Beyond Emancipation: Juneteenth Booklist

2012 will be the 25th anniversary of the Juneteenth Festival in Cincinnati. As part of the celebration of the Festival on June 16-17, Juneteenth Cincinnati has partnered with the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County to create booklists for adults, teens and children on this year’s theme, Beyond Emancipation. Copies of these books are available for check out or reserve at the Main Library and library branches throughout Hamilton County.

Adult Nonfiction: African Roots

Children of Fire: A History of African Americans
Holt, Thomas C. (Thomas Cleveland), 1942-
973.0496073 H758 2010
In Children of Fire, renowned historian Thomas C. Holt challenges this form to tell the story of generations of African Americans through the lived experience of the subjects themselves, with all of the nuances, ironies, contradictions, and complexities one might expect.

In search of our roots : how 19 extraordinary African Americans reclaimed their past
Gates, Henry Louis
973.0496073 G2592 2009
Scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., backed by an elite team of geneticists and researchers, takes nineteen extraordinary African Americans on a once unimaginable journey, tracing family sagas through U.S. history and back to Africa.

The African American family's guide to tracing our roots : healing, understanding & restoring our families
Barksdale-Hall, Roland C
929.10896073 B256 2005
Award-winning historian Roland Barksdale-Hall will help us rethink past events, explore vital health matters, and better understand our families, increase our level of awareness about cultural and historical identities and develop better understanding of the events, which help to shape our families' values, beliefs, and attitudes

Adult Nonfiction: Middle Passage - the Diaspora

Becoming American : the African-American journey
Dodson, Howard
973.049607 D647 2009
Dodson is a leading scholar, writer and lecturer on African-American history, and he has assembled poems, prose, song lyrics and speeches to illustrate seminal moments and achievements within the diaspora.

Post black : how a new generation is redefining African American identity
Womack, Ytasha
Highlighting certain socioeconomic and cultural trends, this exploration discloses the new dynamics shaping contemporary lives of African Americans.

**Becoming black : creating identity in the African diaspora**  
Wright, Michelle M., 1968-  
305.896 W952 2004  
* Becoming Black is a powerful theorization of Black subjectivity throughout the African diaspora.

**Adult Nonfiction: Chattel Slave System and the Struggles to End It**

The chattel principle : internal slave trades in the Americas  
edited by Walter Johnson  
306.362091 C495 2004  
This wide-ranging book presents the first comprehensive and comparative account of the slave trade within the nations and colonial systems of the Americas.

From slavery to emancipation in the Atlantic world  
editors, Sylvia R. Frey and Betty Wood  
306.36209 F931 1999  
This collection examines the effects of slavery and emancipation on race, class and gender in societies of the American South, the Caribbean, Latin America and West Africa.

Inhuman bondage : the rise and fall of slavery in the New World  
Davis, David Brion  
306.362097 B261j 2006  
History professor Davis places American slavery in the broader global context as part of the world's first system of multinational production from which mass markets were served.

**Adult Nonfiction: Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th, 14, 15 Amendments**

Act of justice : Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the law of war  
Carnahan, Burrus M., 1944-  
973.714 U582eZca 2007  
In exploring Lincoln's private motivations author Carnahan reflects the duality of Lincoln's approach to the issues of slavery, emancipation, and freedom.

Final freedom : the Civil War, the abolition of slavery, and the Thirteenth Amendment  
Vorenberg, Michael, 1964-  
973.714 V953 2004  
Final Freedom looks at the struggle among legal thinkers, politicians, and ordinary Americans in the North and the border states to find a way to abolish slavery that would overcome the inadequacies of the Emancipation Proclamation.
Democracy reborn: the Fourteenth Amendment and the fight for equal rights in post-Civil War America
Epps, Garrett
342.73085 U581Ze 2006
A riveting narrative of the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, an act which revolutionized the U.S. constitution and shaped the nation's destiny in the wake of the Civil War.

The trial of democracy: black suffrage and northern Republicans, 1860-1910
Wang, Xi, 1955-
324.620899 W246 1997
*The Trial of Democracy* is a comprehensive analysis of both the forces and mechanisms that led to the implementation of black suffrage and the ultimate failure to maintain a stable northern constituency to support enforcement on a permanent basis.

**Adult Nonfiction: Reconstruction**

Capitol men: the epic story of Reconstruction through the lives of the first Black congressmen
Dray, Philip
973.81 D768 2008
Dray writes an important history, weaving biographies of those who represented their states in the nation's Capitol, such as Robert Smalls, Hiram Revels, P. B. S. Pinchback, Richard "Daddy" Cain, John Roy Lynch, and Blanche K. Bruce, with focused accounts of the incidents that came to define Reconstruction and its aftermath.

African Americans during Reconstruction
Worth, Richard
973.0496073 W932 2006
The end of the Civil War was a hopeful beginning for African Americans. Although President Lincoln left no definite plan for reconstruction, many Americans supported one, and the Reconstruction Act of 1867 was eventually passed.

Forever free: the story of emancipation and Reconstruction
Foner, Eric
973.8 F673f 2005
From one of our most distinguished historians, a new examination of the vitally important years of Emancipation and Reconstruction during and immediately following the Civil War—a necessary reconsideration that emphasizes the era’s political and cultural meaning for today’s America.

**Adult Nonfiction: Migration West - Black Towns**

African Americans on the western frontier
edited with an introduction by Monroe Lee Billington and Roger D. Hardaway
Fourteen essays compiled from the last few decades explore different aspects of the African-American experience in the western territories from 1850 to 1914.

The Black West
Katz, William Loren
978.00496073 K19 1987
A history of the black people who participated in the development of the Western frontier in the United States, in such categories as the explorers, fur traders, early settlers, slaves, cowboys, and soldiers.

In search of the racial frontier: African Americans in the American West, 1528-1990
Taylor, Quintard
978.00496073 T245 1998
A general account of the black American component of the history of the states from Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas westward.

Adult Nonfiction: Jim Crow
Inherently unequal: the betrayal of equal rights by the Supreme Court, 1865-1903
Goldstone, Lawrence, 1947-
342.730873 G624 2011
A potent and original examination of how the Supreme Court subverted justice and empowered the Jim Crow era.

How free is free?: the long death of Jim Crow
Litwack, Leon F.
323.119607 L782 2009
Litwack, a history professor, explores the journey of black Americans from slavery to equality, which is not yet completed and often plagued with recurring obstacles rooted in the past.

Booker T. Washington: black leadership in the age of Jim Crow
Smock, Raymond
370.92 W317Zsm 2009
Historian Smock examines Washington's legacy and how he came to be alternately lauded and lambasted for his practical approach to racism following Reconstruction.

Adult Nonfiction: Migration North
Bridges of memory: Chicago's first wave of Black migration
Black, Timuel D
977.300496 qB627 2003
A collection of interviews with African Americans who came to Chicago from the South. In their first great migration to Chicago that began during World War I, African
Americans came from the South seeking a better life--and fleeing a Jim Crow system of racial prejudice, discrimination, and segregation.

The warmth of other suns : the epic story of America's great migration
Wilkerson, Isabel
304.80973 W681 2010
In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize–winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.

Bridges of memory : Chicago's first wave of Black migration
Black, Timuel D
977.300496 qB627 2003
A collection of interviews with African Americans who came to Chicago from the South. In their first great migration to Chicago that began during World War I, African Americans came from the South seeking a better life--and fleeing a Jim Crow system of racial prejudice, discrimination, and segregation.

Adult Nonfiction: Harlem Renaissance

Encyclopedia of the Harlem literary renaissance
Brown, Lois, 1966-
810.9896073 B878 2006
This resource for students, general readers, and researchers provides quick access to information on the literature of the Harlem Renaissance.

