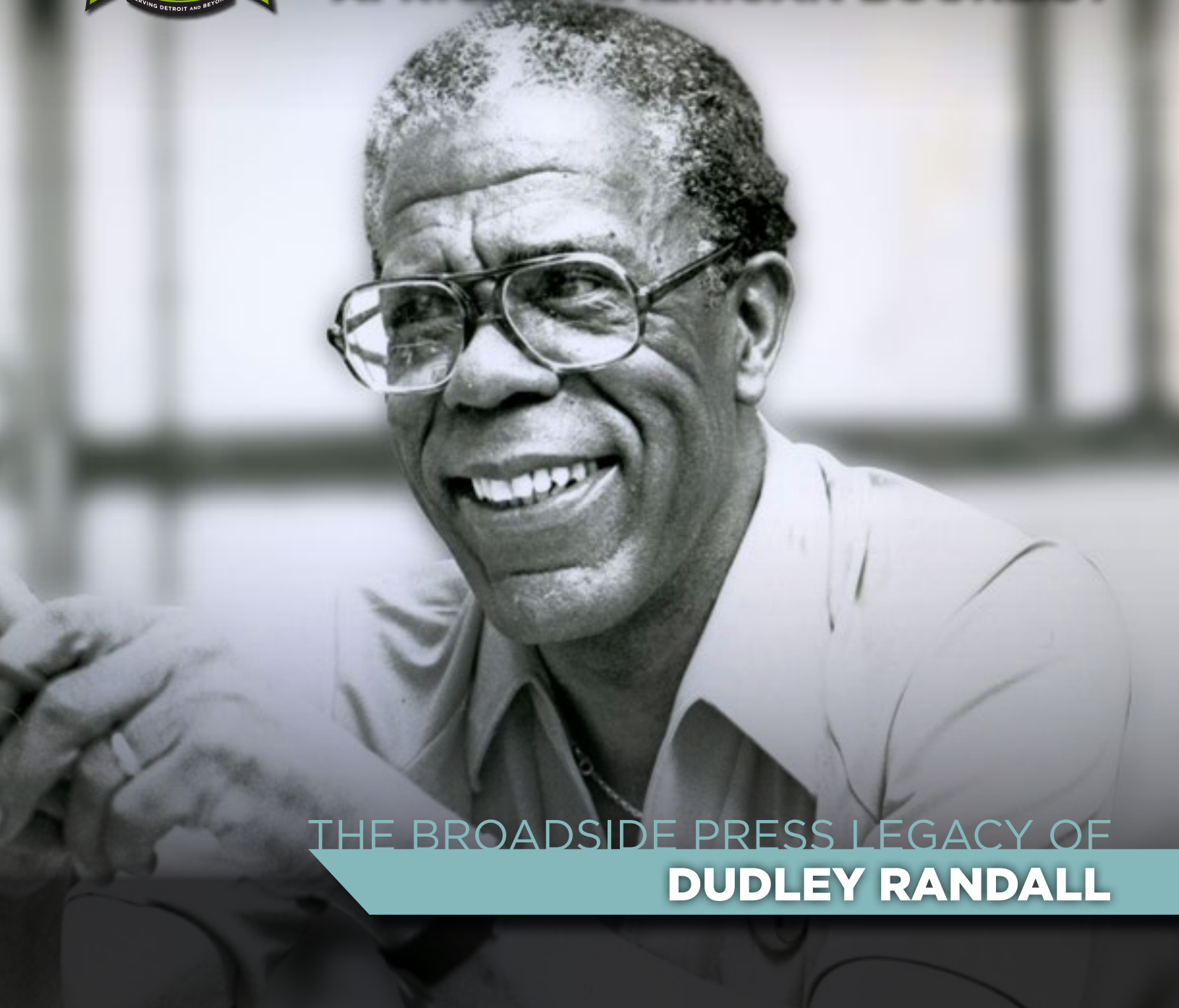




TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN

AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOKLIST



THE BROADSIDE PRESS LEGACY OF
DUDLEY RANDALL

2015 AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOKLIST

The Detroit Public Library, encouraged by the positive response to this annual publication, continues the tradition of the African American Booklist for 2015 and beyond. This bibliography provides a selected list of books by and/or about African Americans. The works of fiction and nonfiction for adults, children and young adults were reviewed and recommended by librarians of the Detroit Public Library.

The African American Booklist began as a way to commemorate Black History Month and since that time has continued to feature the accomplishments of African Americans in the literary world. Our booklist has become an annual tradition in the community and continues to be a highly anticipated publication for book lovers all across the nation.

ADULT LITERATURE SELECTION COMMITTEE

Vickie Baker
Stacy Brooks, Co-Chair
Christine Peele, Co-Chair
Jackie Sullen

JUVENILE-TEENS BOOKLIST SELECTION COMMITTEE

Lurine Carter, Chairperson
Tonya DuPree, Contributor
Carole Hale
Tracy Massey

AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOKLIST PRODUCTION

Khamisi Benford
A.J. Funchess
Romondo Locke
Alma Simmons

Cover Photo: Leni Sinclair

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM | 4 |
| LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | 5 |
| THE BROADSIDE PRESS LEGACY OF DUDLEY RANDALL | 7 |
| THE UNDAUNTED VOICES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN POETS: LOOK BACK IN WONDER! | 10 |
| AFRICAN AMERICAN POETRY | 20 |
| FICTION | 25 |
| NON-FICTION | 29 |
| ARTS | 29 |
| BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIRS | 29 |
| CAREER AND FINANCE | 31 |
| HEALTH..... | 31 |
| HISTORY..... | 31 |
| INSPIRATIONAL..... | 32 |
| LIFESTYLE/ENTERTAINING | 32 |
| POETRY | 32 |
| RELATIONSHIPS | 33 |
| SPORTS RELATED | 33 |
| TODAY’S ISSUES | 34 |
| FORETHCOMING TITLES IN 2015 | 35 |
| YOUTH BOOKS | 36 |
| PICTURE BOOKS..... | 36 |
| JUVENILE FICTION | 36 |
| JUVENILE NONFICTION..... | 37 |
| JUVENILE BIOGRAPHY | 38 |
| TEEN FICTION..... | 38 |
| SERIES | 39 |
| TOO NEW TO REVIEW | 39 |

BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM

LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING

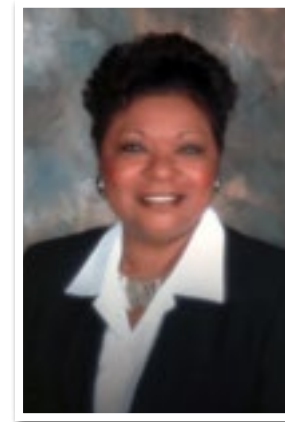
Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand.
True to our God,
True to our native land.

Lyrics by: James Weldon Johnson

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



One hundred years after DPL opened its doors in 1865, Detroitter Dudley Randall, a poet and a librarian, founded Broadside Press, an institution that has played a significant role in establishing a place for the African American poetic voice for fifty years. Mr. Randall launched Broadside Press by publishing poets that included Gwendolyn Brooks, Margaret Walker, Margaret Danner, Robert Hayden and Sterling Brown. His legacy was further enriched by presenting the works of Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Haki Madhubuti, Etheridge Knight, Audre Lorde and Keorapeste Kgositse.

During my years as a librarian at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland, one of the most requested books by library users was *The Black Poets*, an anthology edited by Dudley Randall. I think Mr. Randall's introduction of the book described why at that time it was by far the best anthology of black poetry. He noted that "the claim of the THE BLACK POETS to being a partially definitive anthology is that it presents the full range of Black American poetry, from the slave songs to the present day. It is important that folk poetry be

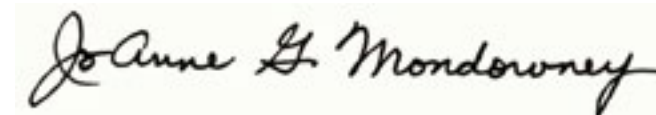
included because it is the root and inspiration of later, literary poetry. Not only does this book present the full range of Black poetry, but it presents most poets in depth and in some cases presents aspects of a poet neglected or overlooked before."

It's an amazing thing when "coincidence" brings opportunity. When I realized that DPL and Broadside Press would both celebrate major anniversaries this year, it was the perfect opportunity to provide a theme for our "Sesquicentennial Special Edition" of the 2015 African American Booklist: "The Undaunted Voices of African American Poets: Look Back in Wonder." We thank poet and scholar Gloria House, Ph.D., and the entire Broadside Press Board of Directors, for the guidance, creativity and enthusiasm brought to this effort.

As you read the thoughtful, insightful and passionate essay about Dudley Randall, the brief history of African American poets and make a selection from the poetry list, perhaps you will think about poetry in a different way, learn something you did not know, or recall your earliest exposure to this creative form.

Please visit the Detroit Public Library and check out the recommended poetry titles, along with the fiction and non-fiction books, included in this "Sesquicentennial Special Edition" of our African American Booklist.

