

Book Suggestions: Multicultural and Diversity

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND DIFFERENCES

Younger Readers:

Henry and Amy by Michael Stephen King (celebrating individual differences),

I'm Like You, You're Like Me by Cindy Gainer

It's Okay to be Different by Todd Parr

Swimmy by Leo Lionni

Molly's Pilgrim by Barbara Cohen

Hooray for Diffendoofer Day by Dr. Seuss

Older Readers:

Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Briggs Martin (**beautiful photographs**)

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

OTHER CULTURES

If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People by David J. Smith

The Grand Mosque of Paris: A Story of how Muslims Rescued Jews During the Holocaust

by Karen Gray Ruelle and Deborah Durland DeSaix

Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins by Eric Kimmel

The Rag Coat by Lauren A Mills

One Green Apple by Eve Bunting (Muslim)

Mrs. Katz and Tush by Patricia Polacco

SPEECH IMPAIRMENT

Ben Has Something to Say by Laurie Lears

Hooway for Rodney Rat by Helen Lester

Mary Marony and the Snake by Suzy Kline

Vicar of Nibbleswicke by Roald Dahl

The following lists are from the Salt Lake City Library.

ASIAN PICTURE BOOKS

Basho and the River Stones by Tim Myers. Tricked by a fox into giving up his share of cherries, a famous Japanese poet is inspired to write a haiku and the fox, ashamed of his actions, must devise another trick to set things right.

Coolies by Yin. A young boy hears the story of his great-great-great-grandfather who came to the United States to make a better life for themselves helping to build the Transcontinental Railroad.

Dim Sum for Everyone by Grace Lin. A child describes the various little dishes of dim sum that she and her family enjoy on a visit to a restaurant in Chinatown.

The Empty Pot by Demi. When Ping admits that he is the only child in China unable to grow a flower from the seeds distributed by the Emperor, he is rewarded for his honesty.

Fortune Cookie Fortunes by Grace Lin. After a young Chinese American girl opens fortune cookies with her family, she notices the fortunes seem to come true.

Good-bye, 382 Shin Dang Dong by Frances and Ginger Park. Jangmi finds it hard to say goodbye to relatives and friends, plus the food, customs, and beautiful things in her home of Korea, when her family moves to America.

Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say. A Japanese American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America,

Two of Everything by Lily Toy Hong. A poor old Chinese farmer finds a magic brass pot that doubles or duplicates whatever is placed inside it, but his efforts to make himself wealthy lead to unexpected complications.

Where on Earth is My Bagel? By Frances Park. When a young boy in Korea dreams of eating a New York bagel, he asks a farmer, a fisherman, a beekeeper, and a baker for help.

Zen Shorts by Jon Muth. With graceful art and simple stories that are filled with love and enlightenment, Jon Muth -- and Stillwater the bear -- present three ancient Zen tales that are sure to strike a chord in everyone they touch.

ASIAN CHAPTER BOOKS

Blue Jasmine by Kashmira Sheth. Twelve-year-old Seema moves from India to Iowa City and struggles to learn a new culture.

The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis. Since the Taliban took over Afghanistan, 11-year-old Parvana has rarely been outdoors. She is trapped inside her family's one-room home. That is, until the Taliban hauls away her father and Parvana realizes that it's up to her to become the "breadwinner" and disguise herself as a boy to support her mother, two sisters, and baby brother.

The Conch Bearer by Chitra Banerjee. In India, a healer invites twelve-year-old Anand to join him on a quest to return a magical conch to its safe and rightful home, high in the Himalayan mountains.

Dragonwings by Laurence Yep. In the early 20th Century, a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

The Jade Dragon by Carolyn Marsden. A Chinese American girl torn between her family's traditional values and the more modern ones in her second grade classroom learns that friendship cannot be bought.

Kimchi and Calamari by Rose Kent. Adopted from Korea by Italian parents, fourteen-year-old Joseph Calderaro begins to make important self-discoveries about race and family after his social studies teacher assigns an essay on cultural heritage and tracing the past.

Little Cricket by Jackie Brown. After the upheaval of the Vietnam War reaches them, twelve-year-old Kia and her Hmong family flee from the mountains of Laos to a refugee camp in Thailand and eventually to the alien world of Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Park's Quest by Katherine Paterson. Eleven-year-old Park makes some startling discoveries when he travels to his grandfather's farm in Virginia to learn about his father who died in the Vietnam War and meets a Vietnamese-American girl named Thanh.