On the shoulders of giants: my journey through the Harlem Renaissance
Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem, 1947-
796.323092 A136Za3 2007
In On the Shoulders of Giants, indomitable basketball star and bestselling author and historian Kareem Abdul-Jabbar invites the reader on an extraordinarily personal journey back to his birthplace, through one of the greatest political, cultural, literary, and artistic movements in our history, revealing the tremendous impact the Harlem Renaissance had on both American culture and his own life.

The Harlem Renaissance
edited and with an introduction by Harold Bloom
This collection of essays focuses specifically on the origins of the Harlem Renaissance, its key writing figures and artists, and some of the difficulties they faced.

The Cambridge companion to the Harlem Renaissance
edited by George Hutchinson
810.989607 C178 2007
The Harlem Renaissance (1918-1937) was the most influential single movement in African American literary history. Its key figures include W. E. B. Du Bois, Nella Larsen, Zora Neale Hurston, Claude McKay, and Langston Hughes.

Adult Nonfiction: World Wars I and II

Harlem's hell fighters: the African-American 369th Infantry in World War I
Harris, Stephen L.
940.41273 U586Zha 2003
When the United States entered World War I in 1917, thousands of African-American men volunteered to fight for a country that granted them only limited civil rights.

The African American experience during World War II
Wynn, Neil A
940.5308996 W988a 2010
World War II was crucial in the development of the emerging Civil Rights movement, whether through the economic and social impact of the war, or through demands for equality in the military.

Black knights: the story of the Tuskegee airmen
Homan, Lynn M
940.544973 U586Zh 2001
Between 1941 and 1948, black airmen trained at a segregated facility in Tuskegee, Alabama, in a social experiment that eventually led to the opening of the armed services to black men and women.

Blood for dignity: the story of the first integrated combat unit in the U.S. Army
Colley, David (David P.)
940.541273 U589Ze 2003
Meticulously researched and wonderfully suspenseful, Blood for Dignity is the tale of a fascinating and little-known piece of World War II American history, seen through the eyes of 5th Platoon, K Company, 394th Regiment, 99th Division--the first black unit integrated with a white infantry company since the Revolutionary War.

Adult Nonfiction: Civil Rights Movement

Courage to dissent: Atlanta and the long history of the civil rights movement
Brown-Nagin, Tomiko, 1970-
342.73085 B881 2011
This groundbreaking book uncovers the activism of visionaries—both well-known legal figures and unsung citizens—from across the ideological spectrum who sought something different from, or more complicated than, "integration."

Lift every voice: the NAACP and the making of the Civil Rights Movement
Sullivan, Patricia, 1950-
973.049607 N277Zs 2009
As the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) celebrates its 100th anniversary, Sullivan (history, U. of South Carolina) reconstructs its history and contribution to the American Civil Rights movement.

Road to freedom: photographs of the civil rights movement, 1956-1968
Cox, Julian
323.097302 qC877 2008
Published during the 40th anniversary year of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, Road to Freedom introduces itself as the catalogue of "the most significant exhibition of civil rights photographs presented in an art museum in more than twenty years."

Adult Nonfiction: Contemporary Achievers (e.g., Barak Obama, Oprah Winfrey, the Williams sisters, etc.)

Oprah: a biography
Kelley, Kitty
791.45028 W768Zke 2010
The first comprehensive biography of one of the most admired public figures of our time, by the most widely read biographer of our era.

The bridge: the life and rise of Barack Obama
Remnick, David
973.932092 O12Zr 2010
Remnick has honed his gift for storytelling, making this excellent and thorough biography of Obama, set within the story of race in America, a deeply engaging read.

Venus and Serena Williams: a biography
Edmondson, Jacqueline
796.342092 W727Ze 2005
Edmondson (education, Penn State University) tells the story of the Williams family and the tennis careers of Venus and Serena—including their many controversies—and considers the role of race, gender, culture, and sport in shaping popular culture.

My American journey
Powell, Colin L.
355.0092 P882Zp 1995
Colin Powell is the embodiment of the American dream. He was born in Harlem to immigrant parents from Jamaica. He knew the rough life of the streets. He overcame a barely average start at school. Then he joined the Army. The rest is history.
No higher honor: a memoir of my years in Washington
Rice, Condoleezza, 1954-
327.730092 R495Zr3 2011
From one of the world's most admired women, this is former National Security Advisor and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's compelling story of eight years serving at the highest levels of government.

**Adult Nonfiction: Insurrections and Rebellions**

Midnight rising : John Brown and raid that sparked the Civil War
Horwitz, Tony, 1958-
973.7116 H824 2011
Plotted in secret, launched in the dark, John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry was a pivotal moment in U.S. history. But few Americans know the true story of the men and women who launched a desperate strike at the slaveholding South.

Nat Turner : a slave rebellion in history and memory
edited by Kenneth S. Greenberg
975.5552 T949Zna 2003
This anthology combines new and reprinted works on Turner's Rebellion that challenge readers to think afresh about the rebels and surrounding black community.

Antislavery violence : sectional, racial, and cultural conflict in antebellum America
edited by John R. McKivigan and Stanley Harrold
326.80973 A633 1999
Historians present 10 essays on violent action in the US against the institution of slavery and its defenders during the 60 years before the Civil War.

**Adult Nonfiction: The Underground Railroad**

Fleeing for freedom : stories of the Underground Railroad
edited with an introduction by George and Willene Hendrick
973.7115 F594 2004
Culled from the reminiscences of two abolitionists who worked on the Underground Railroad, these stories are firsthand accounts of a number of perilous escapes by slaves and the rescue efforts of a handful of committed "station masters."

Harriet Tubman : imagining a life
Lowry, Beverly
973.7115092 T885Zl 2007
During her lifetime Harriet Tubman was an escaped slave, lumberjack, laundress, raid leader, nurse, fund-raiser, cook, intelligence gatherer, Underground Railroad organizer, and abolitionist.
Escape on the Pearl: the heroic bid for freedom on the Underground Railroad
Ricks, Mary Kay
973.7115 R539 2007
A story of people, politics, and power, this gripping narrative is about a schooner named the "Pearl" and of the 70 slaves who embarked on one of the most audacious escapes in American history.

Bound for Canaan: the underground railroad and the war for the soul of America
Bordewich, Fergus M
973.7115 B728 2005
An important book of epic scope on America's first racially integrated, religiously inspired political movement for change: the Underground Railroad, a movement peopled by daring heroes and heroines, and everyday folk.

**Adult Nonfiction: Civil Rights and Black Power Movements**

The black power movement: rethinking the civil rights-black power era
edited by Peniel E. Joseph
323.119607 B6271 2006
The Black Power Movement remains an enigma. Often misunderstood and ill-defined, this radical movement is now beginning to receive sustained and serious scholarly attention. Peniel Joseph has collected the freshest and most impressive list of contributors around to write original essays on the Black Power Movement.

Engines of the black power movement: essays on the influence of civil rights actions, arts, and Islam
edited by James L. Conyers, Jr.
305.896073 E57 2007
The decade of the 1960s was an era of protest in America, and strides toward racial equality were among the most profound effects of the challenges to America's status quo. But have civil rights for African Americans been furthered, or even maintained, in the four decades since the Civil Rights movement began?

Liberation, imagination, and the Black Panther Party: a new look at the Panthers and their legacy
edited by Kathleen Cleaver and George Katsiaficas
322.420973 B627ZL 2001
This unique collection gathers reflections by scholars and activists that reconsider the historical impact of the Black Panther Party (BPP)--the most significant revolutionary organization in the US in the later 20th century.

