# Olympics

## Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library

A Selective Annotated Selective Bibliography

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Max and Marla are best friends. And aspiring Olympians! With their eyes on the prize, they know exactly what it'll take to reach sledding success: preparation, practice and perseverance</td>
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<td>Babar's children have all grown up. He and Celeste take them to the Celesteville Games. All the best animal athletes will be there to compete. Babar's daughter Flora falls in love with a young athlete, Corriander, from the country of Mirza. They decide to marry and all of Celesteville is invited.</td>
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<td>Norma Jean, whose love of jumping might be a bit excessive, stops her favorite activity after her friends complain, but participation in the school Olympics proves there is a time and place for jumping.</td>
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Growing up in the segregated town of Clarksville, Tennessee, in the 1960s, Alta’s family cannot afford to buy her new sneakers— but she still plans to attend the parade celebrating her hero Wilma Rudolph’s three Olympic gold medals.


At the Mud Flat Olympics if the animals don't win the Deepest Hole Contest, the All-Snail High Hurdles, or the River-Cross Freestyle, they can still come to the picnic after the games and have ice cream for dessert.

**FICTION**


A slight error left Olympic diving-hopeful Bryce Graham in a five-year coma and now, at twenty-two, she must adjust to a world that went on without her and to visions that may or may not be real.


Furious that her twin brother, Cypselis, promised her as a slave should he lose a footrace, Ellie must find a way for tortoise-slow Cypselis to beat his classmate to the finish line at their school in ancient Greece. Includes facts about the Olympic Games.


As a member of the New Zealand swimming team, fifteen-year-old Alex gets her first taste of independence as she faces the challenges of competition in the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome.


This book, in graphic novel format, tells of the U.S.A. hockey team defeating the Soviet Union 4-3 in what became known as the Miracle on Ice game and defeating Finland 4-2 to win the Olympic gold medal in 1980.


Twelve-year-old Adam competes in the 200 meter run during the Special Olympics and wins a special gold medal for courage.
It’s time for the annual Olympic Games, and the four goddess girls are not happy! It’s boys only—and the girls at MOA are not pleased. Led by Artemis, Athena, Persphone and Aphrodite, the ladies of Mount Olympus hatch a plan to get Zeus to open up the games to everyone. Will they succeed—or end up watching from the sidelines again?

Artemis, Persephone, Aphrodite, and Athena are sick and tired of being left out of the annual boys-only Olympic Games. Their solution? The Girl Games! But as the Goddess Girls work to make their dream into a reality, they come up against plenty of chaos and competition.

A year after being nearly paralyzed, Audrey Lee is going to the Olympics but the United States’ gymnastics team is on the verge of collapse and Leo, her new coach’s cute son, is another distraction.

Their magic tree house takes Jack and Annie back to retrieve a lost story in ancient Greece, where they witness the original Olympic games and are surprised to find what girls of the time were not allowed to do.

To have any hope of reaching her goal of competing in the Olympics, Kelly must not only learn to do a back handspring on the beam, she must also conquer her fear.

Ghost. Lu. Patina. Sunny. Four kids from wildly different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash. But they are also four kids chosen for an elite middle school track team -- a team that could qualify them for the Junior Olympics if they can get their acts together. They all
have a lot to lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves.


A boy with Olympic dreams and an extraordinary horse struggles to transcend his impoverished family background as he falls in love with the emotionally troubled daughter of a wealthy family.


Small town seventeen-year-old Vivienne Taylor is a talented equestrian with Olympic dreams and a little something extra going on—she is also an “equine empath,” someone who has the ability to read horses’ minds and moods. When she receives a full scholarship to attend Fairmont Riding Academy, a prep school with a famous riding program, she struggles with homesickness, hazing by the school’s snooty drama queen, intense competition in the sport of three-day-eventing, and the not-altogether-unwelcome interest of a hot guy.


Geronimo Stilton is no sportsmouse, but when he is assigned to cover the Olympics in Greece, he senses an adventure in the making.


Aspiring to make the varsity track team, thirteen-year-old Harold neglects his brain-damaged friend Billy, until a crisis leads him to transfer his dreams of championship to Billy.


While looking for his running shoes before a race at school, fifteen-year-old Rex Jones is transported by his mysterious cell phone to the Olympics, where a strange man gives him a new pair of shoes just before he competes in the 100-meter final.

**NONFICTION**


A history of the Olympic Games, starting with their inception in Ancient
Greece and leading up to the 1936 games in Nazi Berlin.

6-12 Farrell, Courtney. *Terror At the Munich Olympics*. Edina, Minn.: ABDO, 2010. 796.48 F2472T

Recounts the murder of Jewish athletes by terrorists at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Germany.

6-12 Hunter, Nick. *Inside the Olympics*. Chicago: Heinemann Library, 2012. 796.48 H918I

This volume briefly covers the history of the Olympic Games and focuses on the 30th Olympiad held in London.


Discusses the role of London in the Olympic movement, preparations for the games to be held there in 2012, Olympic sports, venues for the London games, athletes, the Paralympics that will take place shortly after, and related topics.


Describes how the Winter Olympics started, how they are organized, star performers, and what can be expected at the 2014 games in Sochi, Russia.


The true story of the birth of Olympic basketball at the 1936 Summer Games in Hitler's Germany.


In ancient Greece different city-states often fought one another in deadly battles. But every four years the Greeks set aside their differences to honor the gods and compete peacefully in the Olympic Games. Learn all about the athletes, competitions, and religious ceremonies of the ancient Olympics.

**BIOGRAPHY**


Simple text and photographs introduce the life of Jesse Owens, a track
and field athlete, who won four gold medals at the Olympics in 1936.


Simple text and photographs introduce the life of Wilma Rudolph, an Olympic runner, who overcame childhood illnesses to become the first American to win three gold medals in the Olympics.


A biography of Native American athlete Jim Thorpe, focusing on his early athletic career.


A brief biography of Hawaiian Duke Kahanamoku, five-time Olympic swimming champion from the early 1900s who is also considered worldwide as the 'father of modern surfing.


Read the amazing story of America's greatest competitive swimmer.


On a May afternoon in 1943, an American military plane crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary sagas of the Second World War. The lieutenant's name was Louis Zamperini.


A biography of Native American athlete Jim Thorpe.


A biography of the first black woman to win an Olympic gold medal, from her childhood in segregated Albany, Georgia, in the 1930s, through her recognition at the 1996 Olympics as one of the hundred best athletes in
Olympic history.


With his record-breaking eight gold medals won for swimming in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, Phelps became an international sensation. In this picture book, Phelps explains the mind-boggling statistics of his years of training in terms young kids can understand.


A biography of the childhood and career of an Olympic soccer champion.

**RONNIE BARNES AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER**


Simple text and photographs introduce the life of Jesse Owens, a track and field athlete, who won four gold medals at the Olympics in 1936.


Simple text and photographs introduce the life of Wilma Rudolph, an Olympic runner, who overcame childhood illnesses to become the first American to win three gold medals in the Olympics.


The U.S. gymnast all-around gold medal winner at the 2012 London Olympics tells her story of faith, perseverance, and determination.


The Olympic gold medalist shares the story of her life and how the people in
her life helped to allow her to persevere and reach her dreams.

From the age of nine years Michael dreams of playing basketball for the United States in the Olympics, and with hard work and his mother's encouragement, he realizes his dream.

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