Red Scarf Girl: a Memoir of the of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-Li Jiang. A true story of author Ji-Li Jiang, then a twelve-year-old girl, whose family was accused of capitalist crimes during China's Cultural Revolution.

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park. Tree-Ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.

Tangled Threads by Pegi Deitz Shea. After ten years in a refugee camp in Thailand, thirteen-year-old Mai Yang travels to Providence, Rhode Island, where her Americanized cousins introduce her to pizza and shopping, while her grandmother and new friends keep her connected

HISPANIC PICTURE BOOKS

The Desert Is My Mother / El desierto es mi madre by Pat Mora

The Upside Down Boy/El niño de cabeza by Juan Felipe Herrera

The Birthday Swap by Loretta Lopez. A five-year-old Mexican American girl who will not be six until December has a great deal to celebrate when her sister swaps birthdays with her in the summer.

Chato's Kitchen by Gary Soto. To get the "ratoncitos," little mice, who have moved into the barrio to come to his house, Chato the cat prepares all kinds of good food: fajitas, frijoles, salsa, enchiladas, and more.

A Day's Work by Eve Bunting. When Francisco, a young Mexican American boy, tries to help his grandfather find work, he discovers that even though the old man cannot speak English, he has something even more valuable to teach Francisco.

Elena's Serenade by Campbell Geeslin. In Mexico, a little girl disguised as a boy, sets out for Monterrey determined to master the art of glassblowing, and in the process, experiences self-discovery along the way.

First Day in Grapes by L. King Perez. When Chico starts the third grade after his migrant worker family moves to begin harvesting California grapes, he finds that self confidence and math skills help him cope with the first day of school.

Jalapeno Bagels by Natasha Wing. For International Day at school, Pablo wants to bring something that reflects the cultures of both his parents.

Juan Bobo Goes to Work: A Puerto Rican Folktale by Marisa Montes. Although he tries to do exactly as his mother tells him, foolish Juan Bobo keeps getting things all wrong.

The Remembering Stone by Barbara T. Russell. As a young girl and her mother watch the flocks of black birds preparing for their journey south, the mother dreams of returning to Costa Rica where she was born.

Uncle Rain Cloud by Tony Johnston. Carlos tries to help his uncle, who is frustrated and angry at his inability to speak English, adjust to their new home in Los Angeles.

Welcome, Brown Bird by Mary Lyn Ray. While a boy in North America urges his father not to cut down the trees where the wood thrush lives, a boy in South America awaits the return of the bird that he calls "la flauta" for its flute-like song.

HISPANIC CHAPTER BOOKS

Calling the Doves/El canto de las palomas by Juan Felipe Herrera

Baseball in April and Other Stories by Gary Soto. A collection of eleven short stories focusing on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California.

Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez. In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo.

Breaking Through by Francisco Jimenez. Sequel to: *The Circuit*. Having come from Mexico to California ten years ago, fourteen-year-old Francisco is still working in the fields but fighting to improve his life and complete his education.

A Crazy Mixed-up Spanglish Day by Marisa Montes. In Northern California, Maritza Gabriela Morales Mercado struggles to deal with the third grade bully, to control her temper, and to remember to speak Spanish at home and English at school.

Ransom for a River Dolphin by Sarita Kendall. Finding a seriously hurt dolphin in the Amazon near her small Colombian village and suspecting her stepfather of having wounded it, Carmenza nurses it back to health and turns to the wise old Indian Omar to appease its spirit.

HISPANIC NONFICTION BOOKS

Barrio : Jose's Neighborhood by George Ancona. Presents life in a barrio in San Francisco, describing the school, recreation, holidays, and family life of an eight-year-old boy who lives there.

Frida by Jonah Winter. Discusses the childhood of Frida Kahlo and how it influenced her art.

Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chaves by Kathleen Krull. Story of the man who led a peaceful protest against California migrant workers' miserable working conditions.

NATIVE AMERICAN PICTURE BOOKS

Between Earth and Sky by Joseph Bruchac. Through the guidance of his uncle and the retelling of various Native American legends, a young boy learns that everything living and inanimate has its place, should be considered sacred, and given respect.

Big Moon Tortilla by Joy Cowley. A young girl on the Tohono O'odham reservation gets help from an old traditional tale in dealing with a contemporary problem.