**Adult Nonfiction: Non-Violent Resistance**

Becoming King: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the making of a national leader
Jackson, Troy, 1968-
323.092 K53Zjae 2008
What happened to Martin Luther King Jr. in Montgomery? Historic heroes do not emerge as full-blown icons. History idolizes them for their actions in their mature years, but readers rarely get to know them in their developmental stage of life.

Dream: the words and inspiration of Martin Luther King, Jr.
King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968.
323.92 3Zk3 2007

Meek ain't weak: nonviolent power and people of color
Hastings, Tom H.
303.61 H358 2002
Nonviolence should be seen as a wise method of indigenous struggle that preserves life even as it gains freedom, argues the author.

Martin Luther King, Jr., spirit-led prophet: a biography
Deats, Richard L., 1932-
323.092 K53Zde 2000
Uniquely tells the compelling story of Martin Luther King from the perspective of his faith.

Adult Nonfiction: Writings, laws etc.

Legacies of the 1964 Civil Rights Act
edited by Bernard Grofman
342.730873 L496 2000
Nineteen political scientists, historians, lawyers, statisticians, and sociologists address the origins and evolution of the Civil Rights Act, its consequences in several different policy domains, and the future of Civil Rights in the U.S.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964: the passage of the law that ended racial segregation
edited by Robert D. Loevy
342.730873 C582 1997
First-hand accounts from three civil rights supporters describe how they fashioned the famous cloture vote that turned back the determined Southern filibusters in the U.S. Senate and got the monumental Civil Rights Act bill passed into law.

Adult Fiction: Abolitionists

The Widow’s War
Mackey, Mary
In 1853, Carolyn Vinton is left alone and pregnant after her fiancé, abolitionist doctor William Saylor, disappears. After his stepbrother convinces her that William is dead, Carolyn accepts his offer of marriage, not realizing that she is being drawn into an
elaborate ruse by her new husband and his father, a pro-slavery senator and that William is still alive.

The Stamp of Glory: A Novel of the Abolitionist Movement
Stafford, Tim
Amid continuing debate over just how "Christian" are the Christian roots of the United States, The Stamp of Glory is the first book in a multigenerational family saga where the main characters interact with actual historical Christians who helped changed America for the better. The story of a fictional southern family intertwines across three decades with key historical figures at the heart of the abolitionist movement in the United States.

Adult Fiction: African Americans—Segregation

Early Birght
Silber, Ami
From the black jazz clubs on Central Avenue in Watts, to the tidy homes of the war widows he cons, Louis Greenberg lives life on the outside. No matter how charming and passionate he is, an outsider he will always be. He is white, a Jew, and that never goes away. It is 1948. An impulsive, irrevocable decision has led to Louis’ permanent exile from his family back in New York. Six years later, his father's disappointment still haunts him. Living a fractured, confusing life in Los Angeles, Louis moves between worlds. By day he is a con-man, artfully conning the relatives of men killed in action in World War II out of their cash, preying upon their memories and pain. By night he enters the only world where he is truly alive. In the all-black underground clubs of L.A. he nurtures his passion for bebop, listening to and playing cutting-edge jazz. Here he is still an outsider, but he has won acceptance to a point. Here, he meets the woman he loves, but can never truly have, in the segregated world of the forties. As Louis navigates the treacherous waters of jazz and women, passion and cynicism, he will try for one big con to put his troubled life to rights - but the many dissonant threads of past and present will come together, ensnaring him in a web of his own making.

Adult Fiction: Civil Rights

A Walk Through Fire: A Novel
Cobb, William
Disorder and angst brew in Hammond, Alabama -- a town plagued with racial unrest and torn between lifelong loyalties and prejudices. As strife boils to the surface with mass demonstrations, riots, and ultimately bloodshed, Cobb’s characters face an unthinkable struggle to find order and commonality among people they've known all their lives. More intimately, A Walk Through Fire is an intricate love story between a man and a woman separated by race and joined by an unquenchable longing to recreate the past, a time when truth was found within.

Invisible Man
Ellison, Ralph
This deeply disturbing and resonant novel was critically well received, a winner of the National Book Award. It concerns a southern black man at sea in a northern setting--"I am invisible, understand, simply because people refuse to see me."

Color of Law: a novel
Milofsky, David
Color of Law is a rich, absorbing novel about good, evil, and the inability of the legal system to mediate between the two. Two white Milwaukee motorcycle cops pursue and kill a young black man on a bitterly cold winter night in 1959 and with the help of their superiors escape detection for twenty years. When at last the truth comes out -- first in a confession and then in a groundbreaking civil rights suit brought against the state by the victim's family -- many people find their present lives increasingly altered by this event from the past. This includes Milwaukee Times reporter Bob Joseph, mayoral candidate Andy Hedig, Hedig's wife Sarah, lawyer Charlie Simon, the sister of the murdered youth, and many more.

No Crystal Stair
Rutland, Eva
This saga of how segregation and the Civil Rights movement shaped the lives of African Americans is told through the eyes of a woman who is born into the black privileged class. She leaves her sheltered life to marry a member of the first black unit in the Army Air Corps.

Safe from the Neighbors
Yarbrough, Steve
Our lives are inextricable from history. In his new novel, Yarbrough intertwines James Meredith's enrollment at Ole Miss with a town's not-so-admirable response. Decades later, local historian and high-school teacher Luke May struggles with his father's involvement in Meredith's enrollment. May also initiates his family's crumbling. Being a historian, or perhaps simply by being human, May is incapable of forgetting, which he recognizes as both blessing and curse. Yarbrough wonderfully displays the social upheaval of a specific era and the often-overlooked complexities of small-town life. He also intelligently wrestles with whether or not actions require condemnation of the whole man or just his actions. The relationships are real: simultaneously complex and simple. They are built out of pain and joy. Luke May dislikes some elements of the past but realizes condemnation of his father is futile. Luke's family may have fallen apart, but he will get along. Reading the novel hurts, but in a way that you know things will be okay.

Adult Fiction: Emancipation Proclamation

Come Juneteenth
Rinaldi, Ann
Sis Goose is a beloved member of Luli's family, despite the fact that she was born a slave. But the family is harboring a terrible secret. And when Union soldiers arrive on their Texas plantation to announce that slaves have been declared free for nearly two
years, Sis Goose is horrified to learn that the people she called family have lied to her for so long. She runs away--but her newly found freedom has tragic consequences.

An Eighth of August
Trice, Dawn Turner
In Halley's Landing, a small Illinois town, the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation has been celebrated on August 8 since the late 1880s. The festival is one of the grandest in the Midwest. Yet each year, along with the good times, there are painful memories, heartfelt confessions, and dark secrets. In 1986, the community has gathered to celebrate another festival one year after the unfortunate death of a young boy. Among the great cast are Aunt Cora, the outspoken family elder who provides refuge for those in need; Thelma, the wife, mother, and sister who has compassion yet difficulty dealing with others; Herbert, Thelma's husband; May Ruth, the older woman who visits year after year; Flossie, the unpredictable sister-in-law; and Sweet Alma, Flossie's daughter. What brings them back to Halley's Landing for this celebration is special and unique for each one of the characters; their past and perspective add flavor to the celebration and to their gathering. Trice's second novel, after the successful Only Twice I've Wished for Heaven (1997), will assuredly have commercial success.

