.L.A.I.N. Janes** by Cecil Castellucci (MS-HS)

**The Wall: Growing up Behind the Iron Curtain** by Peter Sis (MS-HS)

**To Dance: A Ballerina's Graphic Novel** by Siena Cherson Siegel (ES-MS)

**Ultimate Spider-Man** series by Brian Michael Bendis (MS-HS)

**Wire Mothers: Harry Harlow and the Science of Love** by Jim Ottaviani (HS)

**WJHC!** series by Jane Fisher Smith (MS)

**Young Avengers** series by Allan Heinberg (HS)

## New and Notable Adult Titles

With potential for curriculum connections in 10-12th grade

**Age of Bronze** series by Eric Shanower

**Akira** by Katsuhiro Otomo

**Barefoot Gen** by Keiji Nakazawa

**Cancer Vixen** by Marisa Marchetto

**Cartoon Guide to Modern History** by Larry Gonick

**Exit Wounds** by Rutu Modan

**The Rabbi's Cat** by Joann Sfar

**Ronald Reagan: A Graphic Biography** by Andrew Helfer

**We Are On Our Own** by Miriam Katin

**Will Eisner's New York Trilogy** by Will Eisner

\* = great for middle school -- to contact me for advice or information, please email me at [robin@noflyingnotights.com](mailto:robin@noflyingnotights.com)

# Reviews and Resources

Compiled by Robin Brenner, Brookline Public Library \* October 2008

## Professional Reviews

### Booklist

Graphic Novel Spotlight special issue published annually every February. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section

### The ICv2 Guide

Graphic novel, manga and anime reviews by librarians featured, plus excellent analysis of each market

### Library Journal

Bi-monthly review column by Steve Raiteri and Martha Cornog. At the Library Journal website (<http://www.libraryjournal.com>), they also provide web-only weekly Graphic Novel Xpress reviews.

### Library Media Connection

“Getting Graphic” column by Michele Gorman. Reviews periodically in the review section.

### Publishers Weekly

Regularly covers manga and anime trends in short feature articles. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

### School Library Journal

Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section.

### Voice of Youth Advocates

“Graphically Speaking” bi-monthly review column by Kat Kan. Graphic novel and manga reviews interspersed throughout the review section, marked with an oval red “g” symbol indicating the graphic format.

## Online Lesson Plans and Reviews

### Bookshelf from DiamondComics

<http://bookshelf.diamondcomics.com/public/>

A great start for using comics and graphic novels in schools, including articles, lesson plans, and core lists.

### Comics in the Classroom

<http://comicsintheclassroom.net/>

An excellent resource for using comics and graphic novels in the classroom— including lesson plans!

### Good Comics for Kids

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/540000654.html>

A new blog at School Library Journal devoted to comics for kids and teens, featuring commentary and reviews from librarians, parents, educators, and comics experts.

### Kids Love Comics!

<http://www.kidslovecomics.com/>

A growing site from the new nonprofit organization run by Amelia Rules! creator Jimmy Gownley

### No Flying No Tights

<http://www.noflyingnotights.com/>

My own review site, featuring reviews for kids and teens. Currently on hiatus for reconstruction, but reviews are also found on Teenreads.com.

### Teaching with Comics

<http://www.flummery.com/teaching/>

From one of the leaders in Maryland's Comic Book Initiative of the Maryland State Department of Education, a collection of templates and advice on teaching comics in school.

## Teaching Comics

<http://www.teachingcomics.org/>

From the National Association of Comics Arts Educators, lesson plans and resources, focused on teens and adults.

## Books

### Understanding Manga and Anime

By Robin Brenner

ISBN: 978-1-59158-332-5

This is my own recently published guide to the wide and complex world of Japanese manga and anime, for anyone curious about the medium.

### Getting Graphic! Comics for Kids

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 978-1-58683-327-5

A clear, useful annotated bibliography of over one hundred titles for ages 4-12.