Coyote and Little Turtle by Herschel Talashoema. Little Turtle outsmarts Coyote and escapes a terrible fate. Traditional tale told in both Hopi and English. Glossaries in Hopi and English and an explanation of the Hopi alphabet are included.

Crazy Horse's Vision by Joseph Bruchac. A story based on the life of the dedicated young Lakota boy who grew up to be one of the bravest defenders of his people. Native author.

Coyote in Love With a Star by Martha Kreipe de Montano. An adaptation of a traditional tale about a Potawatomi Indian trickster-hero known to many people in the West as Coyote.

Coyote in Love by Mindy Dwyer. An author's note explains the tale is based on one told by a Coquelle Indian storyteller.

Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship by Tim Tingle. In the 1800s, a Choctaw girl becomes friends with a slave boy from a plantation across the great river, and when she learns that his family is in trouble, she helps them cross to freedom.

Day and Night by Nedra Emery. In this bilingual Navajo tale, the animals of the night and the animals of the day meet to play the first shoe game, the outcome of which will determine the night and the colors of the animals.

First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story by Joseph Bruchac. A quarrel between the first man and the first woman is reconciled when the Sun causes strawberries to grow out of the earth.

The Flute Player: An Apache Folktale by Michael Lacapa. The tale explains that the sound of wind echoing through the canyons comes from the flute of a young brave serenading his sweetheart.

The Good Rainbow Road by Simon J. Ortiz. This is the story of two courageous boys and how they saved their village. In Navajo and English.

Hopi Animal Tales. Ekkehart Malotki, editor. Thirty traditional tales and a glossary and explanation of the Hopi alphabet are included. In Hopi and English.

Jingle Dancer by Cynthia L. Smith. Jenna, a member of the Muscogee, or Creek, Nation, borrows jingles from the dresses of several friends and relatives so that she can perform the jingle dance at the powwow.

Kinaalda: A Navajo Girl Grows Up by Monty Roessel. Celinda McKelvey looks like a typical 13-year-old American, and most of the time she lives like one, but her roots are deep in the Navajo nation.

The Legend of the Bluebonnet by Tomie De Paola. A retelling of the Comanche Indian legend of how a little girl's sacrifice brought the flower called bluebonnet to Texas.

Less Than Half, More Than Whole by Kathleen Lacapa. A child who is only part Native American is troubled by his mixed racial heritage.

Little Prankster Girl by Martha Blue. No one but grandmother believes that Little Prankster Girl is mature enough to be taught to weave. Determined to learn anyway, Little Prankster Girl borrows some of her mother's weaving supplies and practices weaving while he is herding the family's flock. In Navajo and English.

Muskrat Will Be Swimming by Cheryl Savageau. A Native American girl's feelings are hurt when schoolmates make fun of the children who live at the lake, but then her grandpa tells her a Seneca folktale that reminds her how much she appreciates her home and her place in the world.

Unbreakable Code by Sara Hoagland Hunter. When John is afraid to leave the Navajo Reservation, his grandfather explains to him how the Navajo language, faith, and ingenuity helped win World War II.

NATIVE AMERICAN CHAPTER BOOKS

The Birchbark House by Louise Erdich. Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

Daughter of Suqua by Diane Johnston Hamm. In the early 1900s as change comes to the village on Puget Sound where she lives, ten-year-old Ida Bowen worries about what is ahead for herself, her parents, beloved Little Grandma, and other members of the Suquamish people.

Eagle Song by Joseph Bruchac. After moving from a Mohawk reservation to Brooklyn, New York, eight-year-old Danny Bigtree encounters stereotypes about his Native American heritage.

Enchanted Runner by Kimberley Griffiths Little. Twelve-year-old Kendall, half Anglo and half Acoma, discovers his heritage and his destiny as a runner when he visits his great-grandfather's pueblo and finds a culture he used to hear about from his deceased mother.

Guests by Michael Dorris. Moss and Trouble, an Algonquin boy and girl, struggle with the problems of growing up in the Massachusetts area during the time of the first Thanksgiving.

The Heart of a Chief by Joseph Bruchac. An eleven-year-old Penacook Indian boy living on a reservation faces his father's alcoholism, a controversy surrounding plans for a casino on a tribal island, and insensitivity toward Native Americans in his school and nearby town.