**Adult Fiction: Harlem Renaissance**

The Quarry
Chesnutt, Charles W.
Was Donald Glover really what he seemed--a handsome, dedicated, & clever African-American star of the Harlem Renaissance, whose looks made him the "quarry" of a variety of women? Or could the secrets of his birth change his destiny entirely? Focusing on the culture of Harlem in the 1920s, Charles Chesnutt's final novel dramatizes the political & aesthetic life of the exciting period we now know as the Harlem Renaissance.

Prairie Nocturne
Doig, Ivan
From one of the greatest novelists of the American West comes a surprising and riveting story set in Montana and New York during the Harlem Renaissance, drawing together an unlikely set of thwarted performers in one last inspired grasp at life's set of gold rings: love and renown. Susan Duff -- the bossy, indomitable schoolgirl with a silver voice from the pages of Doig's most popular work, Dancing at the Rascal Fair -- has reached middle age alone, teaching voice lessons to the progeny of Helena's high society. Wesley Williamson -- business scion of a cattle-empire family -- has fallen from the heights of gubernatorial aspirations, forced out of a public career by political foes who uncovered his love affair with Susan. Years later, Susan is taken off guard when Wes arrives at her door with an unusual request: to train his chauffeur, Monty, in the ways of voice and performance. Prairie Nocturne is the saga of these three people and their interlocked destinies. Monty is distantly known to Susan from their childhoods in the Two Medicine country, yet an enforced stranger because of the racial divide. When she realizes he possesses a singing voice of rare splendor, Susan joins Wes's Pygmalion-like project to launch Monty on a performing career -- only to find the full force of the Ku Klux Klan in
their way. As Monty and Susan overcome treacherous obstacles, Wes's mysterious motives unsettle everyone, including himself, and the trio's crossed fates form a deeply longitudinal novel that raises everlasting questions of allegiance, the grip of the past, and the costs of career and passion.

**The Walls of Jericho**  
Fisher, Rudolph  
Lawyer Ralph Merritt buys a house in a white neighborhood bordering Harlem. In their reactions to Merritt and to one another, Fishers' characters—including the prejudiced Miss Cramp who 'takes on causes the way sticky tape picks up lint,' Merritt's housekeeper Linda, and Shine, his piano mover—provide an invaluable view of the social and philosophical milieu of the times. Thematically, Fisher focuses on the idea of black unity and discovery of the self.

**Gentleman Jigger**  
Nugent, Bruce  
An important addition to the literature of the period, Gentleman Jigger is the story of two brothers. Aeon, who passes for white and becomes a famous poet, faces the conundrums of love across the color line. Stuartt, who is openly homosexual—as was the author—joins the younger intellectuals of Harlem in defying authority figures, both black and white, at the notorious “Niggeratti Manor.” After the group disperses, Stuartt moves to Greenwich Village and becomes sexually involved with a young hoodlum. Charming and audacious, Stuartt eventually seduces one of the gangster’s top bosses, Orini, before his friendships with Wayne, a young heiress, and Bebe, Orini’s “moll,” set them all spinning in a whirlwind of jazz-age glamour and celebrity...that ends in an ironic dénouement.

**Black Orchid Blues**  
Walker, Persia  
Lanie Price, a 1920s Harlem society columnist, witnesses the brutal nightclub kidnapping of the “Black Orchid,” a sultry, seductive singer with a mysterious past. When hours pass without a word from the kidnapper, puzzlement grows as to his motive. After a gruesome package arrives at Price’s doorstep, the questions change. Just what does the kidnapper want—and how many people is he willing to kill to get it?

**Adult Fiction: Jim Crowism**

Uncle Tom’s Children: Five Short Stories  
Wright, Richard  
Set in the American Deep South, each of the powerful novellas collected here concerns an aspect of the lives of black people in the post-slavery era, exploring their resistance to white racism and oppression. Originally published in 1938, Uncle Tom's Children was the first book from Richard Wright, who would continue on to worldwide fame as the author of numerous works, most notably the acclaimed novel Native Son and his autobiography, Black Boy.

**Adult Fiction: Reconstruction**
Let freedom sing: of 19th century Americans: an historical novel or could it be a musical?
Kline, Vivian B.

Or Could It Be A Musical? When a class in Cincinnati, Ohio, hopes to make a musical about nineteenth century Americans, they begin by reading autobiographies from the period. They choose a group of young black ex-slave singers, and follow their progress as they move from Tennessee to New York, singing in churches to raise money for their school, destined to become Fisk University. Their white chaperone Susannah becomes the heroine of the journey, as she meets a cast of characters which include Nicholas Longworth, Horace Greeley, P. T. Barnum, Mary Todd Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Robert Duncanson, Susan B. Anthony, Vicky Woodhull and many others. Letters between Susannah and her good friend, Maria Longworth, in Cincinnati, along with entries from the diary of Ella, the black pianist accompanying the singers, provide a great picture of the 1860s and 70s. The Cincinnati students have done a lot of homework. But will it make a musical?

**Adult Fiction: Slave Traders**

Crossing the River
Phillips, Caryl

In a vastly ambitious and intensely moving novel, the author of Cambridge creates a many-tongued chorus of the African diaspora in the complex and riveting story of a desperate father who sells his three children into slavery.

**Adult Fiction: Slavery**

Uncle Tom’s cabin, or, Life among the lowly
Stowe, Harriet Beecher

This 1852 novel provides a powerful, historical look at the treatment of slaves in the pre-Civil War South.

The amalgamation polka
Wright, Stephen

Wright's tale of the growth and travels of Liberty Fish (a moniker to choke a tyrant on), son of passionate upstate New York abolitionists but drawn to his slaveholding extended family, is an unusually captivating modernist novel set during the Civil War. As a child, Liberty sees ghosts; as an adolescent, he escapes his military unit, eventually to end up aboard a pirate ship. Throughout, Wright portrays a strangely level young man, always idealistic and occasionally sharp-tongued amidst brutal, absurd circumstances. Highly recommended.

**Adult Fiction: Underground Railroad**

The River Jordan: a true story of the underground railroad
Burke, Henry Robert
The River Jordan is a fictionalized account of an actual escape in of a slave and her seven children from a western Virginia tobacco plantation on the Ohio River, and their harrowing flight across Ohio to Canada on the Underground Railroad. This vivid, inspiring chronicle of a family's ordeal is also a compelling history of the Underground Railroad, in which all the major characters and events are real.

The glass dove
Carrighar, Sally
A courageous young worker for freedom, a handsome wounded soldier, an elderly slave, a baby in distress and a community torn by dissension, the people and setting of one of the most dramatic historical narratives of our time. It's a story of passion, a story of suspense, but most of all a story of love.

The runaway quilt : an Elm Creek quilts novel
Chiaverini, Jennifer
The fourth book in the popular Elm Creek Quilts series explores a question that has long captured the imagination of quilters and historians alike: Did stationmasters of the Underground Railroad use quilts to signal to fugitive slaves?

Hunter of dreams : a story of the underground railroad
Duff, Steven
Hunter of Dreams is the story of the so-called Underground Railroad, the escape route to Canada of American slaves in the 1850s and early '60s. The driving force behind Canadian involvement was Dr. Alexander Milton Ross of Belleville, Ontario, an extraordinary character, but one relatively unknown except to historians specializing in his area.

Fairer than morning
Elliot, Rosslyn
Ann dreams of a marriage proposal from her poetic suitor—until she meets a runaway apprentice who knows what a truly noble man is. In 1826, Ann Miller travels to Pittsburgh with her widowed father and two young sisters, only to find that a mysterious man has pursued them all the way from Ohio. Is Ann's father just a circuit minister, or is he hiding something that may endanger them all? Will Hanby indentures with a Pittsburgh saddler maker, only to discover that his master is a cold-hearted tyrant. After years of abuse, Will becomes a prisoner of his own mind. But then lovely Ann Miller comes to stay next door and her compassion lights a long-dark part of Will's soul. His renewed courage puts his life in jeopardy as he begins to assist fugitive slaves. Will's murderous master and Ann's questions about her family may keep both of them bound in the shadows forever. Or will they find freedom—together?

