

Louisiana Readers' Choice (LRC) Program - Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Louisiana Readers' Choice (LRC) Program?

The LRC is a reading enrichment program organized by the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana. Founded in 1999, the program motivates young readers to engage with high-quality literature and vote for their favorite books. The first award was given in 2000, and in the 25 years since its inception, over 1.5 million books have been read, and more than 460,000 votes have been cast by young readers across Louisiana.

2. What are the different reading lists in the LRC program?

The program has four distinct lists:

- **Louisiana Young Readers' Choice (LYRC):**
 - Grades K-2
 - Grades 3-5
 - Grades 6-8
- **Louisiana Teen Readers' Choice (LTRC):**
 - Grades 9-12

Each list offers a selection of high-quality books tailored to different age groups to inspire students at various reading levels.

3. What is the purpose of the program?

The LRC program encourages children and teens in Louisiana to read for pleasure and recognize outstanding books through voting. The nominated book lists are well-balanced selections of fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, and poetry, curated by Louisiana librarians and educators.

4. Who can vote, and how does voting work?

Students in grades K-12 who reside in Louisiana are eligible to vote after reading or listening to at least three nominated titles from the list that corresponds to their grade level. Voting is limited to one vote per student. An Award Winner and an Honor book are chosen based on student votes.

- **Voting Period:** December 1, 2025 – May 1, 2026.

- **To Vote:** Submit votes through the website or fax at 225-342-3547.
- **Recognition:** Students who read or listen to all nominated titles on their list can receive a Certificate of Program Completion from the State Library.

5. What types of books are included in the program?

The program includes a mix of high-quality fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, and poetry across the four reading lists. These books are selected to provide a variety of genres that cater to different reading preferences.

6. What is the timeline for the 2025-2026 LRC program?

- **Summer/Fall 2025:** Start reading the nominated books.
- **November 1, 2025:** Attend the Louisiana Book Festival in Baton Rouge to see previous winners receive their awards and give presentations.
- **December 1, 2025 – May 1, 2026:** Voting Period.
- **Mid-May 2026:** Winners and Honor titles are announced.

7. Where can I find the list of nominated titles and resources?

You can find the 2025-2026 nominated title list and list resources [here](#), the 2026-2027 nominated titles list [here](#), and previous lists of nominated titles and other program details [here](#).

8. Are promotional materials available for the LRC program?

Yes! Free promotional materials, such as posters, brochures, bookmarks, and seals for Award/Honor books, are available while supplies last. To order these materials, fill out [this form](#).

9. Can schools use voting machines for students to cast their votes?

Yes, schools can request voting machines from the Secretary of State's office. However, due to high demand, machines might not be available for all requests. Requests should be made by **December 1, 2025**, to Leigh Westmoreland at 225-362-5139 or leigh.westmoreland@sos.la.gov.

When requesting a voting machine, please provide:

- Contact name and phone number.
- School name and address.

- Grade levels participating.
- Approximate number of students participating.

10. How can I join the committee that selects the nominated books?

You can apply to join the selection committee by completing this [form](#).

11. Who sponsors the Louisiana Readers' Choice Program?

The LRC program is sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Louisiana Center for the Book, the Louisiana Library and Book Festival Foundation, the Louisiana Chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, inc., and the State Library of Louisiana.

12. Is participation in the program mandatory?

No, participation in the Louisiana Readers' Choice program is voluntary. The program aims to engage students in reading for enjoyment, stimulate critical thinking, and challenge them with a wide variety of books to choose from.

Have more questions?

For more information, contact the team at lrc@library.la.gov or call the State Library of Louisiana at **225-342-9716**.