### Getting Graphic! Using Graphic Novels to Promote Literacy with Preteens and Teens

by Michele Gorman

ISBN: 1-58683-089-9

A concise and creative guide to using graphic novels to promote literacy

### The Power of Reading

ISBN: 1-59158-169-9

by Stephen Krashen

Features an amusing and illuminating chapter all about the influence of comics on vocabulary and literacy

### Graphic Novels in Your Library Media Center: A Definitive Guide

ISBN: 1-59158-142-7

by Allyson Lyga and Barry Lyga

The best one-stop guide to graphic novels in schools

### Understanding Comics

ISBN: 0-060-97625-X

### Making Comics

ISBN: 0-060-78094-0

### and Reinventing Comics

ISBN: 0-060-95350-0

by Scott McCloud

The entertaining and informative guides to the history, creation and current status of sequential art, comics, and graphic novels

### Graphic Novels: A Genre Guide to Comic Books, Manga, and More

ISBN: 978-1-59158-132-1

by Michael Pawuk

A guide to all kinds of graphic novels, a great quick reference resource

### A Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Children and Tweens

ISBN: 978-1-55570-626-5

by David Serchay

A solid guide with valuable historical insight on graphic novels for young audience.

\* = great for middle school -- to contact me for advice or information, please email me at [robin@noflyingnotights.com](mailto:robin@noflyingnotights.com)

# Online News, Reviews, and Publisher Info

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## Online News

### ICv2

<http://www.icv2.com>

This pop culture industry website is the place to go for industry news especially for statistics and market information. Their excellent Retailer's Guides on both graphic novels and anime and manga providing an up-to-date look at the state of each industry, the best-selling titles, and the latest trends.

### Graphic Novels in Libraries Listserv (GNLIB-L)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GNLIB-L>

This email listserv is the place to be for any librarian working with graphic novels, whether you are just beginning a collection or are trying to decide between the two latest popular titles. Participants include interested professionals, librarians, teachers, publishers, reviewers, columnists and library staff. Go here to get speedy and informed answers for "where does X title belong in my library?" to "What's the best shonen manga?" to "Help! I've got a challenge to defend!" Please note we've changed to Yahoo! for the group home.

## Online Blogs

### Comic-Con's The Pulse

<http://www.comicon.com/pulse/>

Run by the folks who present the most popular and well-reputed Comics convention in the U.S., the Pulse follows every possible thread of comics news succinctly and promptly. A great site to keep up on what's happening in the industry, the bulk of content is interviews, features, and articles rather than reviews.

### Journalista

<http://www.tcj.com/journalista/>

The one-stop-shop for all kinds of comics and graphic novel news, from one of the most trusted, erudite journals on the industry. This one is potentially not safe for work, as blogger Dirk Deppey covers all manner of comics, but it's always a fascinating read.

### Mangablog

<http://www.mangablog.net>

Brigid Alverson's site highlights the discussions and news items for any manga fan, acting as a touchstone site connecting all of the other online chatters together.

### Precocious Curmudgeon

<http://precur.blogspot.com/>

David Welsh, a columnist for The Comics Reporter, writes with humor and insight on the world of comics, manga and fandom.