William Henry is a fine name
Gohlke, Cathy
They told him his best friend wasn't human. Robert's father assisted the Underground Railroad. His mother adamantly opposed abolition. His best friend was a black boy named William Henry. As a nation neared its boiling point, Robert found himself in his
own painful conflict. The one thing he couldn't do was nothing at all. William Henry is a coming-of-age story about a 12-year-old boy--and an entire country--that comes face to face with the evils of society, even within the walls of the church. In the safety of an uplifting friendship, he discovers the hope of a brighter day.

North star conspiracy
Monfredo, Miriam Grace
Glynis Tryon, the delightful Seneca Falls, New York, librarian introduced in Seneca Falls Inheritance returns, still balancing her own life against the momentous events of the times. With sure authenticity, the author evokes the atmosphere of 1854, seven years before the Civil War, and brings to life the vivid cast of characters involved. A local election is pending, from which Glynis and Elizabeth Cady Stanton hope will come gains for women's rights. A wealthy resident has started Seneca Falls's first theater, and its production of Macbeth looms large in the story. Glynis herself faces a wrenching decision: Constable Cullen Stuart wants her as his wife when he moves west to become a Pinkerton man. Warm as her regard for Cullen may be, Glynis is reluctant, knowing how her life must change after marriage. Meanwhile, Seneca Falls has become an important stop on the Underground Railroad. Fugitive slaves following the North Star to Canada find support from many of the town's inhabitants, including Glynis. It is a difficult commitment at best, and when complicated by murder, a perilous one as well. Once again, Miriam Grace Monfredo has combined historical events, a moving personal story, and an engrossing mystery in a work of extraordinary interest.

Promise bridge
Schwab, Eileen Clymer
"This is a promise bridge, and it bridges a promise flowing from your heart to mine. It can't never be broken...the promise is part of you now, understand." Thus begins an unlikely friendship between Hannelore Blessing, a plantation mistress, and a slave girl named Livie. As the young women are launched on a harrowing journey of awakening filled with shared risks and nurtured promises amid whispers of the Underground Railroad and the rising tension preceding the Civil War, they discover their ability to trust, love, and ultimately take action.

The safe room
Shapiro, Barbara A.
Narrator Lee Harden toils as a research assistant for an inner-city drug center in Boston. Unofficially, she counsels recovering black addict Trina and helps her own grandmother (with whom she lives) ready her historic house for acceptance into a national park comprising Underground Railroad stations. Lee complains of unnerving nightmares about the house's root cellar and even sleepwalks while the house undergoes renovations. Her narrative shares space with journal entries an ancestor made in 1858, detailing her unacceptable relationship with an escaped slave. Increasingly eerie connections with the past, a missing bracelet, and murder make this a recommended choice for readers of psychological suspense. Shapiro is the author of such titles as Blind Spot and See No Evil.
Adult Fiction: Women Abolitionists

Pale truth: a novel
Alef, Daniel
This large but carefully plotted and certainly historically accurate novel celebrates the rich cultural heritage that has been the hallmark of California life. The story begins in 1829 in the state of Georgia, with the birth into slavery of an unusual baby--she has eyes of two different colors. The baby's name is Mary Ellen and her mother is credited with--or, more accurately, feared for--being a voodoo queen. Mary Ellen grows up the favorite of the wife of the owner of the plantation where she was born--to say nothing of also growing up beautiful. The plantation owner's wife places Mary Ellen in the hands of a male friend, for him to see to her education and to hold a sizable amount of money in trust for her future. So off to New Orleans Mary Ellen goes, but Missouri and Cincinnati follow as sites of her continuing education in life. But San Francisco is where her fortune awaits her, the sights and sounds of that young and raw city fairly wafting off these pages.

Candle in the darkness
Austin, Lynn N.
Book 1 in the Refiner's Fire series. The daughter of a wealthy slave-holding family from Richmond, Virginia, Caroline Fletcher is raised in a culture that believes slavery is God-ordained and biblically acceptable. But upon awakening to the cruelty and injustice it encompasses, Caroline's eyes are opened for the first time to the men and women who have cared tirelessly for her. Her journey of maturity and faith will draw her into the abolitionist movement, where she is confronted with the risks and sacrifices her beliefs entail.

Free enterprise
Cliff, Michelle
The telling of stories--to recapture memory or redefine the past, to cope with present chaos and confusion, and to inform and enable the future--dominates these affecting novels. Jamaica-born feminist Cliff rewrites American history's "official version" of John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859, with Brown as a significant but minor character. In his place, Mary Ellen Pleasant, an African American hotelier from San Francisco who funded the raid, takes center stage, along with fellow conspirator Annie Christmas, a Jamaican gens inconnu who fled from her island home in the 1850s to affirm her racial identity and join in the mainland struggle. In tall tales and legends, cherished memories, and regrettable misunderstandings, Free Enterprise explores the multiple meanings of freedom and enterprise and of a society that enshrines selected meanings of both.King's first novel takes place in the 1960s in southern Indiana, where the author's family has farmed for three centuries. "The night before John F. Kennedy got shot," we learn from 10-year-old Isobel, "my momma ran off again." The True Life Story of Isobel Roundtree describes "that whole year that passed." Hog farmer Prince tells his lonely daughter family stories and puzzles out the shattering changes in his own life. Emma Swallow, "the tallest woman criminal ever maybe," accepts Isobel's invitation to join the Roundtree household as housekeeper and healer. The mysterious Cat Man haunts the Roundtree
woods, searching for his lost love. King's engaging narrator and the quirky but believable characters who populate her world dramatize one young girl's encounters with chaos and hope and her discoveries about the meaning of family and of love.

Harriet and Isabella
O'Brien, Patricia
It is 1887, and Henry Ward Beecher lies dying. Reporters from around the world, eager for one last story about the most lurid scandal of their time, descend on Brooklyn Heights, their presence signaling the beginning of the voracious appetite for fallen celebrities we know so well today. When Henry Ward Beecher was put on trial for adultery in 1875, the question of his guilt or innocence was ferociously debated. His trial not only split the country, it split apart his family, causing a particularly bitter rift between his sisters, Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom's Cabin, and Isabella Beecher Hooker, an ardent suffragist. Harriet remained loyal to Henry, while Isabella called publicly for him to admit his guilt. What had been a loving, close relationship between two sisters plummeted into bitter blame and hurt. Harriet and Isabella each had a major role in the social revolutions unfolding around them, but what happened in their hearts when they were forced to face a question of justice much closer to home? Now they struggle: who best served Henry -- the one who was steadfast or the one who demanded honesty?