Standing on a rich tradition,



Jo Anne G. Mondowney
Executive Director



Photo: Leni Sinclair

THE BROADSIDE PRESS LEGACY OF DUDLEY RANDALL (1965-2015)

On any given summer morning, a neighbor might glance the young boy Dudley Randall huddled atop the porch awning of his Russell Street home on Detroit's Eastside. There in the shade of a tree, the shy boy studied the great poets of the past. Young Randall's parents, a minister and a school teacher, introduced him to the best of European literature and the treasures of African American culture. His father, an activist member of the NAACP, took him to the speeches of great race men like Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois and James Weldon Johnson, the thought leaders of the period. In this nurturing environment, Randall embraced his calling as a poet. In 1927, one of his sonnets won publication on the "Young Writer's Page" of the *Detroit Free Press*. He was thirteen years old.

Randall graduated from Eastern High School in 1930. Two years later, he found work in the foundry of Ford Motor Company's Rouge plant. Subsequently, he was employed by the post office until 1943, when he was inducted into the U.S. Army. Returning to Detroit in 1946, Randall took various jobs, one of which was in the reference department of Detroit's Main Library; but his focus was on earning the bachelor's degree in English at Wayne State University and the master's degree in library science at the University of Michigan.

Randall's career as a reference librarian took him to Lincoln and Morgan State universities, then back home to a post in the Wayne County library system. Broadside poet Albert Ward remembers meeting Randall at cultural programs at Parkman Branch Library in the late 1960s. As a youngster, Ward was inspired by his neighborhood encounters with this exceptional, gracious African American male poet librarian!

Randall retired as a librarian from his post at the University of Detroit Mercy, where the installation of a National Literary Marker commemorates the eminence of his contributions as a librarian and poet. His training as a librarian influenced every detail of Randall's work -- from the scrupulous editing and promotion of other poets' writing, to setting down the exquisite lines of his own poems. The fusion of his wide-ranging knowledge as a librarian with his poet's aesthetic sensibilities engendered a rare talent. Perhaps it was this combination of artistic and literary sophistication that called him to the roles of editor, publisher, mentor of poets, and founder of Broadside Press.

In an article published in the *Black Academy Review* in 1970, Randall wrote: "We Africans in the United States are a nation of 22 million souls, larger than Athens in the age of Pericles or England in the age of Elizabeth. There's no reason why we should not create and support a literature which will be to our own nation what those literatures were to theirs."

Guided by this vision and mission, Randall created Broadside Press as a solitary project, perhaps not realizing how demanding the work would become. When his friend, the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Gwendolyn Brooks, wanted to know his title within the Broadside Press organizational structure, Randall replied, "Since ... in my spare time and in my spare bedroom I do all the work from sweeping floors, washing windows, licking stamps and envelopes, and packing books to reading manuscripts, writing ads and planning and designing books, you could just say that Dudley Randall equals Broadside Press."

RANDALL (con't)

Randall began by producing 8.5" by 11" broadsides that featured a single poem, an idea he borrowed from the Russians after a trip to the Soviet Union. The publishing of "Ballad of Birmingham," Randall's poem on the bombing deaths of four little girls in a church during the civil rights movement, launched Broadside Press in 1965. By the mid 70s, the Broadside collection had grown to over 100 publications, including single broadsides, books, audio tapes, LPs, and posters, which were in demand by individuals, book stores, universities, and libraries around the world. The protest against the inhumanity of southern racism expressed in "Ballad of Birmingham" conjoined Broadside Press with the African American freedom fight of the 1960s. Liberation struggles were being waged throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America, with the African American civil rights and Black Power movements constituting a significant flank of this global uprising. Broadside Press flourished as the institutional anchor and center of African American literary production during this period.



1990: At Main Library: Left to Right – Hilda Vest, Dudley Randall, Vivian Randall and Donald Vest (Photo: Burton Historical Collection)

Randall was finally exhausted by his efforts to build the Press while continuing to work fulltime as a librarian. He retreated for a few years, leaving the Press to operate under the guardianship of volunteers at the Alexander Crummell Center for Worship and Learning, a progressive mission congregation of the Episcopal Diocese. Returning with a swell of energy, he published several new books, and established the Broadside Press Poets Theatre, which continues today, in collaboration with the Dudley Randall Center for Print Media at the University of Detroit-Mercy, offering poets the opportunity to hone their writing and performance skills.

Several generations of African American poets are represented in the Broadside Press repertory. The first includes Randall himself and his peers, Naomi Madgett, Gwendolyn Brooks, Margaret Walker, Margaret Danner, Robert Hayden, and Sterling Brown. These poets' works laid the foundation for the wave of writers who won recognition in the 1960s – 70s -- Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Haki Madhubuti, Etheridge Knight, Audre Lorde and South African Keorapetse Kgositsile (now the Poet Laureate of South Africa) -- poets who had been turned away by mainstream publishing houses, who might have remained unknown if Randall had not published their work. In addition, there is the constellation of talented poets published by Broadside from the 1980s to the present.

Broadside Press publications reflect the most important issues of African American political and cultural life from World War I to the the 21st century, expressed in a diversity of literary forms, including revolutionary manifestos, exquisite love songs, humorous toasts, and yearnings for freedom. By demonstrating both the fine quality of poetry emerging in the African American community as well as the fact that there was indeed a substantial reading audience for that poetry, Randall made an invaluable contribution to the literary heritage of the United States, the African diaspora, and the world.



Dudley Randall, circa 1980s, book signing event at Alexander Crummell Center, Highland Park (Photo: Willie Williams)

During his mature years, Randall and his wife, Vivian, shared a comfortable ranch home on Old Mill Place in Detroit's Russell Woods neighborhood. When he decided it was time to relinquish control of the Press, Randall sold it to his friends and Russell Woods neighbors, Hilda and Don Vest. Hilda applied her experience as an educator and poet, Don, his expertise as a retired auto company executive, to the management and advancement of the Press. During their tenure, the Vests published more than a dozen new titles. In 1998, they passed ownership to a collective of Detroit educators and poets, who are committed to upholding Randall's legacy: affirmation of the beauty of African American culture, editorial excellence, and profound respect for artistic differences among African American writers.

Mayor Coleman A. Young appointed Randall the first Poet Laureate of the City of Detroit in 1981, praising him as the "Father of the Black Poetry Movement." Literary scholar, Professor Julius Thompson, extolled Randall's achievement in the following manner:

All his prior work in developing as a writer and training in library science would be harnessed to give birth to the most important publishing company ever created by an African American, to promote the publication, distribution and enjoyment of Black poetry. In a period of great hardship he sacrificed much in terms of his own personal comforts to help hundreds of writers lift their voices. American culture is much richer today because of Dudley Randall and Broadside Press.

Dudley Randall -- soft-spoken, thoughtful, compassionate, possessing a quiet, delightfully wry sense of humor -- passed away after a struggle with cancer on August 5, 2000. We honor him as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Broadside Press.

Sources:

Boyd, Melba Joyce. *Wrestling with the Muse: Dudley Randall and Broadside Press*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

House, Gloria, Weatherston, Rosemary and Ward, Albert. *A Different Image: The Legacy of Broadside Press*. Detroit: Broadside Press and University Detroit-Mercy Press, 2005.

Thompson, Julius. *Dudley Randall, Broadside Press, and the Black Arts Movement in Detroit, 1960 – 1995*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 1999.

Text: Gloria House, Ph.D.

The Undaunted Voices of African American Poets

LOOK BACK IN WONDER!

The creation of beauty through language has persisted over centuries as a vital aspect of African culture, where there is reverence for the power of words. African cultural traditions of music, ritual and performance accord deep respect to the gift of eloquent speech, to the priest or shaman whose words may attain the supernatural, the *griot*, keeper of the community's memory and legends, the storyteller. In contemporary African American society, we see these ancient roles reenacted in the preacher, the rhythm and blues or gospel star, the poet, the rapper and spoken word artist.

O BLACK AND UNKNOWN BARDS

Africans enslaved in this country composed music and poetry to sustain their bodies and spirits. Work songs and humorous or caustic commentaries on plantation life passed from one innovator to another. The music popularly referred to as African American spirituals – called the “sorrow songs” by Dr. W.E.B. DuBois -- represents a significant stream of this widespread anonymous creativity. James Weldon Johnson, author of the African American National Anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” celebrated the genius of those Africans, “the black and unknown bards,” who conceived the profoundly beautiful music and lyrics:

O black and unknown bards of long ago,
How came your lips to touch the sacred fire?...
Heart of what slave poured out such melody
As “Steal Away to Jesus?”...
Who heard great “Jordan, Roll?” Whose starward eye
Saw chariot “swing low?” And who was he
That breathed that comforting, melodic sigh,
“Nobody knows de trouble I see?”

These songs and the oral folk literature that emerged during slavery attest to the persistence of African word and music artistry, through the Middle Passage of the slave trade, into the communities where African American culture was forged.

SMALL GIRL, MOMENTOUS VOCATION

The legacy of formal, written African American poetry begins in colonial America with Phillis Wheatley, a little Senegalese girl kidnapped in 1761 and enslaved by a Boston tailor and his family. In less than a decade the brilliant child had mastered English, Latin and Greek, and produced the volume of poems that would become the first published book by an African in this country. The elite of Boston society remained in disbelief that the poems had been written by an African until the child's performance in an oral examination convinced them that she was indeed the extraordinarily gifted author.