## Publisher Websites

**ADManga:** <http://www.advfilms.com/manga.asp>

**Aurora:** <http://www.aurora-publishing.com/>

**Broccoli Books:** <http://www.brocolibooks.com>

**Dark Horse:** <http://www.darkhorse.com/>

**DC Comics:** <http://www.dccomics.com>

**Del Rey Manga:**

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delyrey/manga>

**Digital Manga:** <http://www.emanga.com>

**Drawn & Quarterly:** <http://www.drawnandquarterly.com>

**Fanfare/Ponent Mon:** <http://www.ponentmon.com>

**Fantagraphics:** <http://www.fantagraphics.com>

**First Second:** <http://www.firstsecondbooks.com/>

**Gemstone:** <http://www.gemstonepub.com>

**Go Comi! Manga:** <http://www.gocomi.com>

**Graphix:** <http://www.scholastic.com/graphix/>

**Hyperion:** <http://www.hyperionbooksforchildren.com/>

**IDW Publishing:** <http://www.idwpublishing.com>

**Image Comics:** <http://www.imagecomics.com>

**Marvel:** <http://www.marvel.com>

**NBM:** <http://www.nbmpub.com>

**Netcomics:** <http://www.netcomics.com>

**Oni Press:** <http://www.onipress.com>

**Pantheon:**

<http://www.randomhouse.com/pantheon/graphicnovels>

**Red 5 Comics:** <http://www.red5comics.com/>

**Tokyopop:** <http://www.tokyopop.com>

**Toon Books:** <http://www.toon-books.com/>

**Top Shelf:** <http://www.topshelfcomix.com>

**Vertical:** <http://www.vertical-inc.com>

**VIZ Media:** <http://www.viz.com>

**Yen Press:** <http://www.yenpress.com>

## Distributors

**Diamond Comics:** <http://www.diamondcomics.com>

## Publisher Age Ratings

### CMX (DC Comics):

<http://www.dccomics.com/cmxf/?action=about>

### Del Rey Manga:

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delrey/manga/images/RatingsPage.pdf>

### Marvel:

<http://www.marvel.com/catalog/ratings.htm>

### Oni Press:

[http://www.onipress.com/ratings\\_faq.php](http://www.onipress.com/ratings_faq.php)

### Tokyopop:

<http://www.tokyopop.com/corporate/booksellers/879>

### Yen Press:

[http://yenpress.us/?page\\_id=23](http://yenpress.us/?page_id=23)

# Core Kids Titles

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## Core Collection Titles

**Adventures in Oz** by Eric Shanower (7 and up) \*  
**Akiko** series by Mark Crilley (7 and up)  
**Alia's Mission: Saving the Books of Iraq** by Mark Alan Stamaty (7 and up)  
**Amelia Rules!** series by Jimmy Gownley (7 and up)  
**Amulet: The Stonekeeper** by Kazu Kibuishi  
**Arrival** by Shaun Tan \*  
**Artemis Fowl: The Graphic Novel** by Eoin Colfer  
**Baby Sitter's Club** series by Raina Telgemeier (9 and up)  
**Babymouse** series by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm (7 and up)  
**Baron: The Cat Returns** by Aoi Hiiragi (7 and up) \*  
**Bone** series by Jeff Smith (9 and up) \*  
**Buzzboy** by John Gallagher (9 and up)  
**Captain Raptor and the Moon Mystery** by Kevin O'Malley (5 and up)  
**Castle Waiting** by Linda Medley (7 and up) \*  
**Clan Apis** by Jay Hosler (7 and up)  
**Dinosaurs Across America** by Phil Yeh (7 and up)  
**Fashion Kitty** by Charise Harper (7 and up)  
**Graphic History** series by various authors, (Osprey) (9 and up)  
**Hardy Boys** series by Scott Lobdell (9 and up)  
**Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien (adapted by Chuck Dixon) (9 and up)  
**Leave it to Chance** series by James Robinson (9 and up)  
**Lions and Tigers and Bears** by Mike Bullock (7 and up)  
**Magic Pickle** series by Scott Morse (5 and up)  
**Mouse Guard: Fall 1152** by David Peterson (9 and up) \*  
**Nancy Drew** series by Stefan Petrucha (9 and up) \*  
**Oddly Normal** by Otis Frampton (9 and up) \*  
**Owly** series by Andy Runton (5 and up)  
**Polly and the Pirates** by Ted Naifeh (9 and up) \*  
**Tellos** by Todd DeZago (9 and up) \*  
**The Collected Alison Dare** by J. Torres (7 and up) \*  
**To Dance: A Ballerina's Graphic Novel** by Siena Cherson Siegel (7 and up) \*  
**W.I.T.C.H.** series by tk (9 and up) \*  
**Wall: Growing up Behind the Iron Curtain** by Peter Sís (7 and up) \*  
**Warriors** series by Erin Hunter (7 and up) \*  
**Wind in the Willows** by Kenneth Graeme, adapted by Michel Plessix (5 and up)

**World of Quest** by Jason Kruse (9 and up)  
**Yotsuba&!** by Azuma Kiyohiko (All Ages)

## "Hidden" Graphic Novels

These titles are often in picture book or chapter book collections — see if you own them and consider designating them as graphic novels.