Nonfiction for Kids

The Slave Trade
Herr, Melody
306.362 H564 2010
This volume from the World Black History series discusses the horrible conditions of the Middle Passage and the political and economic forces that fueled the trade in African slaves. (Grades 4 & up)

Slave Uprisings and Runaways
Eskridge, Ann E.
306.362097 E75 2004
Describes the history of slave uprisings and runaway slaves, including the Underground Railroad. The barks of the bloodhounds grew louder as the man ran through the swamps. This was what many slaves had to go through in order to escape to the North. Others received help on the Underground Railroad. Still others fought instead of running. (Grades 5-6)

Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement
Bausum, Ann
323.092273 qB351 2006
Focuses on two college students from strikingly different backgrounds: Jim Zwerg, a white Wisconsin native who became involved during an exchange visit to Nashville, and
John Lewis, a black seminarian and student leader of the nonviolence movement. (Grades 6 & up)

**African American Civil Rights Movement**  
323.119607 qA2581 2011  
A history of the African American civil rights movement, based on primary source documents and other historical artifacts. (Grades 5 & up)

**Birmingham Sunday**  
Brimner, Larry Dane  
323.119607 qB857 2010  
This moving photo-essay covers much more than just an account of the Birmingham, Alabama, Baptist Church bombing that killed four young girls in 1963. The detailed text, illustrated with black-and-white photos on every spacious double-page spread, sets the shocking assassination of the children within a general overview of both the racist segregation of the times and the struggle against it. (Grades 5 & up)

**Rosa’s Bus**  
Kttinger, Jo S.  
323.119607 P252Zk 2010  
In an inventive approach, this handsome picture book frames the biography of Rosa Parks with the story of the bus on which she famously refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. Beginning with where the bus was built and first driven, the free-verse narrative and dramatic oil paintings tell the larger story of discrimination in daily life. (All Ages)

**Sit-in: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down**  
Pinkney, Andrea Davis  
323.119607 fP655 2010  
This picture book is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the momentous Woolworth’s lunch counter sit-in, when four college students staged a peaceful protest that became a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality and the growing civil rights movement. (Grades 1-3)

**Child of the Civil Rights Movement**  
Shelton, Paula Young  
323.119607 S545Zs 2010  
Paula Young Shelton, daughter of Civil Rights activist Andrew Young, brings a child’s unique perspective to an important chapter in America’s history. (Grades 2-4)

**Bad News for Outlaws: the Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshall**  
Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux  
363.282092 qR332Zn 2009  
Nelson relays the extraordinary story of Bass Reeves, a lawman in the Old West who escaped slavery to become one of the most successful U.S. Marshals in history. (Grades 3-5)
This School Is Not White!: a True Story of the Civil Rights Movement
Rappaport, Doreen
379.263097 R221 2005
The Carter family struggles to integrate an all-white school in Drew, Mississippi, in 1965. (Grades 4-5)

The Harlem Renaissance: an Explosion of African-American Culture
Worth, Richard
700.899607 W932 2009
The opening pages create a valuable historical context for understanding the origins and spirit of the Harlem Renaissance, while spotlighting many notable individual writers, musicians, actors, and visual artists. Period photos and color reproductions of paintings illustrate the book. (Grades 5 & up)

The Great Migration: an American Story
Lawrence, Jacob
759.13 qL421Zl 1993
A series of paintings chronicles the journey of African Americans who, like the artist's family, left the rural South in the early twentieth century to find a better life in the industrial North. (Grades 3-6)

Oprah: The Little Speaker
Weatherford, Carole Boston
791.45028 qW768Zwi3 2010
This picture-book account focuses solely on Oprah’s childhood. This is the true rags-to-riches story about a poor girl on a Mississippi pig farm who became an entertainer, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. (Grades 1–3)

Henry Aaron’s Dream
Tavares, Matt
796.357092 fA113Zt 2010
In a captivating biography of Henry Aaron’s young life – from his sandlot days through his time in the Negro Leagues to the day he played his first spring training game for the Braves – Matt Tavares offers an inspiring homage to one of baseball’s all-time greats. (Grades 1–5)

Muhammad Ali: the People’s Champion
Myers, Walter Dean
796.83092 qA398zmy2 2010
The curious mix of bravado and humility constituting the life of Muhammad Ali receives a sensitive exploration in this vibrantly illustrated biography. (Grades 1–5)

The Harlem Renaissance
Hillstrom, Kevin
j810.989607 H655 2008
Provides a detailed, factual account of the emergence and development of the Harlem Renaissance and its ongoing effect on American society. Includes a narrative overview, biographical profiles, primary source documents, detailed chronology, glossary, and annotated sources for further study. (Grades 6 & up)

**The Great Migration: Journey to the North**  
Greenfield, Eloise  
811.54 qG812g 2011  
Illuminates the experiences of families who left their homes in search of better lives during the move up north. (Grades 2-4)

**We Troubled the Waters**  
Shange, Ntozake  
j811.54 S528w 2009  
Shange's stirring poems and Brown's raw, striking paintings evoke the turbulence of the civil rights movement. (Grades 5 & up)

**The Harlem Hellfighters: When Pride Met Courage**  
Myers, Walter Dean  
940.41273 U586Zm 2008  
The story of the Harlem Hellfighters is not simply one of victory in a war. . . . It is the story of men who acted as men, and who gave a good account of themselves when so many people thought, even hoped, that they would fail. What defines a true hero? The "Harlem Hellfighters," the African American soldiers of the 369th Infantry Regiment of World War I, redefined heroism -- for America, and for the world. (Grades 5 & up)

**Black and White Airmen: Their True History**  
Fleischman, John  
940.544973092 L434Zf 2007  
John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun grew up in the same Cincinnati neighborhood and were in the same third grade class together, classmates, but not friends – because John was black and Herb white. Years later, both were thrown into high-altitude bomber war against Nazi Germany, but because the Army was highly segregated, didn’t meet for fifty years to discover that their lives had run almost side by side through war and peace. (Grades 6 & up)

**African Roots: Prehistory to 1440**  
Herr, Melody.  
960 H564 2010  
This volume from the World Black History series tells of the earliest known societies in Africa starting at 10,000 BCE, the ancient Egyptian and Nubian Kingdoms, and the more recent kingdoms of Benin, Ghana, Mali, and Zimbabwe. Color illustrations and maps throughout contribute to the text’s effectiveness. (Grades 4 & up)

**Heart and Soul: the Story of America and African Americans**  
Nelson, Kadir
The story of America and African Americans is a story of hope and inspiration and unwavering courage. But it is also the story of injustice; of a country divided by law, education, and wealth; of a people whose struggles and achievements helped define their country. Kadir Nelson, one of this generation's most accomplished, award-winning artists, has created an epic yet intimate introduction to the history of America and African Americans, from colonial days through the civil rights movement. (Grades 4-6)

**Cause**
Bolden, Tonya
973.71 B687 2005
After the destruction of the Civil War, the United States faced the immense challenge of rebuilding a ravaged South and incorporating millions of freed slaves into the life of the nation. On April 11, 1865, President Lincoln introduced his plan for reconstruction, warning that the coming years would be “fraught with great difficulty.” Three days later he was assassinated. The years to come witnessed a time of complex and controversial change. (Grades 6 & up)

**Underground**
Evans, Shane
973.7115 qE92 2011
A stellar introduction to the Underground Railroad, narrated by a group of slaves. Readers experience the fugitives' escape, their long nighttime journey punctuated by meetings with friends and enemies, and their final glorious arrival in a place of freedom. (Grades PreK-2)

**John Brown: His Fight for Freedom**
Hendrix, John
973.7116092 qB878Zh 2009
In the late 1850s, at a time when many men and women spoke out against slavery, few had the same impact as John Brown, the infamous white abolitionist who backed his beliefs with unstoppable action. His dedication to freeing the American slaves made him one of the most recognizable leaders in the liberation movement to end slavery. (Grades 4-6)

**Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation**
Sherman, Patrice
973.714 qU58Zs 2010
While enslaved, Ben teaches himself how to read. When all the slaves are suddenly imprisoned, Ben is able to obtain a copy of a newspaper and read to his fellow prisoners about the Emancipation Proclamation. (Grades 3-5)