Phillis Wheatley's book, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, was published in 1773 in England. It is a collection of elegies and hymns reflecting literary conventions established by Alexander Pope and other



Dr. W.E.B. DuBois
Photo - Addison N. Scurlock

British poets of the time. Though religious themes and exalted references to Greek and Roman mythology prevail in Wheatley's poetry, a keen protest against injustice does appear in some lines. In a poem addressed to William, Earl of Dartmouth, then governor of Massachusetts, she refers to her own uprooting from Senegal and the sorrow her parents must have suffered as experiences which explain why she wishes freedom for everyone:

...I, young in life, by seeming cruel fate
Was snatch'd from *Afric's* fancy'd happy seat:
What pangs excruciating must molest,
What sorrows labour in my parent's breast?
Steel'd was that soul and by no misery mov'd
That from a father seiz'd his babe belov'd
Such, such my case. And can I then but pray
Others may never feel tyrannic sway?

Wheatley's few years of freedom as an adult brought her no more joy than her enslaved childhood. She was unhappily married, and her two children died in infancy. She succumbed to poor health and poverty when she was 31 years old.

Though a few African American poets managed to publish sparsely in the decades following Wheatley's life, it was Paul Laurence Dunbar who next achieved national recognition. With the publication of his third volume of poems, *Lyrics of Lowly Life*, in 1896, Dunbar became the first African American poet to be enthusiastically received by both Black and White reading audiences.

Dunbar's poetry is treasured for its preservation of the rhythms and subtleties of early African American speech, often called “Negro dialect,” and for its intimate renderings of African American everyday life. However, Dunbar grieved that American poetry audiences favored his Negro dialect, folk-based poetry over his poems of greater literary sophistication.

Dunbar was writing in the aftermath of the devastating upheavals of the Civil War and Reconstruction, a time when African Americans groped for firm grounding in U.S. society. Perhaps the social instability and disorientation felt during this period contributed to Dunbar's melancholy and disappointment as an artist.

His well-known poem, “Sympathy,” compared the predicament of the African American poet to that of a bird who beats his wings against the bars of the cage that imprisons him. In the concluding stanza of the poem, he wrote:

I know why the caged bird sings, ah me,
When his wing is bruised and his bosom sore, --
When he beats his bars and would be free;
It is not a carol of joy or glee,
But a prayer that he sends from his heart's deep core,
But a plea, that upward to Heaven, he flings --
I know why the caged bird sings!



Paul Lawrence Dunbar

THE SPIRIT OF THE “NEW NEGRO”

During the era of the Harlem Renaissance, poets gained the political clarity and greater sense of confidence in the future that Dunbar might have sought. They belonged to the period of the “new Negro,” that more self-assured African American who, rejecting definition by the dominant society, insisted on determining for himself his place and potential within the national life. Such poets as James Weldon Johnson (mentioned above), Countee Cullen, Claude McKay, Jean Toomer, and Langston Hughes responded to and influenced the major cultural, philosophical and political issues of the day -- including African American cultural identity, civil rights and discrimination, labor rights and international affairs.

McKay, the firebrand of the period, is best remembered for his mastery of the sonnet, a fourteen-line poem with strictly prescribed patterns of meter and rhyme, associated traditionally with sentimental themes. In “Tropics in New York,” McKay follows conventional expectations in a sonnet of longing for the sumptuously beautiful natural world of his Jamaican childhood. However, in “If We Must Die,” he sets the sonnet form ablaze with indictments of American racism and inequalities. This poem became a manifesto of the period:

If We Must Die

If we must die, let it not be like hogs
Hunted and penned in an inglorious spot,
While round us bark the mad and hungry dogs,
Making their mock at out accursed lot.
If we must die, O let us nobly die,
So that out precious blood may not be shed
In vain; then even the monsters we defy
Shall be constrained to honor us though dead!
O kinsmen, we must meet the common foe!
Though far outnumbered let us show us brave,
And for their thousand blows deal one deathblow!
What though before us lies the open grave?
Like men we'll face the murderous, cowardly pack,
Pressed to the wall, dying, but fighting back!

Harlem Shadows, 1922



Claude McKay

Countee Cullen, a highly-educated Harlem scion, caught painfully in the space between allegiance to Western culture and acceptance of his African heritage, also observed European poetic conventions in his work. Grappling with unresolved questions of racial and cultural identity, he penned some of the most exquisite lines of the Harlem Renaissance. In one of his best-known poems, he ponders why God would instill in an oppressed person the inspiration to be a poet:

Yet do I marvel at this curious thing:
“To make a poet Black, and bid him sing!”
Color, 1925

Though generations of African American writers have bemoaned the debilitating weight of racism, the record shows that this struggle has not prevented, but rather intensified and empowered their literary production. They believed there would be better days ahead:

...We shall not always plant while others reap
The golden increment of bursting fruit....
We were not made eternally to weep.
Cullen, “*From the Dark Tower*”

Langston Hughes remains the most beloved of the Harlem Renaissance poets. His popularity continued from the 1920s to his death in 1967, a long span during which his works represented African American experience with unfailing authenticity. His poems “talked the talk” that his people understood, while striking familiar jazz and blues notes and poetic imagery in which African Americans saw themselves. He was revered by the many poets whom he mentored as he pursued his own prodigious literary production.

I, too, sing America
I am the darker brother.
They send me to eat in the kitchen
When company comes,
But I laugh,
And eat well,
And grow strong.

Tomorrow
I'll be at the table
When company comes
Nobody'll dare
Say to me,
“Eat in the kitchen,”
Then.
Besides
They'll see how beautiful I am
And be ashamed –

I, too, am America.
From The Weary Blues, 1926



Langston Hughes

WHEN IT IS FINALLY OURS, THIS FREEDOM

Sterling Brown, Dudley Randall, Gwendolyn Brooks and Robert Hayden began their careers as poets during the 1930s and 40s. Their works reflect the preoccupations of their generation – the effort to realize one's gifts, and to cultivate home, family and other essential institutions in America's urban centers, despite the harsh conditions of racism, economic depression and war.

Their poetic styles varied widely: Brown, a Harvard graduate, professor and literary critic, wrote poems of forthright simplicity, featuring African American folk heroes, humor and music. Randall's poetry featured a rhythmic, measured voice, which we hear in this poem written for Mayor Coleman Young:

Detroit Renaissance

Cities have died, have burned,
yet phoenix-like returned
to soar up livelier, lovelier than before.
Detroit has felt the fire
yet each time left the pyre
as if the flames had power to restore.

Together we will build
a city that will yield
to all their hopes and dreams so long deferred.
New faces will appear
too long neglected here;
new minds, new means will build a brave new world.

Gwendolyn Brooks, author of more than 15 volumes of poems, and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1950, chiseled and polished her words to make sparse, incisive statements. Here she remembers Malcolm X's powerful impact on the nation:

Malcolm X

Original.
Ragged-round.
Rich-robust.

He had the hawk-man's eyes.
We gasped. We saw the maleness.
The maleness raking out and making guttural the air
and pushing us to walls.

And in a soft and fundamental hour
A sorcery devout and vertical
Beguiled the world.

He opened us –
who was a key,
who was a man.

Robert Hayden, quiet University of Michigan professor and practitioner of the Baha'i faith, wrote studiously contrived lines of gravity and wisdom. His poem honoring the great abolitionist exemplifies his mastery:

Frederick Douglass

When it is finally ours, this freedom, this liberty, this beautiful
and terrible thing, needful to man as air,
usable as earth; when it belongs at last to all,
when it is truly instinct, brain matter, diastole, systole,
reflex action; when it is finally won; when it is more
than the gaudy mumbo jumbo of politicians,
this man, this Douglass, this former slave, this Negro
beaten to his knees, exiled, visioning a world
where none is lonely, none hunted, alien,
this man, superb in love and logic, this man
shall be remembered. O, not with statues' rhetoric,
not with legends and poems and wreaths of bronze alone,
but with the lives grown out of his life, the lives
fleshing his dream of the beautiful, needful thing.

BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS, BLACK POWER, BLACK ARTS

The radical social and political changes of the 1960's, engendered by protests against the Vietnam War, the Southern civil rights movement, and the influence of Third World independence struggles, ushered in a new constellation of African American poets. These artists rejected Western cultural and political domination. They shaped a new aesthetic based on African arts, cultural, and spiritual traditions. This new insistence on self-determination grew into the Black consciousness and Black power movements that swept the entire African diaspora. African Americans achieved a new acceptance of their African physical features; they adopted African clothing, artifacts, music, dance and religion, and marked this wave of affirmation with the popular slogan, "Black is beautiful!"

Most celebrated among the poets of Black consciousness and Black Power were Sonia Sanchez, Haki Madhubuti, Audre Lorde and Amiri Baraka. They all upheld the major tenets of these movements, but special interests distinguished their writings.