**Adventures of Robin Hood** by Marcia Williams  
**Amelia's Notebook** by Marissa Moss (and Amelia!)  
**Asterix** series by Goscinny  
**City of Light, City of Dark** by Avi  
**Comic Adventures of Boots** by Satoshi Kitamura  
**Greek Myths for Young Children** by Marcia Williams  
**The Last Knight** by Will Eisner  
**Little Buggy** by Kevin O'Malley  
**Meanwhile...** by Jules Feiffer  
**Little Lit: Folklore & Fairy Tale Funnies** edited by Art Spiegelman and Françoise Mouly (and the other Little Lit books, **It was a Dark and Silly Night and Strange Stories**)  
**Master Man: A Tall Tale of Nigeria** by Aaron Shepard  
**Princess and the Frog** by Will Eisner  
**Scary Godmother** by Jill Thompson  
**Sinbad the Sailor** by Marcia Williams  
**Tintin** series by Hergé  
**Ug: Boy Genius of the Stone Age** by Raymond Briggs  
**Wind in the Willows** by Kenneth Graeme, Adapted by Michel Plessix  
**You Can't Take a Balloon Into the Metropolitan Museum** by Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman and Robin Preiss Glasser (along with the other "You Can't Take a Balloon...")

## Comic Strip Collections

Consider adding these titles in to your Kids graphic novel collection

**Archie** Collections  
**Foxtrot** Collections by Bill Amend  
**Garfield** Collections by Jim Davis  
**Peanuts** Collections by Charles Schulz  
**Calvin and Hobbes** Collections by Bill Watterson  
**Walt Disney Comics** — reprinted by Gemstone Comics (<http://www.gemstonepub.com>)

# Japanese Manga: Notable and Core Titles

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## Featured Titles

**Fairy Tail** by Hiro Mashima  
**High School Debut** by Kazune Kawahara  
**Hikkatsu! Strike a Blow to Vivify!** by Yu Yagami \*  
**Palette of 12 Secret Colors** by Nari Kusakawa \*  
**Sand Chronicles** by Hinako Ashihara  
**Shirley** by Kaoru Mori \*

## Manga for Older Kids and Tweens

**+ANIMA** by Natsumi Mukai \*  
**Angelic Layer** by CLAMP  
**Aria** by Amano Kozue \*  
**Aqua** by Amano Kozue \*  
**Baron: The Cat Returns** by Aoi Hiiragi \*  
**Beet the Vandel Buster** by Riku Sanjo\*  
**Beyblade** by Takao Aoki  
**Cardcaptor Sakura** by CLAMP\*  
**Gon** by Masashi Tanaka \*  
**Hikaru no Go** by Yumi Hotta \*  
**Howl's Moving Castle** by Hayao Miyazaki\*  
**Kingdom Hearts** by Shiro Amano \*  
**Magic Knight Rayearth** by CLAMP  
**Nausicaa of the Valley of the Winds** by Hayao Miyazaki  
**Prince of Tennis** by Takeshi Konomi \*  
**Rave Master** by Hiro Mashima  
**Spirited Away** by Hayao Miyazaki\*  
**Sugar Sugar Rune** by Moyocca Anno\*  
**Whistle!** by Daisuke Higuchi \*