Morning Girl by Michael Dorris. Morning Girl, who loves the day, and her younger brother Star Boy, who loves the night, take turns describing their life on an island in pre-Columbian America; in Morning Girl's last narrative, she witnesses the arrival of the first Europeans to her world.

Racing the Sun by Paul Pitts. Brandon Rogers is a Navajo Indian, he has been raised with middle-class American values, and is "Navajo like Ham is Jewish." When Brandon's dying grandfather comes from the New Mexican reservation to be cared for in his son's home, the cultural clash that results is a source of problems between father and son as well as between grandfather and grandson.

Rain is not My Indian Name by Cynthia Leitich Smith. Tired of staying in seclusion since the death of her best friend, a fourteen-year-old Native American girl takes on a photographic assignment with her local newspaper to cover events at the Native American summer youth camp.

Skeleton Man by Joseph Bruchac. After her parents disappear and she is turned over to the care of a strange "great-uncle," Molly must rely on her dreams about an old Mohawk story for her safety and maybe even for her life.

Year of Miss Agnes by Kirkpatrick Hill. Ten-year-old narrates the story of school and village life among the Athapascans in Alaska during 1948 when Miss Agnes arrived as the new teacher.

NATIVE AMERICAN NONFICTION

A Braid of Lives: Native American Childhood by Neil Philip editor. Weaves the testimony of many Native Americans into a single narrative that celebrates individuality and variety in Native America as well as focusing on the shared traditions and emotions of childhood and growing up.

The Buffalo and the Indians: A Shared Destiny by Dorothy Hingham Patent
Countless herds of majestic buffalo once roamed across the plains and prairies of North America. For 10,000 years, the native people hunted the buffalo and depended upon its meat and hide for their survival. This book traces the history of this relationship, from its beginnings in prehistory to the present.

The Gift of Changing Woman by Tryntje Van Ness Seymour...a unique work that will foster respect, understanding, and appreciation for the Apache culture. Beginning with a brief account of the story of Changing Woman, she describes the celebration. Full-color reproductions of paintings by 10 different Apache artists depict parts of the Na'ii'ees gathered from museums around the country, spanning over 100 years.

The Ghost Dance by Alice McLerran. When the bountiful world of the ancestors was no more, the Piante prophets Tavibo and Wovoka had a vision of a dance that would restore it. The Ghost dance movement began with hope and ended with the massacre at Wounded Knee.

The Grandchildren of the Lakota by Rose Lavera. Introduces the history, culture, and beliefs of the Lakota Indians through a description of the lives of several children living on the Rosebud Sioux reservation in South Dakota.

The Great Circle: A History of the First Nations by Neil Philip. Drawing on the records of both white Americans and First Nations peoples, Neil Philip has created a carefully researched, compact account of Native American history that focuses not only on past injustices but also on the positive outlook for the future.

In a Sacred Manner I Live: Native American Wisdom by Neil Philip. Sepia-toned archival photographs of Native Americans cover almost four centuries of philosophical musings. The photographs make additional points: There is artistry in the tipis, with their bold scenes of horses in flight, and grace in the designs of the sand paintings.

Lakota Hoop Dancer by Jacqueline Left Hand Bull. Follows the activities of Kevin Locke, a Hunkpapa Indian, as he prepares for and performs the traditional Lakota hoop dance.

Life and Death of Crazy Horse by Russell Freedman. Account of the Oglala Sioux leader's life, written with the attention to detail of a historian and the language of a storyteller.

Native Americans: An Inside Look at Tribes and Traditions by Laura Buller. A DK book that gives a very basic introduction into all things native.

Navajo: Visions and Voices Across the Mesa by Shonto Begay. Pairing 20 of his paintings with original poetry, Begay moves from the spiritual aspects of Navajo life through personal childhood memories into striking present-day images, concluding with an affirmation of continuing life and rebirth.

Sing Down the Rain by Judi Moreillon. This poem captures the rhythms of the Sonoran desert and the spirit of the Tohono O'odham people as they prepare for the rains necessary to provide fruit for the Saguaro Wine Ceremony.

Sitting Bull and His World by Albert Marrin. A gripping and complex portrait of Sitting Bull (1831-1890), the author demonstrates the Lakota Sioux leader's importance in understanding American

This Land is My Land by George Littlechild. Using text and his own paintings, the author describes the experiences of Indians of North America in general as well as his experiences growing up as a Plains Cree Indian in Canada.