An early concern of Madhubuti and Sanchez was to make their poetic styles approximate more closely the rhythms and color of popular African American speech. Lorde's poetry emphasized solidarity with Third World liberation efforts, advanced the causes of the women's liberation, and revealed the challenges faced by African American lesbians. Baraka's fierce revolutionary political convictions, which he demonstrated through activist organizing in numerous arenas of national life, earned him the deep respect of his peers, and laid a foundation for the poets who have followed.

Ka 'Ba
Amiri Baraka

A closed window looks down
on a dirty courtyard, and black people
call across or scream across or walk across
defying physics in the stream of their will

Our world is full of sound
Our world is more lovely than anyone's
tho we suffer, and kill each other
and sometimes fail to walk the air

We are beautiful people
with african imaginations
full of masks and dances and swelling chants
with african eyes, and noses, and arms,
though we sprawl in grey chains in a place
full of winters, when what we want is sun.

We have been captured,
brothers. And we labor
to make our getaway, into
the ancient image, into a new

correspondence with ourselves
and our black family. We need magic
now we need the spells, to raise up
return, destroy, and create. What will be

the sacred words?

21ST CENTURY: NEW DIRECTIONS

The young poets who emerged as the 21st Century approached followed their passion wherever it called them, as their elders had established once and for all, yes, Black is beautiful and political power may, indeed, be realized through African unity. The intellectual work to reclaim African civilization and reestablish it on the world stage had been launched and was being advanced steadily by new Diasporan scholars. Poets could turn their attention elsewhere, or to more nuanced treatments of racial concerns --- to seeking grounding in the realm of metaphysical experience; to moving in synch with natural rhythms and cycles, and to envisioning the integration of political and spiritual realities. Such themes pervade the brilliant work of Saul Williams, Jessica Care Moore and Nikky Finney, winner of the 2011 National Book Award in Poetry.



The Wind's Song (Excerpt)
Saul Williams

The square root of a kiss is a hum
i hum under my breath when I contemplate
the drum of your heartbeat
and my heart beats for your breath
i revel in the wind for mere glimpses...

I love

as instruments come to life through breath
the wind sends my high notes to indigo communions
with Coltrane's "Favorite Things"
...this is my body
which is given for you,
this is my blood
which is shed for you...

my love like the wind, uncaged
blows time into timeless whirlpools
transfiguring fear and all of its subordinates
(possession, jealousy, fear)
into crumbling dried leaves....

From *The Seventh Octave*, 1998

Hurricane Beulah
Chapter 4, Part 9
Nikky Finney

I Am FAME Missed
Jessica Care Moore

Collard green trees grow
In Herman Gardens Projects
on Detroit's westside
Red kool-aid tongues
hide sweat inside invisible squares
Where
hoops wait for new nets
bets are made against my life
can't imagine a man loving me
or
becoming somebody's wife
I want to be recognized in all my ugly
want the rain to ask me for fresh water

I am every daddy's little girl
A single-mother's daughter

And the sun comes out even when the electricity is cut off
Lay out my favorite blue jeans every day for morning
Bet you I can out-run you to the corner
I search for sage
or
rose smells in my skin
cross my heart and hope to out live
give out haiku high fives
showing off my dirty hands

Around here I have many fans
Waving at me when I make appearances

On the front porch

From *The Words Don't Fit in My Mouth*

I was my grandmother's heart. We belonged to each other. She had taught me to believe in things unseen. Even before the long car was out of sight I was there on the porch waiting for a sign from her that she was alright. Standing there in the middle of her ocean of brilliant pansies and begonias, I watched pine and oak sway like summoned dancers then bend loyally like servants. And just before the birth of her favorite time of day, with a soft suddenness, I felt the war heavy wind of the Great Mother lift the plain dutiful life of another mother to the beyond.

The World Is Round, 2003

The development of four African American publishing companies has brought the work of African American poets into greater visibility in the United States and abroad. Dudley Randall's Broadside Press, founded in Detroit in 1965, led the way. Third World Press, established in Chicago by Haki Madhubuti (known in the 1960's as Don L. Lee), followed in 1967. Dr. Naomi Madgett, current Poet Laureate of Detroit, joined her friend Dudley in a passion to bring the works of African American poets to wider audiences, launching her Lotus Press in 1972. Detroit's Jessica Care Moore, whose poetry spans the literary and spoken word/rap worlds, created Moore Black Press in 1997, to feature emerging poets of her generation. These four companies have contributed significantly to African American literary production by providing attractive, independent outlets for talented writers. Following the retirement of Dr. Madgett, Lotus Press and Broadside Press will merge as Broadside Lotus Press in 2015.

Sources:

Bradley, Adam and DuBois, Andrew, eds. *The Anthology of Rap*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010.

Gates, Henry Louis and McKay, Nellie Y. *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2004.

Mullane, Deirdre. *Crossing the Danger Water: Three Hundred Years of African American Writing*. New York: Random House, 1993.

Text: Gloria House, Ph.D.

AFRICAN AMERICAN POETRY

This list of titles comprises a broad spectrum of African American poetry, featuring well-established, celebrated poets as well as those whose works have recently won recognition. Four publishing companies which have lifted African American poets to national and international visibility are well represented here: Broadside Press, Lotus Press and Moore Black Press, in Detroit; and Third World Press in Chicago. Reflecting diverse regional roots, including the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the West Coast, Chicago, Gullah country and the Caribbean, these poets explore captivating, unusual themes, while their styles, techniques and rhythms reflect unique aesthetic preferences. Jazz and blues vibrate beneath the lines, inundating the entire poetic field. There's poetry here for everyone. Enjoy!

James Baldwin
Jimmy's Blues and Other Poems.

Beacon Press, 2014.

This new collection, based on the beloved author's two books of poetry, includes narrative and lyrical poems, all ringing with profound insights into the African American experience in the U.S., and the brilliant mastery of language for which Baldwin is revered.

Amiri Baraka
S O S: Poems, 1961 – 2013.

Grove Press, 2015.
A collection presenting the full range of work by this icon of the Black Arts movement, who continued to be a powerful force in African American political and cultural developments until his death in 2014.

Wise Why's Y's: The Griot's Song Djeli Ya. Third World Press, 1995.
A poetic odyssey, charting African Americans' historic struggle from slavery to the present.

Ras Baraka
Black Girls Learn Love Hard,

Moore Black Press, 2006.

This collection, inspired by and honoring the poet's younger sister, a casualty of domestic violence, provides beautifully confident, powerful insights into issues troubling contemporary African American communities. Recently elected Mayor of Newark, NJ, this poet is one of the most compelling voices of the hip hop generation.

Kwame Dawes
Duppy Conqueror: New and Selected Poems.

Copper Canyon Press, 2013.

Intimate, affectionate reflections on the everyday experiences of Africans throughout the Diaspora, by a prolific poet who was born in Ghana, raised in Jamaica, and is now a widely respected writer and professor in the United States. (Duppy, a Jamaican patois word, means ghost or spirit. "Duppy Conqueror" is the title of a song by Bob Marley.)



Amiri Baraka
S O S: Poems

Rita Dove
Pulitzer Prize Winner, Past Poet Laureate of the U.S., Poet Laureate of the Virginia Commonwealth.

Sonata Mulattica, W.W. Norton Company, 2010.

An intriguing book-length poem exploring the fiery, short-lived friendship between Beethoven and the 19th Century mulatto violinist, George Bridgetower.

Nikky Finney
Head Off and Split.

Northwestern University Press, 2011.
Winner of the National Book Award - Poetry, 2011.

Written from the poet's unique

Gullah culture perspective, this collection reflects upon significant figures and events in the poet's personal life and in the life of the nation – including the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Nikki Giovanni
Bicycles: Love Poems.

Harper Perennial, 2010.

NY Times Bestseller

Romantic love is featured in all its exciting aspects, with the author's delightful sense of humor and serendipity casting a bright light.

Suheir Hammad
Born Palestinian, Born Black: & The Gaza Suite.

UpSet Press, 2010.

Influenced by the voices of major African American poets, this passionate Arab-American poet of the hip hop generation, invites readers to recognize the commonalities of political and cultural injustice besetting African Americans, Palestinians and other people of color.



Haki Madhubuti
Honoring Genius, Gwendolyn Brooks: The Narrative of Craft, Art, Kindness and Justice.

Aurora Harris
Solitude of Five Black Moons
Broadside Press and
University of Detroit Mercy Press,
2011.

Winner of the PEN Oakland-Josephine Miles Award for Excellence in Literature, 2012.

These poems share the profound discernment and awareness often won by marginalized individuals and groups, whether in Mississippi, the Philippines, the poet's mother's homeland, or Palestine. Written with incisive clarity, beauty and compassion by the Detroit-born poet.

Yusef Komunyakaa
Pulitzer Prize Winner
Testimony: A Tribute to Charlie Parker: With New and Selected Jazz Poems.

Wesleyan Poetry Series, 2013.

In addition to the homage to Charlie Parker, poems in this collection represent the lifetime span of the poet's impressive work.

Quraysh Ali Lansana
They Shall Run: Harriet Tubman Poems.

Third World Press, 2004.

A portrayal of Harriet Tubman's extraordinary spiritual gifts, character and heroism in liberating hundreds of African Americans from slavery -- with the poet striving for authenticity in the rhythms and subtleties of dialect that Tubman might have spoken.

