

Sixth Annual Westchester Library System Battle of the Books
20 Westchester Public Libraries competed in book trivia competition for 4th – 10th graders
October 19th, 2019
Hommocks Middle School
Larchmont, NY

The sixth annual Westchester Library System Battle of the Books took place on **Saturday, October 19th, 2019 at Hommocks Middle School in Larchmont, NY, part of the Mamaroneck UFSD**. Two champions were crowned: Briarcliff Manor Public Library, in the Grades 4 – 6 tournament, and Town of Pelham Public Library in the Grades 6 – 10 tournament. Over 300 young people representing 20 libraries participated in this event. The Westchester Library System's (WLS) Battle of the Books is a fast-paced trivia competition for avid readers entering Grades 4 – 10. There were two separate competitions on the same day: a Children's (Grades 4 – 6) and a Teens (Grades 6 – 10) Tournament, each with 17 teams.

Briarcliff Manor's Grades 4 – 6 team, The Children of Roz, were coached by Amy Kaplan. Their team members were: Kyle Battacharia, Jonathan Davanzo, Holden Dunn, Vivian Ellsworth, Matt Epstein, Emily Isbell, Clayton Prisament, and Noah Rinke.

In the Final Battle, they defeated Gummysaurus Rye, representing the Rye Free Reading Room, and coached by Lisa Dettling.

The Town of Pelham Public Library's Teen team, the Readers of Oz, were coached by Oz Coto-Chang. Their team members were: Elena Getz, Vivian Guo, Uma Kancharla, Delia Lavalley, Matthew Michailoff, Lise Obudulu, Madeline Simon, Ava Vitale, Caraose Vitale, and Viviana Wright.

In the Final Battle, they defeated the Somers Turkey Warriors, representing the Somers Library and coached by Terre Thomas.

The first and second place teams in both brackets received trophies to bring home to their respective libraries. Like the Stanley Cup, these trophies travel each year from winner to winner.

The day was made possible by a number of sponsors, including HOPE for Youth Foundation, Inc., Westchester Library System, Westchester Library Association, Mamaroneck UFSD, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Trader Joe's, Stop & Shop, DeCicco & Sons, Eduscape Associates, Disney Book Group, Scholastic, Simon & Schuster, Little Brown & Company Books for Young Readers, and Penguin Random House/Penguin Young Readers. We also were assisted by nearly 100 volunteers, including library staff and volunteers, family members of participants and coaches, school personnel, and interested community members, who managed 16 classrooms that at any given time were holding a match between two teams.

For more about the Westchester Library System Battle of the Books program:
www.westchesterlibraries.org/bob

Grades 4 – 6 Battle of the Books Selections:

Participants in the Grades 4 – 6 Battle of the Books read the following novels:

- *The Candymakers* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Pérez
- *Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Townsend
- *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown
- *Short & Skinny* by Mark Tatulli

Grades 6 - 10 Battle of the Books Selections:

Participants in the Grades 6 - 10 Battle of the Books read the following novels:

- *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud
- *Restart* by Gordon Korman
- *When Dimple Met Rishi* by Sandhya Menon

Participating Libraries

The following libraries participated with their respective teams:

Bedford Free Library	Larchmont Public Library
Briarcliff Manor Public Library	Mamaroneck Public Library
Croton-on-Hudson Public Library	Ossining Public Library
Dobbs Ferry Public Library	Pelham Public Library
Eastchester Public Library	Ruth Keeler Memorial Library (N. Salem)
Greenburgh Public Library	Rye Free Reading Room
Harrison Public Library	Somers Library
Hastings-on-Hudson Public Library	Town of Pelham Public Library
Hendrick Hudson Free Library (Montrose)	Warner Library (Tarrytown)
John C. Hart Memorial Library (Yorktown)	White Plains Public Library

Other libraries not listed here participated by volunteering on the day of the battle.



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Gummysaurus Rye, representing the Rye Free Reading Room, and coached by Lisa Dettling.



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The Somers Turkey Warriors, representing the Somers Library and coached by Terre Thomas.