**Traveling the Freedom Road: From Slavery and the Civil War Through Reconstruction**
Osborne, Linda Barrett
973.7415 qO81 2009
Told through unforgettable first-person accounts from slave narratives, journals, diaries, and other sources—much of it never before published for young people—this book is an overview of the antebellum South, the Civil War, and Reconstruction, 1800 to 1877. (Grades 6 & up)

**Obama: Only in America**  
Weatherford, Carole Boston  
973.932092 qO12Zw 2010  
Weatherford puts an amazing amount of information about Barack Obama into a rhythmic text that is also wonderfully concise. (Grades 1–5)

**Michelle**  
Hopkinson, Deborah  
973.932092 qO121Zh 2009  
Deborah Hopkinson and A.G. Ford capture the inspiring story of the first African American First Lady in this beautiful picture book biography. (Grades 1–3)

**Fort Mose: and the Story of the Man Who Built the First Free Black Settlement in Colonial America**  
Turner, Glennette Tilley  
975.918 qT946 2010  
Tells the story of Fort Mose, the first free African settlement to legally exist in what is now the United States, established in St. Augustine, Florida, in 1738 after slave revolts. Includes over forty images, as well as notes on the uncovering of the fort. (Grades 3-5)

**The Black Cowboys**  
De Angelis, Gina  
978.00496073 D284 1998  
An account of the adventurous African Americans whose exploits contributed to the legends of the Wild West. (Grades 4-6)

**Fiction for Kids**

**Chains**  
Anderson, Laurie Halse  
After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War. (Grades 6 & up)

**White Water: Inspired by a True Story**  
Bandy, Michael S.  
After tasting the warm, rusty water from the fountain designated for African Americans, a young boy questions why he cannot drink the cool, refreshing water from the "Whites Only" fountain. Based on a true experience co-author Michael S. Bandy had as a boy. (Grades K-3)

**Jefferson’s Sons: a Founding Father’s Secret Children**
Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker
A fictionalized look at the last twenty years of Thomas Jefferson's life at Monticello through the eyes of three of his slaves, two of whom were his sons by his slave, Sally Hemings. (Grades 5 & up)

**Night Running: How James Escaped with the Help of His Faithful Dog**
Carbone, Elisa Lynn
A runaway slave makes a daring escape to freedom with the help of his faithful hunting dog, Zeus. Based on the true story of James Smith's journey from Virginia to Ohio in the mid-1800s. (Grades 1-3)

**Elijah of Buxton**
Curtis, Christopher Paul
In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom. (Grades 4-6)

**A Sweet Smell of Roses**
Johnson, Angela
A stirring, yet jubilant glimpse of the youth involvement that played an invaluable role in the Civil Rights movement. (Grades 1-3)

**Wind Flyers**
Johnson, Angela
A boy's love of flight takes him on a journey from the dusty dirt roads of Alabama to the war-torn skies of Europe. Introduces young readers to the contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War II. (Grades 1-3)

**Away West**
McKissack, Pat
In 1879, thirteen-year-old Everett Turner leaves a life of struggle on his family's farm and runs away to St. Louis, where he works in a livery stable before heading to the all-Black town of Nicodemus, Kansas. (Grades 3-5)

**Color Me Dark: the Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North**
McKissack, Pat
Eleven-year-old Nellie Lee Love records in her diary the events of 1919, when her family moves from Tennessee to Chicago, hoping to leave the racism and hatred of the South behind. (Grades 4-6)

**Never Forgotten**
McKissack, Pat
Bold illustrations accompany poems that tell about Dinga, a West African blacksmith, and his son Musafa, who is kidnapped and sold into slavery in America. Nature plays a central role in this story of pain, loss, healing, family, and memory. (Grades 4 & up)
**A Song for Harlem**  
McKissack, Pat  
In the summer of 1928, Lilly Belle Turner of Smyrna, Tennessee, participates in a young author's writing program, taught by Zora Neale Hurston and hosted by A'Lelia Walker in her Harlem teahouse at the height of the Harlem Renaissance. (Grades 3–5)

**Busing Brewster**  
Michelson, Richard  
Bused across town to a school in a white neighborhood of Boston in 1974, a young African American boy named Brewster describes his first day in first grade. Includes historical notes on the court-ordered busing. (Grades 1-3)

**Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation**  
Pinkney, Andrea Davis  
Illustrations and rhythmic text recall the December, 1955, bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama. (Grades 1-3)

**Back of the Bus**  
Reynolds, Aaron  
From the back of the bus, an African American child watches the arrest of Rosa Parks. (Grades K-2)

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**  
Taylor, Mildred D.  
Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, it is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. (Grades 5 & up)

**The Listeners**  
Whelan, Gloria  
After a day of picking cotton in late 1860, Ella May, a young slave, joins her friends Bobby and Sue at their second job of listening outside the windows of their master's house for useful information. (Grades 1 & up)

**One Crazy Summer**  
Williams-Garcia, Rita  
In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp. (Grades 4-6)

**Nonfiction for Teens**

**In our village : Kambi ya Simba through the eyes of its youth**
Cervone, Barbara, ed.
916.7826 I35 2006
The Tanzanian village of Kambi ya Simba, near the famed Serengeti, couldn't be poorer. In this extraordinary book, village youth capture the richness of life there in photographs and essays.

**Into the Land of Freedom: African-Americans in Reconstruction**
Green, Meg
973.0496073 G8112 2004
The People's History series scores again with this introduction to Reconstruction, from the Day of Jubilee to the end of the nineteenth century, when it was clear that the ramifications of the slave system would not go quietly. Greene uses historical documents, contemporaneous writings, interviews that preserve dialect and spellings, and her own strong sense of history to show the hopes, disappointments, uncertainties, and dangers that came to African Americans with Reconstruction.

**The Birth of Black America: the age of discovery and the slave trade**
Frank, Andrew
381.440973 F828 1996
A history of early exploration in the Americas and Africa and an examination of the slave trade that followed.

**Life Under Jim Crow Laws**
George, Charles
305.896075 G347 2000
African Americans in the United States hoped for a better life after being freed from slavery, but they had to endure almost one hundred years of racial segregation and discrimination under the so-called "Jim Crow" laws before achieving that goal. This book recounts that century of struggle.

**Bound for America: the forced migration of Africans to the new world**
Haskins, James
382.44 qH349 1999
Discusses the European enslavement of Africans, including their capture, branding, conditions on slave ships, shipboard mutinies, and arrival in the Americas.

**The Geography of Hope: the Black Exodous from the South after Reconstruction**
Haskins, James
973.0496073 H351 1999
Discusses the conditions of African Americans in the South before, during, and after the Civil War, and the migration of many former slaves, led by such men as Benjamin Singleton and Henry Adams, to the West looking for a better life.

**Forever Free, 1863-1875: from the Emancipation Proclamation to the Civil Rights Bill of 1875**
Henry, Christopher E
The era begins during America's great civil war, when President Abraham Lincoln decreed the rebel South's slaves free; it ends in 1875, when Congress passed a bill assuring African American rights. Between those towering milestones, blacks moved from bondage to freedom, from political impotence to civil power. But threatening every step of their journey was a seemingly unbreachable barrier of racism. Blacks fell back time and again; time and again they rallied and surged forward.

Harlem Stomp: a cultural history of the Harlem Renaissance
Hill, Laban Carrick
810.989607 qH646 2003
In the 1920s, Harlem was hot! With a beautiful open design, this illustrated history combines the politics of the black metropolis in the roaring 1920s with long, detailed chapters on the blazing creativity of performers, writers, visual artists, and intellectuals.

Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice
Hoose, Phillip
323.092 C727Zh 2009
On March 2, 1955, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. In her own words, Claudette gives a detailed look at segregated life in 1950s Memphis and the start of the civil rights movement.