Haki Madhubuti
Honoring Genius, Gwendolyn Brooks: The Narrative of Craft, Art, Kindness and Justice.

Third World Press, 2011.

Poets Gwendolyn Brooks, a Pulitzer Prize winner, and Haki

R. Madhubuti, best-selling poet beginning in the Black Arts era, shared a unique literary and personal relationship. In this collection of poems, Madhubuti pays tribute to Ms. Brooks' great legacy.

Gwendolyn A. Mitchell
House of Women.

Third World Press, 2002.

The poet gathers a circle of women who share their joy and pain in these poignant lyrics of love, solidarity, and sisterhood.

Jessica Care Moore
Sunlight through Bullet Holes.

Moore Black Press, 2014

Witnessing the times and daily challenges of life in her hometown Detroit and in the world at large, the poet responds with her characteristic wit, love and hope, paying homage to local artists and those who resist injustice.

Sterling D. Plumpp
Home/Bass: Poems.

Third World Press, 2014.

Winner of the American Book Award, 2014.

Plumpp takes us into the rich everyday culture of African Americans along that passage connecting the rural South and Chicago. We hear the language and lore of this Southern culture gone north, all accompanied by the steady beat of the Blues.

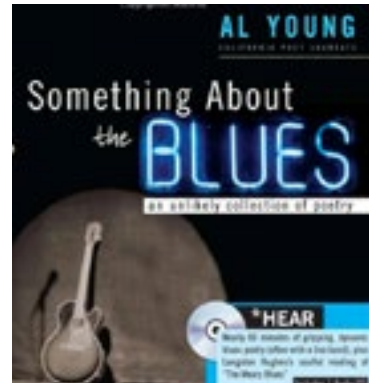
R. Flowers Rivera
Heathen.

Lotus Press, 2015.

Winner of the Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Award, 2015.

Exploring a wide range of subjects from mythology to mundane, everyday tasks, this poet "transforms the ordinary into an exciting extraordinary...inviting the reader to return to her poems time and time again."

POETRY (con't)



Al Young
Something About the Blues

Sonia Sanchez
Morning Haiku

Beacon Press, 2010.
Deeply moving haiku poems celebrating great artists, political organizers, historic figures and friends of this cherished poet, whose major role in African American poetry began during the Black Consciousness movement of the 1960's. Some critics have suggested that this is the poet's most beautiful work.

Matthew Shenoda
Tahrir Suite: Poems.
Triquarterly, 2014.

A book-length poem exploring themes of home, place and belonging in relation to the ongoing revolutionary upheaval in Egypt, and its impact on communities throughout the African diaspora.

Natasha Trethewey
Poet Laureate of the United States, 2012.
Congregation.
William Meredith Foundation/ Dryad Press, 2014.
A collection of poems rooted in the culture of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, reflecting the folk wisdom of the poet's friends and family, who remained faithful to the region following Hurricane Katrina.

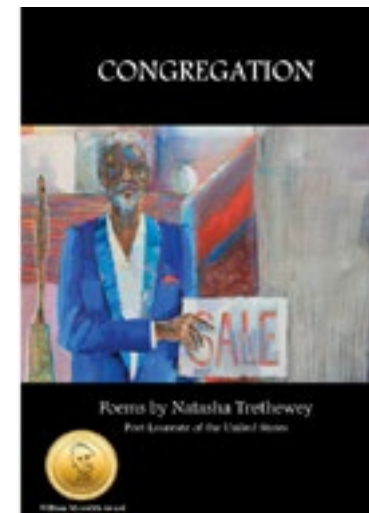


Sonia Sanchez
Morning Haiku

Albert Ward
Dry Twigs, Tinder Men.
Broadside Press, 2015.
These tender poems, set against a familiar urban backdrop, explore the life conditions and strivings of African American men.

Saul Williams
Former Poet Laureate of California
Seventh Octave.
Moore Black Press, 1998.
The first collection of a truly brilliant hip hop generation poet, full of stunning imagery, and a captivating, exhortative voice calling us into future ways of seeing and being.

Al Young
Something About the Blues.
Sourcebooks, 2008.
A poet who integrates blues and jazz in his poetry, Young includes tributes to Ma Rainey, Lena Horne and other notable artists in this publication, which includes a CD of the poet's performance with music accompaniment.



Natasha Trethewey
Congregation.

POETRY ANTHOLOGIES



Gwendolyn Brooks
Winnie

Boyd, Melba J.
and **Liebler, Michael**, eds.
Abandon Automobile: Detroit City Poetry.

Wayne State University Press, 2001.
A comprehensive, ethnically representative collection of works by several generations of Detroit poets.

House, Gloria, Weatherston, Rosemary, and Ward, Albert, eds.

A Different Image: The Legacy of Broadside Press.
Broadside Press and University of Detroit Mercy Press, 2004.
Winner of the Notable Book Award of the Library of Michigan, 2005.
This collection features selected poems by five African American poets, who, originally published by Broadside Press during the Black Consciousness period, later won acclaim as major literary figures, nationally and internationally.

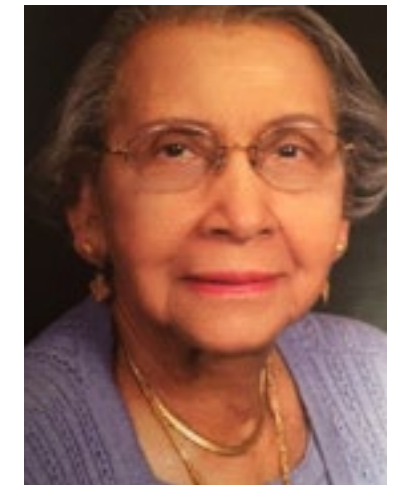
Madgett, Naomi L., ed.
Adam of Ife: Black Women in Praise of Black Men.
Lotus Press, 1992.
Art by Carl Owens.
Poems in recognition and appreciation of the struggles and accomplishments of African American men, written by African American women poets of several generations.



Cedella Marley
Every Little Thing

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Gwendolyn Brooks
Winnie
Third World Press, 1991.
Poetry for children about South African leader, Winnie Mandela, written by the Pulitzer Prize winning African American poet.



Naomi L. Madgett, ed.
Adam of Ife: Black Women in Praise of Black Men.

Cedella Marley
Every Little Thing
Chronicle Books, 2012.
An engaging, delightful book based on the lyrics of a Bob Marley song, by Marley's eldest daughter. Bold color illustrations. For three – six years olds.

This list was compiled by Gloria House, Ph.D.

BEST OF 2014 - Fiction



BEST OF 2014

Octavia E. Butler
Unexpected Stories
Open Road Media Sci-Fi & Fantasy, 2014

Cynthia Bond
Ruby
Random House, 2014

Stephen L. Carter
Back Channel: A Novel
Alfred A Knopf, 2014

Roxane Gay
An Untamed State
Black Cat, 2014

Walter Mosley
Debbie Doesn't Do it Anymore
Doubleday, 2014

Angel, Ahyiana
Preseason Love
Simon and Schuster, 2014
Scottie moves from Los Angeles to New York to gain more experience in her career but finds herself making the same mistakes in her personal life as she had in the past.

Ashley & JaQuavis
Cartel 5
Urban Books, 2014
After the sudden deaths of the men in the family the women take over the business.
* Audiobook on CD

Bennett, O.H.
Recognition
Bolden, 2014
A woman attempts to discover if the husband she believed to be dead is alive and living on the streets.

Billingsley, ReShonda Tate
What's Done In the Dark
Simon And Schuster, 2014
A one time indiscretion changes the lives of two families.

Bond, Cynthia
Ruby
Random House, 2014
A beautiful woman attempts to escape from her painful past.
*Ebook & Audiobook available in Overdrive

Bowen, Michele Andrea
Pastor Needs a Boo
St Martin's Griffin, 2014
A former FBI agent, now pastor falls in love with a single mom, while considering running for bishop.

Burt-Murray, Angela
Games Divas Play
Thomas & Mercer, 2014
A journalist moves to New York to start an exciting new job but is caught up in her best friend's personal drama.

Butler, Octavia E.
Unexpected Stories
Open Road Media Sci-Fi & Fantasy, 2014
Two never-before-published stories from the archives of one of science fiction's all-time masters
*Published as an Ebook available in Overdrive

Campbell, Wanda
Back to Me
Urban Christian, 2014
A woman tries to find inner peace after she commits what she believes is an unforgivable sin.

Carter, Stephen L
Back Channel: A Novel
Alfred A Knopf, 2014
College co-ed assists in preventing a nuclear holocaust.
*EBook and Audiobook available in Overdrive and Hoopla

Clarke, Breena
Angels Make Their Hope Here
Little Brown, 2014
A young woman escapes from slavery and tries to find safety and happiness in a multi-racial New Jersey community.

Cush, Jean Love
Endangered
Harper-Collins, 2014
A mother struggles against the system to save her son from prison.

Davis, Bridgett M
Into the Go-Slow
Feminist Press, 2014
Angie travels to Nigeria to discover the truth about her sister's death.