Wilma Mankiller: Chief of the Cherokee Nation by Pamela J. Dell. The career and life of the Cherokee Nation's first woman Chief Wilma Mankiller is discussed.

AFRICAN AMERICAN PICTURE BOOKS

Brer Rabbit: Stories from Uncle Remus by Joel Chandler Harris. Twenty-four tales about the pranks and pleasures of Brer Rabbit and his creature friends. The Uncle Remus tales, first published over 100 years ago, serve as the largest collection of African American folklore.

Alec's Primer by Mildred Pitts Walter. A young slave's journey to freedom begins when a plantation owner's granddaughter teaches him to read. Based on the true story of Alec Turner.

Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman.

Although a classmate says she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she's black, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.

Anansi and the Talking Melon by Eric Kimmel. A clever spider tricks Elephant and some other animals that the melon in which he is hiding can talk.

Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions by Margaret Musgrove. Explains some customs and traditions of 26 African tribes. Illustrated by the wonderful Leo & Diane Dillon.

Be Boy Buzz by Bell Hooks. Celebrates being Bold, All-Bliss Boy, All Bad Boy Beast, Boy Running, Boy Jumping, Boy Sitting Down, and being in Love With Being a Boy.

Beautiful Blackbird by Ashley Bryan. In a story of the Ila people, the colorful birds of Africa ask Blackbird, whom they think is the most beautiful of birds, to decorate them with some of his blackening brew. Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award.

Charlie Parker Played Be Bop by Chris Raschka. Introduces the famous saxophonist and his style of jazz known as be-bop.

Ellington Was Not a Street by Ntozake Shange. With the author's poem Mood Indigo for the book's text, the author recalls her childhood when her family entertained many of the people who changed the world.

Goin' Someplace Special by Pat McKissack. In segregated 1950's Nashville, a young African American girl braves a series of indignities and obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library.

Happy to be Nappy by Bell Hooks. On the surface, this book is all about hair. Below the surface, it's also a celebration of childhood, girls, and the freedom to express individuality.

Harlem by Walter Dean Myers. A poem celebrating the people, sights and sounds of Harlem, New York City.

Hot Day on Abbott Avenue by Karen English. After having a fight, two friends spend the day ignoring each other, until the lure of a game of jump rope helps them to forget about being mad.

I See the Rhythm: a Story of African American Music by Toyomi Igus. Chronicles and captures poetically the history, mood and movement of African American music. Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award.

In Daddy's Arms I am Tall by illustrated by Javaka Steptoe. A collection of poems, written by various African-American poets, celebrating African American fathers.

Jambo Means Hello: Swahili Alphabet Book by Muriel L. Feelings. Presents a word, with English translation, for each of the twenty-four letters of the Swahili alphabet. Brief exploration of each word introduces an East African custom.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: an African Tale by John Steptoe. Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered and one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.

The Patchwork Path by Bettye Stroud. While her father leads her toward Canada and away from the plantation where they have been slaves, a young girl thinks of the quilt her mother used to teach her a code that will help guide her to freedom.

The Patchwork Quilt by Valerie Flournoy. Using scraps cut from the family's old clothing, Tanya helps her mother and grandmother make a beautiful quilt that tells the story of her family's life.

The People Could Fly: the Picture Book by Virginia Hamilton. In this retelling of a folktale, a group of slaves, unable to bear their sadness and starvation any longer, calls upon the African magic that allows them to fly away. Illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon.

Remember: the Journey to School Integration by Toni Morrison. An unusual blend of fact and fiction that brings to life the experiences and emotions of the African American students who made the tumultuous journey to school integration.

Smoky Night by Eve Bunting. When the Los Angeles riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood, a young boy and his mother learn the values of getting along with others no matter what their background or nationality. Winner of the Caldecott Medal for David Diaz's illustrations in 1995.

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats. The adventures of a little boy in the city of a very snowy day. This book is the first American children's book that had an African American as its protagonist. It also won the Caldecott Medal for illustrations in 1963.

Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold. A young girl dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family. Based on the author's quilt painting of the same name.

Up the Learning Tree by Marcia K. Vaughan. A young slave boy risks his life to learn how to read and, with the unsuspecting help of a teacher from the North, begins to realize his dream.