Fleeing to freedom on the Underground Railroad: the courageous slaves, agents, and conductors
Landau, Elaine
973.7115 L253 2006
Whether they require facts about towering abolitionist personages (Harriet Tubman, Levi Coffin, William Lloyd Garrison) or seek fresh inspiration for African American history-themed projects, researchers will make use of this entry in the reliable People's History series.

A Dream of Freedom: the Civil Rights movement from 1954-1968
McWhorter, Diane
323.119607 M177 2004
In this history of the modern Civil Rights movement, the author focuses on the monumental events that occurred between 1954 (the year of Brown v. the Board of Education) and 1968 (the year that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated.

Barack Obama: the comic book biography
Marriott, Jeff
973.932092 qO12Zm 2009
Introducing the life story of Barack Obama in comic book form. Readers can follow him from infancy through the first 100 days of his administration as the 44th president of the United States.

A Wreath for Emmett Till
In 1955, people all over the United States knew that Emmett Louis Till was a fourteen-year-old African American boy lynched for supposedly whistling at a white woman in Mississippi. The brutality of his murder, the open-casket funeral, and the acquittal of the men tried for the crime drew wide media attention. Award-winning poet Marilyn Nelson reminds us of the boy whose fate helped spark the civil rights movement.

**Farewell to Jim Crow: the rise and fall of segregation in America**
Ramussen R. Kent
305.896073 R989 1997
This book investigates the facets of people's lives most affected by segregation including housing, education, employment, transportation, and public accommodations, and also takes a look at other forms of discrimination, such as voting rights violations.

**Condoleezza Rice: a memoir of my extraordinary, ordinary family and me**
Rice, Condoleezza
327.730092 R495Zr2 2010
This biography hits all the high points of Rice's life. Raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Rice was the daughter of parents who convinced her that, as she puts it, even if she couldn't have a hamburger at the Woolworth's lunch counter, she could be president of the United States. Filled with fascinating photos, this will not only introduce young people to a groundbreaking woman but will also give them a real sense of what life was like growing up in the segregated south in the 1950s and 1960s.

**Lincoln and the abolition of slavery**
Roberts, Russell
973.7092 L736Zro 2000
Discusses Abraham Lincoln's role in the abolition of slavery, as well as the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation.

**Malcolm X and the Black Pride Movement**
Sharp, Anne Wallace
320.546092 X1Zs 2010
Although he remains one of the most well-known figures of the twentieth century, relatively few biographies of Malcolm X have been published for youth. This entry in the Lucent Library of Black History helps fill that gap with a frank, balanced, and compelling look at the man who was born Malcolm Little and whose furious insistence on equality for African Americans continues to both inspire and provoke controversy.

**The Civil Rights Movement for Kids: a history with 21 activities**
Turck, Mary
323.119607 qT932 2000
Surprisingly, kids were some of the key instigators in the Civil Rights Movement, like Barbara Johns, who held a rally in her elementary school gym that eventually led to the Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court school desegregation decision, and six-
year-old Ruby Bridges, who was the first black student to desegregate elementary schools in New Orleans. In *The Civil Rights Movement for Kids*, children will discover how students and religious leaders worked together to demand the protection of civil rights for black Americans.

**The Sky is not the Limit: adventures of an urban astrophysicist**
Tyson, Neil deGrasse
523.01092 T994Zt 2000
Tyson, current director of the Hayden Planetarium in New York City, has written a personalized account of his career from his days at the Brooklyn High School of Science, his undergraduate years at Harvard University, his graduate work at both the University of Texas and Columbia University, and as a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton. Early in life he decided to become an astrophysicist, despite the fact that there were only a handful of black Americans in the field.

**Warmth of Other Suns: the epic story of America’s great migration**
Wilkerson, Isabel
304.80973 W681 2010
In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America.

**Harlem Speaks: a living history of the Harlem Renaissance**
Wintz, Cary
810.989607 H2844 2007
For three decades after World War I, Harlem was the site of burgeoning racial and cultural awareness and ambitions among African Americans. In separate sections devoted to poetry, music, politics, art, and the phenomenon of the New Negro, contributors profile many of the era's major figures, including Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Bessie Smith, Ethel Waters, Josephine Baker, W. E. B. DuBois, Paul Robeson, A. Phillip Randolph, and Marcus Garvey.

**The Slave Trade in America: Cruel Commerce**
Worth, Richard
382.440973 W932 2004
"Slavery is the next thing to hell," said Harriet Tubman, a leader of the Underground Railroad. For hundreds of years, Africans were kidnapped and forced to endure horrific sea voyages to the Americas. In this notable book, Richard Worth explores the trade that led to the enslavement of generations of Africans and African-Americans.

**Fiction for Teens**

**The Song of Be**
Beake, Lesley
Be, a young Bushman woman searching in the desert for the peace she remembers from her childhood, realizes that she and her people must reconcile new personal and political realities with ancient traditions.

**The River Jordan: a true story of the Underground Railroad**
Burke, Henry Robert
Fiction
The River Jordan is a fictionalized account of an actual escape in of a slave and her seven children from a western Virginia tobacco plantation on the Ohio River, and their harrowing flight across Ohio to Canada on the Underground Railroad. This vivid, inspiring chronicle of a family’s ordeal is also a compelling history of the Underground Railroad, in which all the major characters and events are real.

**Wrango**
Burks, Brian
Fiction
When young George McJunkin leaves his home in Texas and joins a cattle drive along the Chisholm Trail, he experiences the hardships of being a Black cowboy after the Civil War.

**Mare’s War**
Davis, Tanita S.
Fiction
Teens Octavia and Tali learn about strength, independence, and courage when they are forced to take a car trip with their grandmother, who tells about growing up Black in 1940s Alabama and serving in Europe during World War II as a member of the Women's Army Corps.

**New Boy**
Houston, Julian
Fiction
As a new sophomore at an exclusive boarding school, a young black man is witness to the persecution of another student with bad acne who is also Jewish.

**Day of Tears**
Lester, Julius
Fiction
Emma has taken care of the Butler children since Sarah and Frances's mother, Fanny, left. Emma wants to raise the girls to have good hearts, as a rift over slavery has ripped the Butler household apart. Now, to pay off debts, Pierce Butler wants to cash in his slave "assets", possibly including Emma. (Gr 6-9)

**The Rock and the River**
Magoon, Kekla
Fiction
In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.

**Tulsa Burning**  
Myers, Anna  
Fiction  
In 1921, fifteen-year-old Noble Chase hates the sheriff of Wekiwa, Oklahoma, and is more than willing to cross him to help his best friend, a black man, who is injured during race riots in nearby Tulsa.

**Harlem Summer**  
Myers, Walter Dean  
Fiction  
In 1920s Harlem, sixteen-year-old Mark Purvis, an aspiring jazz saxophonist, gets a summer job as an errand boy for the publishers of the groundbreaking African American magazine, "The Crisis," but soon finds himself on the enemy list of mobster Dutch Shultz. Includes real photos of people and places of Harlem in the 1920s.

**Across the Wide River**  
Reed, Stephanie  
Fiction  
In Ohio in the early decades of the nineteenth century, Lowry Rankin opposes slavery but resents that aiding his family's work on the Underground Railroad continually robs him of sleep and interferes with his plans for the future.

**Come Juneteenth**  
Rinaldi, Ann  
Fiction  
Fourteen-year-old Luli and her family face tragedy after failing to tell their slaves that President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation made them free.

**Fly Girl**  
Smith, Sherri L  
Fiction  
During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.