Dickey, Eric Jerome
A Wanted Woman
Dutton, 2014
An expert assassin finds that she has been double crossed after an assignment goes wrong.
*EBook and Audiobook available in Overdrive
*Audiobook on CD

Francis-Sharma, Lauren
'Till the Well Runs Dry
Henry Holt, 2014
A Trinidadian immigrant comes to the USA for a new start in life only to find new and different frustrations.

Gay, Roxane
An Untamed State
Black Cat, 2014
Mireille's world is shattered when an unspeakable crime occurs after her father fails to act in time.

FICTION (con't)

Genovese, Ni’Chelle
Church Girl Gone Wild

Urban Books, 2014
Eva’s life is torn to shreds after she is sent to prison for a crime she did not commit.

Grant, Michele
Any Man I Want

Dafina-Kensington, 2014
Two former fashion models get over their egos and fall in love.

Guillory, Marcus J
Red Now and Laters

Simon and Schuster, 2014
Ti’John grows up in South Park neighborhood of Houston, Texas where he yearns to fit in with the other boys.

Hambly, Barbara
Crimson Angel

Severn House, 2014
Benjamin January reluctantly travels to Haiti to uncover the secrets of a family treasure.

Hampton, Brenda
Slick

Urban Renaissance, 2014
Sylvia allows herself to fall into an affair with her bff’s husband after he discovers that she is also having an affair.

Hickman, Trice
Troublemaker

Dafina-Kensington, 2014
Childhood sweethearts reunite and make plans to spend their lives together but the mother of the bride and the father of the groom have to deal with their own romantic past.

Howard, Ravi
Driving the King

Harper, 2015
An iconic singer repays a childhood friend for saving his life by giving him a job as a driver when he is released from prison.

James, Marlon
A Brief History of Seven Killings

Riverhead Books, 2014
Fictional account of the assassination attempt on legendary reggae artist Bob Marley and the political fallout that follows.

Jenkins, Beverly
Destiny’s Captive

Avon, 2014
A Cuban rebel steals the heart of a hardened ship’s captain.
*EBook available in Overdrive
*Audiobook on CD

Joy, E.N.
More Than I Can Bear

Urban Christian, 2014
A woman struggles to push past betrayal and defeat to find victory and strength in her faith.

King, Joy Deja
Female Hustler

King Production, 2014
Nino Carter’s “other daughter” was not born to a life of luxury but she did inherit his street smarts and ambition.

K’wan
Animal III: Revelations

Cash Money Content, 2014
A former street soldier plans on living a peaceful life with his family

after doing his time in prison. But he finds himself drawn back to his old ways when he discovers his family is in danger.

Lovely, Lutishia
The Perfect Deception

Kensington Books, 2014
Jessica is torn between living happily with the man she has fallen in love with or getting revenge for her older sister.

Marlow, L.Y.
A Life Apart

Broadway Books, 2014
A sailor falls in love with the sister of the shipmate who saved his life during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mason, J.D.
Crazy Sexy Revenge

St. Martin’s Griffin, 2014
The chickens have finally come home to roost for Jordan Gatewood when the women he has hurt in his past and in the present decide to extract their revenge.



Howard, Ravi
Driving the King

Mink, Meesha
Kiss the Ring: An Urban Tale

Simon and Schuster, 2014
When “Queen” discovers the son she gave up when she was a teenager was murdered she hits the streets to extract her revenge.

McCollors, Tia
Friday Night Love: Days of Grace Book 1

Whitaker House, 2014
A couple rely on help from their best friends in an attempt to rebuild their marriage.

Morrison, Mary B.
If You Don’t Know Me

Dafina Kensington, 2014
Madison fights to regain the love and trust of her husband.
*EBook available on Overdrive

Mosley, Walter
Debbie Doesn’t Do It Anymore

Doubleday, 2014
The sudden death of her husband inspires a porn film star to quit the business.
*EBook and Audiobook available on Overdrive

Mosley, Walter
Rose Gold

Doubleday, 2014
Easy Rawlins is reluctantly drawn into the search for a University of California co-ed, who is being held hostage by a revolutionary political group.
*EBook and Audiobook available on Overdrive
*Audiobook on CD

Mott, Jason
The Wonder of All Things

Mira Books, 2014
When Ava’s secret is discovered, she has to decide how much of herself she can share and sacrifice with others.
*EBook available on Overdrive

Octavia, Grace
His Last Wife

Dafina-Kensington, 2014
The mayor’s ex-wife is used as a scapegoat and a pawn in the circumstances surrounding his death.

Smith, Dwayne Alexander
Forty Acres

Simon and Schuster, 2014
A young up and coming lawyer is invited to join a dangerous secret organization.

Swindle, Renee
A Pinch of Ooh La La

NAL. 2014
After discovering, in a very public manner that her fiancé was cheating, Abby doubts that she can trust love again but crazy family and friends show her otherwise.

Tademy, Lalita
Citizens Creek

Atria Books, 2014
A man buys his freedom from his Creek Indian master, forging a legacy that his granddaughter builds upon.
*EBook available on Overdrive

Tate, Kim Cash
Hidden Blessings

Thomas Nelson, 2014
Kindra discovers a life changing love and an even stronger faith after a devastating medical diagnosis.

Tucker, Pat; Sewell, Earl
Loyalty Among Friends

Simon and Schuster, 2014
Ava is caught between two friends when she discovers one of them is having an affair with the other’s husband.

Weber, Carl
The Choir Director 2: Runaway Bride

Grand Central Publishing, 2014
Deception is the rule of the day in the personal relationships of the ministry team at First Jamaica Ministries.
*EBook and Audio available on Overdrive
*Audiobook on CD

Whitaker, Tu-Shonda L.
Rich Girl Problems

Kensington Books, 2014
Ladies of a popular reality show get caught up in real life dramas.
*EBook available on Overdrive

Williams, Wendy
Hold Me In Contempt

William Morrow, 2014
Assistant D.A. Kimberly Kind is usually able to keep her work life and personal life separate, then she meets “King” and that all changes.
*EBook available on Overdrive

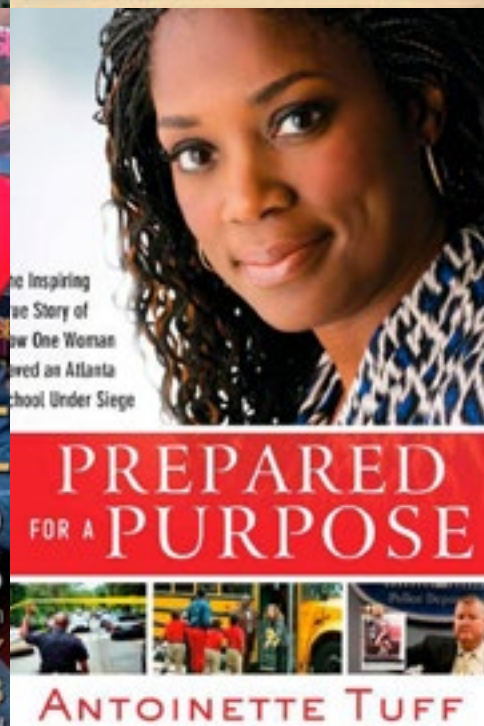
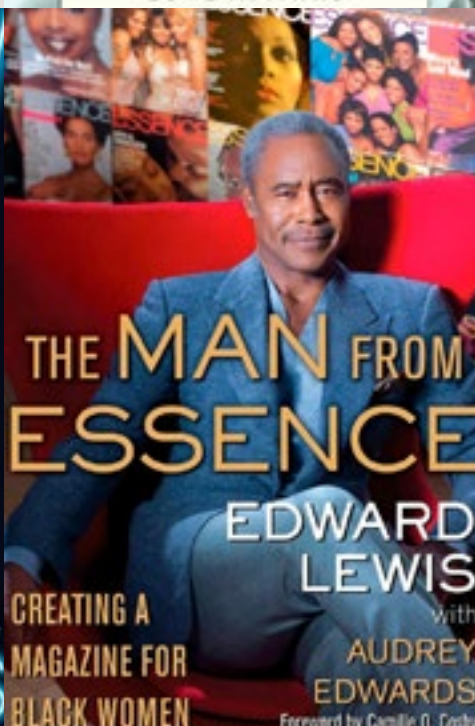
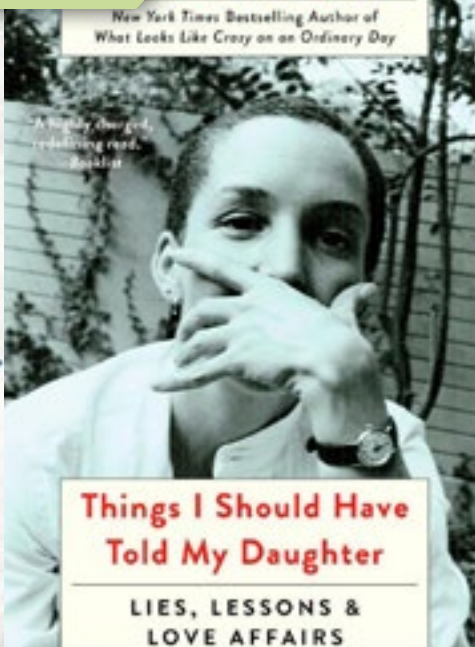
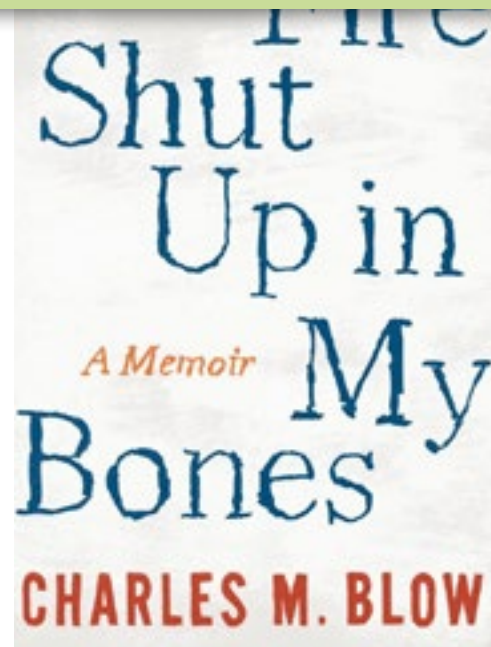
Young, Tom
Sand and Fire

Putnam Adult, 2014
As his retirement approaches, Gunnery Sgt. Blount is compelled to continue his Marine Corps career after witnessing an attack by enemy jihadists.