Uptown by Bryan Collier. A tour of the sights in Harlem, including the Metro-North Train, brownstones, shopping on 125th Street, a barber shop, summer basketball, the Boy's Choir, and sunset over the Harlem River.

When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson, the Voice of a Century by Pam Munoz Ryan: An introduction to the life of Marian Anderson, extraordinary singer and civil rights activist who was the first African American to perform at the Metropolitan Opera, whose life and career encouraged social change.

Why Heaven is Far Away by Julius Lester. When people and animals try to climb ladders to Heaven to escape problems with snakes, God, his secretary Bruce, and the angel Shaniqua decide that Heaven needs to be much farther away.

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: a West African Tale by Verna Aardema. Retells a West African tale which explains why the mosquito, responsible for the death of an animal, buzzes in people's ears for forgiveness. Leo & Diane Dillon's illustrations won the Caldecott Medal in 1976.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAPTER BOOKS

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis. Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man believed to be his father, the renowned bandleader H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids. Newbery Award in 2000.

The Dark Thirty: Tales of the Supernatural by Pat McKissack. A collection of ghost stories with African American themes, designed to be told during the Dark Thirty-the half hour before sunset-when ghosts seem all too believable. Coretta Scott King Author Award.

Dave at Night by Gail Carson Levine. When orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music-and culture-filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.

The Education of Mary: a Little Miss of Color, 1832. By Ann Rinaldi. In 1832, Prudence Crandall begins admitting black girls to her exclusive Connecticut school, scandalizing white society, and eventually causing her arrest and the closing of her school.

Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule by Harriette Robinet. Born with a withered leg and hand, twelve-year-old Pascal joins other former slaves in the search for a farm and the freedom it promises.

Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales by Virginia Hamilton. 17 tales that demonstrate the breadth of African American cultural tradition. Each tale has a rebellious and heroic female character. Coretta Scott King Award.

The House of Dies Drear by Virginia Hamilton. A family of five moves into an enormous house once used as a hiding place for runaway slaves. Mysterious sounds, events, and discoveries of secret passageways make the family believe they are in grave danger.

The Jazz Kid by James Lincoln Collier. Playing the coronet is the first thing that twelve-year-old Paulie Horvath has taken seriously, but his obsession with becoming a jazz musician leads him into conflict with his parents and into the tough underworld of Chicago in the 1920's.

Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World by Mildred Pitts Walter. Suffering in a family full of females, ten-year-old Justin feels that cleaning and keeping house are women's work until he spends time on his beloved grandfather's ranch.

M.C. Higgins, the Great by Virginia Hamilton. As a slag heap, the result of strip mining, creeps closer to his house in the Ohio hills, fifteen-year-old M.C. is torn between trying to get his family away and fighting for the home they love. Newbery Award in 1975.

Meet Addy: an American Girl by Conner Rose Porter. Nine-year-old Addy Walker escapes from a cruel life of slavery to freedom during the Civil War. First in a series.

Now is Your Time: the African American Struggle for Freedom by Walter Dean Myers. A history of the African American struggle for freedom and equality, beginning with the capture of Africans in 1619, continuing through the American Revolution, the Civil War, and into contemporary times. Winner of the Coretta Scott King Award in 1992.

The People Could Fly: African American Folktales by Virginia Hamilton. Retold Afro-American folktales of animals, fantasy, the supernatural, and desire for freedom, born of the sorrow of the slaves, but passed on in hope.

Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco. Say Curtis describes his meeting with Pinkus Aylee, a black soldier, during the Civil War, and their capture by the Southern troops.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor. A black family living in the South during the 1930's are faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand. Winner of the Newbery Award in 1977.

The Skin I'm In by Sharon G. Flake. Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark, meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face and makes some discoveries about how to love who she is and what she looks like.

Souder by William Howard Armstrong. Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding by learning to read with the help of his devoted dog Souder. Winner of the Newbery Award.

Uncle Remus: the Complete Tales by Julius Lester. Four Uncle Remus books in one volume.

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle of Equal Rights by Russell Freedman. This is the true story of her resulting involvement in the civil rights movement of the time. Winner of the Sibert Informational Book Award in 2005.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963. By Christopher Paul Curtis. The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go visit Grandma in Alabama in 1963.

Porch Lies: Tales of Slicksters, Tricksters, and Other Wily Characters. By Pat McKissack. A collection of African American folk tales.