## Shojo Manga (teen girls comics)

**After School Nightmare** by Setona Mizuki  
**Azumanga Daioh** by Azuma Kiyohiko  
**Beauty Pop** by Kiyoko Arai  
**Boys Over Flowers** by Yoko Kamio  
**Ceres, Celestial Legend** by Yu Watase  
**Crimson Hero** by Mitsuba Takanashi  
**Demon Ororon** by Mizuki Hakase  
**DNAngel** by Yukiru Sugisaki \*  
**Emma** by Kaoru Mori  
**ES (Eternal Sabbath)** by Fuyumi Soryo  
**Fruits Basket** by Natsuki Takaya  
**Fushigi Yugi: Genbu Kaiden** by Yu Watase  
**Gakuen Alice** by Tachibana Higuchi \*  
**Hana-Kimi** by Hisaya Nakajo  
**Kare Kano** by Masami Tsuda  
**Kekkaishi** by Yellow Tanabe \*  
**Kitchen Princess** by Natsumi Ando \*  
**Love Com** by Aya Nakahara  
**Mars** by Fuyumi Soryo  
**My Heavenly Hockey Club** by Ai Morinaga  
**Mushishi** by Yuki Urushibara \*  
**Only the Ring Finger Knows** by Satoru Kannagi  
**Papillon** by Miwa Ueda  
**Paradise Kiss** by Ai Yazawa  
**Pet Shop of Horrors: Tokyo** by Matsuri Akino

**Pumpkin Scissors** by Ryotaro Iwanaga  
**Skip Beat** by Yoshiko Nakamura  
**To Terra** by Keiko Takemiya  
**Town of Evening Calm, Country of Cherry Blossoms** by Fumiyo Kouno  
**Train + Train** by Hideyuki Kurata  
**Translucent** by Kazuhiro Okamoto \*  
**Vampire Knight** by Matsuri Hino  
**V.B. Rose** by Banri Hidaka  
**W Juliet** by Emura  
**XXXholic** by CLAMP

## Shonen Manga (teen boys comics)

**Black Cat** by Kentaro Yabuki  
**Bleach** by Tite Kubo  
**Death Note** by Tsugumi Ohba  
**Fullmetal Alchemist** by Hiromu Arakawa  
**Full Metal Panic!** by Shouji Gatou  
**Hikaru no Go** by Yumi Hotta (7+) \*  
**Hunter X Hunter** by Yoshihiro Togashi  
**Inu-Yasha: A Feudal Fairy Tale** by Rumiko Takahashi  
**Kindaichi Case Files** by Yozaburo Kanari  
**Line** by Yua Kotegawa  
**Love Roma** by Minoru Toyoda  
**Monster** by NaokiUrusawa  
**Naruto** by Masashi Kishimoto  
**Negima!** by Ken Akamatsu  
**One Piece** by Eiichiro Oda  
**Planetes** by Makoto Yukimura  
**The Prince of Tennis** by Takeshi Konomi \*  
**Ranma 1/2** by Rumiko Takahashi  
**Rurouni Kenshin** by Nobuhiro Watsuki  
**Yakitate! Japan** by Takashi Hashiguchi \*  
**Yu Yu Hakusho** by Yoshihiro Togashi

## Manga-style Titles (not Japanese)

**Demo** by Brian Wood  
**Dramacon** by Svetlana Chmakova  
**The Dreaming** by Queenie Chan  
**East Coast Rising** by Becky Cloonan  
**Gothic Sports** by Anike Hage  
**Re:Play** by Christy Lijewski  
**Megatokyo** by Fred Gallagher  
**Scott Pilgrim** by Bryan Lee O'Malley  
**Vampire Kisses** series by Ellen Schreiber

## Korean Manhwa

**Angel Diary** by Yunhee Lee \*  
**Bride of the Water God** by Mi-Kyung Yun  
**Bring it On!** by Hye Kyung Baek  
**Chocolat** by Ji Sang Jin  
**Dokebi Bride** by Marley  
**DVD** by Kye Young Chon  
**Goong** by SoHee Park

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