Young-Robinson, Christine
We Didn’t See it Coming

Strebor Books International, 2014
Family secrets are revealed for three sisters after the sudden deaths of their parents.

BEST OF 2014 - Non-Fiction



Charles M. Blow
Fire Shut Up in My Bones
Houghton Mifflin, 2014

Pearl Cleage
Things I Should Have Told My Daughter
Atria Books, 2014

Jeff Hobbs
The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: A Brilliant Young Man Who Left Newark for the Ivy League
Scribner Book Company, 2014

Rick James & David Ritz
Glow: The Autobiography of Rick James
Atria Books, 2014

Edward Lewis & Audrey Edwards
The Man from Essence: Creating a Magazine for Black Women
Atria Books, 2014

Antoinette Tuff & Alex Tresniowski
Prepared for a Purpose: The Inspiring True Story of How One Woman Saved an Atlanta School Under Siege
Bethany House Publishers, 2014

NON-FICTION

ARTS/CULTURE

Bracey, John H; Sonia Sanchez; James Smethurst
SOS--Calling All Black People: A Black Arts Movement Reader
University of Massachusetts Press, 2014
Researchers describe the cultural shift in the arts community beginning in the 1960's.

Clair, Maxine
Imagine This: Creating the Work You Love
Bolden, 2014
Life coach and author offers advice for achieving empowerment and self-fulfillment.

Duke, Bill; Sheila Moses
Dark Girls
Amistad Press, 2014
Beautiful and lush photography collection featuring women who share their insights on dark skin.

Eshun, Ekow; Kehinde Wiley
Kehinde Wiley: The World Stage Jamaica
Stephen Friedman Gallery, 2014
Contemporary portraiture artist depicts modern Jamaicans in 17th and 18th century British life.

Herron, Matt; John Dittmer
Mississippi Eyes: The Story and Photography of the Southern Documentary Project
University Press of Mississippi/Talking Fingers Publications, 2014
Photographs document the turbulent and pivotal summer of 1964.

Kopano, Baruti N.; Tamara Lizette Brown; Phillip Brown
Soul Thieves: The Appropriation and Misrepresentation of African American Popular Culture
Palgrave MacMillan, 2014
Frank discussion of how black popular culture is used in white mainstream commercialism.

Light, Alan
Let's Go Crazy: Prince and the Making of Purple Rain
Atria Books, 2014
Details the road from vision to reality Prince traveled to create the legendary movie and soundtrack.

McNally, Dennis
On Highway 61: Music, Race, and the Evolution of Cultural Freedom
Counterpoint LLC, 2014
Fascinating history of the founding fathers and mothers of the popular musical form known as "the blues" and its origin in the Mississippi Delta.

Page, Alan Charles
Enter the Wu-Tang: How Nine Men Changed Hip-Hop Forever
Lone Gunman Media, 2014
In-depth look at the iconic group's early history and why their music garnered a cult like following in the hip-hop community.

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIRS

Angelou, Maya
Rainbow in the Cloud: the Wisdom and Spirit of Maya Angelou
Random House, 2014
Gathered from the late poet's many works, this collection shares her wisdom and keen observations on various topics.

Bailey, Phillip; Keith Zimmerman
Shining Star: Braving the Elements of Earth, Wind & Fire
Viking Adult, 2014
Memoir offers glimpses of the genesis of both an iconic singer and an innovative band.

Baram, Marcus
Gil Scott-Heron: Pieces of a Man
St. Martin's Press, 2014
Biography of the socially conscious poet and musician often thought of as a forefather of hip-hop.

NON-FICTION (con't)

Benson, George; Alan Goldsher
Benson: The Autobiography
 Da Capo Press, 2014
 From prodigy to award-winning artist, Benson's memoir details his inspiring rise to fame.

Blow, Charles M.
Fire Shut Up in My Bones
 Houghton Mifflin, 2014
 Honest and courageous portrayal of a young man's search for identity, truth and healing.
 *EBook available on Overdrive

Braxton, Toni
Unbreak My Heart: A Memoir
 It Books, 2014
 Songstress candidly discusses her journey through health issues, bankruptcy and plastic surgery.

Brown, Carolyn J.
Song of My Life: A Biography of Margaret Walker
 University Press of Mississippi, 2014
 Fascinating life story of the author of the acclaimed novel *Jubilee*

Brown, Daryl; Michael Chabries
My Father the Godfather
 Waldorf Publishing, 2014
 Unflinching look at one of the most talented and yet misunderstood musicians of our times.

Brown, Yamma; Robin Gaby Fisher
Cold Sweat: My Father James Brown and Me
 Chicago River Press, 2014
 A look into the private and complex life of the *Godfather of Soul* from one daughter's perspective.

Cleage, Pearl
Things I Should Have Told My Daughter
 Atria Books, 2014
 Writer offers a candid look at her inner life through journal entries
 * Audiobook available on Overdrive

Clinton, George; Ben Greenman
Brotha's Be, Yo Like George, Ain't That Funkin' Kinda Hard on You?: A Memoir
 Atria Books, 2014
 Insightful look at the man who delivered over four decades of music; from doo-wop to the Mothership.



Norman, Jessye
Stand Up Straight and Sing!

Clyburn, James E.
Blessed Experiences: Genuinely Southern, Proudly Black
 University of South Carolina Press, 2014
 In-depth look at the prominent politician's rise from humble beginnings to his place on the national stage.

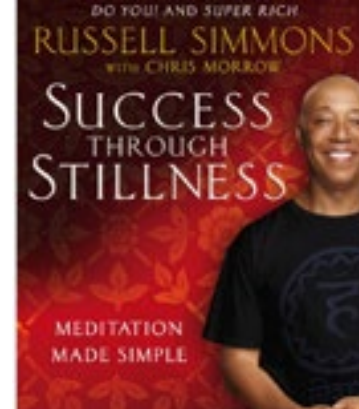
Copeland, Misty; Charisse Jones
Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina
 Touchstone, 2014
 The first African American soloist for the *American Ballet Theatre* recounts her early personal and professional struggles as a young dancer.

Hancock, Herbie; Lisa Dickey
Herbie Hancock: Possibilities
 Viking, 2014
 Authoritative biography covers the life of the preeminent jazz pianist's musical roots, his famous collaborations and his struggles and triumphs.

James, Rick; David Ritz
Glow: The Autobiography of Rick James
 Atria Books, 2014
 Entertaining and unvarnished look at the complicated life of the late award-winning artist and pioneer of funk.

Joseph, Peniel
Stokely: A Life
 Basic Civitas Books, 2104
 Chronicles the life of the iconic civil rights leader best known for his call for *black power*.

Norman, Jessye
Stand Up Straight and Sing!
 Houghton Mifflin, 2014
 Engaging memoir includes the performer's comments on history, vocal training and the role of the arts in our society.



Russell Simmons
Success Through Stillness: Meditation Made Simple

Ritz, David
Respect: The Life of Aretha Franklin
 Little Brown and Company, 2014
 Intimate portrait of the Queen of Soul, her family and her legendary musical career.

Rule, Ja; Jeffery Atkinson
Unruly: The Highs and Lows of Becoming a Man
 Amistad, 2014
 Examination of the multi-talented rap artist and his struggle to become a good husband and father, despite his lack of positive role models.
 *EBook available on Overdrive

Saul, Scott
Becoming Richard Pryor
 Harper, 2014
 Interviews and other exhaustive research reveal the journey that lead to the rise of the comedic genius.

Williams, John
America's Mistress: The Life and Times of Miss Eartha Kitt
 Quercus, 2014
 Thorough examination of the entertainer and how her social consciousness and sex appeal impacted her career.

Whitaker, Mark
Cosby: His Life and Times
 Simon & Schuster, 2014
 Account of the comedic icon's career, personal dramas and his impact on American race relations.

