

June 2, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Although the College Board does not require particular works of literature, they do require AP teachers of the language and literature courses to offer their students a full array of literary genres, styles, periods, and cultures. We will study many literary prize winners as well as others who discuss some sensitive areas and some controversial subject matter that will be handled professionally and in a straightforward manner. Our AP class is designed to prepare students well for academic circumstances they will encounter next year and in their future academic endeavors.

This year's summer reading pieces are "Welcome to Your Authentic Indian Experience" by Rebecca Roanhorse and "The Secret Lives of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington" by Phenderson Djeli Clark. Rebecca Roanhorse is an Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo/African-American writer and a VONA workshop alum. She is also a lawyer and Yale grad. She lives in northern New Mexico with her daughter, husband, and pug. Her debut novel, *Trail of Lightning*, was published in 2018. Her recent nonfiction work can be found in the upcoming *Invisible 3*, and her article "Decolonizing Science Fiction and Imagining Futures: An Indigenous Futurisms Roundtable" can be found in *Strange Horizons*. Ms. Roanhorse is a Hugo Award winner, a Sturgeon Award nominee, a Locus Recommended Story recipient, and an Apex Reader's Choice recipient. Her story "Welcome to Your Authentic Indian Experience" won the 2017 Nebula Award for Best Short Story.

Phenderson Djèlí Clark is a historian and occasional speculative fiction writer. His short SFF stories have appeared in such online literary spaces as *Daily Science Fiction*, *Heroic Fantasy Quarterly*, *Fantasy-Magazine*, *Tor.com* and several print anthologies including *Griots*, *Hidden Youth* and most recently *Clockwork Cairo*. Clark's "The Secret Lives of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington" won the 2018 Nebula Award for Best Short Story and the 2019 Locus Award for Best Short Story, and was a finalist for both the 2019 Hugo Award for Best Short Story and the 2019 Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award.

Please indicate your approval of the 2021 English III AP Summer Reading assignment below:

I approve of my son/daughter reading "Welcome to Your Authentic Indian Experience" and "The Secret Lives of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington" in preparation for next year's English III AP class.

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Please print student name

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Parent/guardian signature