CAREER AND FINANCE

Harvey, Steve
Act Like a Success, Think Like a Success: Discovering Your Gift and the Way to Life's Riches
 Amistad, 2014
 Presents methods to achieve your economic goals and life's mission by recognizing, nurturing and capitalizing on your inherent talents.
 *Audiobook on CD

Lewis, Edward; Audrey Edwards
The Man from Essence: Creating a Magazine for Black Women
 Atria Books, 2014
 From idea to inception, innovative entrepreneur tells the story of the often turbulent and personally brutal journey of an iconic American brand.

HEALTH

Simmons, Russell
Success Through Stillness: Meditation Made Simple
 Gotham, 2014
 Ancient technique can be used to achieve one's highest personal potential.
 *EBook available on Overdrive

Mattocks, Charles
Budget-Friendly Fresh and Local Diabetes Cookbook
 American Diabetes Association, 2014
 Healthy, money and time-saving meals can be created with community grown produce.

HISTORY

Cobb Jr., Charles E.
This Nonviolent Stuff'll Get You Killed: How Guns Made the Civil Right Movement Possible
 Basic Books, 2014
 Journalist and former SNCC field secretary asserts that non-violence and armed self-defense were complementary tools used to achieve the goal of civil rights.

Gates, Henry Louis
Finding your Roots: The Official Companion to the PBS Series
 University of North Carolina Press, 2014
 Prominent figures trace their ancestry using DNA and research.

Glaude, Jr., Eddie S.
African American Religion: A Very Short Introduction
 Oxford University Press, USA, 2014
 Explores the religious life of African Americans and the various roles of the black church.

Smiley, Tavis; David Ritz
Death of a King: The Real Story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Final Year
 Little,Brown and Company, 2014
 An emotional portrayal of the civil rights leader as he dealt with depression and the unforeseen rejection of his once admired ideology.
 *EBook available Overdrive

Tuck, Stephen
The Night Malcolm X Spoke at the Oxford Union: A Transatlantic Story of Antiracist Protest
 University of California Press, 2014
 Imparts the significance of this historic debate and its impact on race relations in America and the United Kingdom.

NON-FICTION (con't)

INSPIRATIONAL

Brown, Tim; James Lund
Making of a Man: How Men and Boys Honor God and Live with Integrity

Thomas Nelson, 2014
Football legend shares the vital lessons that transformed his life.

Burton, Valorie
Get Unstuck, Be Unstoppable: Step Into the Amazing Life God Imagined for You

Harvest House Publishers, 2014
Life coach combines biblical principals and psychology to effect major change.

Jakes, Sarah
Colliding with Destiny: Finding Hope in the Legacy of Ruth

Bethany House, 2014
Author explains how to use life's disappointments as motivation to move your life forward.

Jakes, T. D.
Instinct: The Power to Unleash Your Inborn Drive

FaithWords, 2014
Identify and listen to your inner voice to achieve personal satisfaction.

***EBook available on Overdrive**

Tuff, Antoinette; Alex Tresniowski
Prepared for a Purpose: The Inspiring True Story of How One Woman Saved an Atlanta School Under Siege

Bethany House Publishers, 2014
The grace and empathy shown to a gunman averts a national tragedy.

Winfrey, Oprah
What I Know For Sure

Flatiron Books, 2014
Brief chapters showcase some of the author's favorite topics from her column in "O, the Oprah Magazine"

***EBook and Audiobook available on Overdrive**

LIFESTYLE/ ENTERTAINING

Hall, Carla
Carla's Comfort Foods: Favorite Dishes from Around the World

Atria Books, 2014
International dishes and non-traditional uses of herbs and spices are introduced to the home cook.

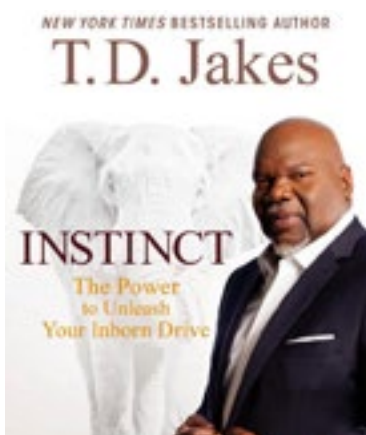
Neely, Pat; Gina Neely; Ann Volkwein
Back Home with the Neelys: Comfort Food from Our Southern Kitchen to Yours

Knopf, 2014

Couple updates recipes and cooking techniques passed down from their mothers and grandmothers.

Stoudemire, Amar'e; Hardy Maxcel, III; Rosemary Black
Cooking with Amar'e: 100 Easy Recipes for Pros and Rookies in the Kitchen

It Books, 2014
Cookbook combines recipes, techniques and humorous stories.



T. D. Jakes
Instinct: The Power to Unleash Your Inborn Drive

Terry, Bryant
Afro-Vegan: Farm-Fresh African, Caribbean, and Southern Flavors Remixed

Ten Speed Press, 2014.
Chef and food justice activist blends a collage of international cuisines to create both a cookbook and a history of Afro-diasporic food.

POETRY

Brown, F Douglas
Zero to Three

University of Georgia Press, 2014
Poet explores familial ties, especially the bond between father and child.

Chase-Riboud, Barbara
Everytime a Knot Is Undone, a God Is Released: Collected and New Poems 1974-2011

Seven Stories Press, 2014
Famed author, sculptor and poet combines her artistic talents to create a contemporary collection of verse.

Du Bois, W E B

Darkwater: Voices for Within the Veil

Martino Fine Books, 2014
Reprint of the 1920 collection of poignant poems and essays addressing political and social reform.

Jones, Saeed
Prelude to Bruise

Coffee House Press, 2014
Several themes, including sexuality, gender and family are addressed in this collection.

Moten, Fred
Little Edges

Poet experiments with "shaped prose," arranging works in rhythmic blocks to create an audio-visual pattern for readers.

Rankine, Claudia
Citizen: An American Lyric

Greywolf Press, 2014
Prose, essays and images culled from contemporary media and art are assembled to present a poetic discourse on racism.

Reisman, Rosemary M. Canfield
African American Poets

Salem Press, 2014
Anthology of poetry collected from the Harlem Renaissance through today.

Simpson, E Willa
On My Brother's Shoulders: An African American Anthology and Tribute to People of Color

Authorhouse, 2014
Using commentary and poetry, artist examines the lynching of Emmett Till and its effect on the American psyche.

Walker, Alice

The World Will Follow Joy: Turning Madness Into Flowers (New Poems)

New Press, 2014
Award-winning author writes on themes of politics, compassion and spirituality.

Weaver, Afaa Michael
Hard Summation

Central Square Press, 2014
Our history, from the Middle Passage to the present, is explored in this 13-poem collection.

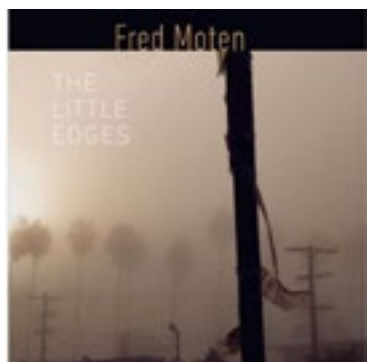
RELATIONSHIPS

Abrams, Abiola
Sacred Bombshell Handbook of Self-Love: The 11 Secrets of Feminine Power

Love Univeristy, 2014
Life coach takes women on a journey of self-discovery and self-appreciation.

Crews, Terry
Manhood: How to be a Better Man-or Just Live with One

Zink Ink, 2014
Actor shares his struggles for personal growth and self-actualization.



Fred Moten
Little Edges

Gandy, Debrena

Love Lies: 10 Revelations That Will Transform Your Relationship and Enrich Your Love Life

Sunrise River Press, 2014
Discover the untruths and toxic beliefs that sabotage relationships.

Strawberry, Darryl ; Tracy Strawberry; A.J. Gregory
Imperfect Marriage: Help for Those Who Think It's Over

Howard Books, 2014
Personal accounts of the trials in a marriage, and how their insights can help improve yours.

SPORTS RELATED

Griner, Brittney; Sue Hovey
In My Skin: My Life on and Off the Basketball Court

It Books, 2014
A young woman overcomes bullying while coming to terms with her sexuality in this coming of age story.

Lazenby, Roland
Michael Jordan: The Life

Little, Brown & Company, 2014
Unvarnished account of the man and the brand.

Madden, Bill
1954: The Year Willie Mays and the First Generation of Black Superstars Changed Major League Baseball Forever

Da Capo Press, 2014
Although Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947, it was not until seven years later that the impact was realized.

NON-FICTION (con't)

Williams, Richard; Bart Davis

Black and White: The Way I See It

Atria Books, 2014

Father and coach shares how his upbringing and unorthodox methods produced two of the greatest athletes in history.

TODAY'S ISSUES

Banks, David; G. F. Lichtenberg
Soar: How Boys Learn, Succeed and Develop Character

Atria / 37 Ink, 2014

Author asserts that parental support and community involvement are proven methods to successfully educate young men of color.

Bryant, John Hope

How the Poor Can Save Capitalism

Berrett-Koehler, 2014

Presents the argument that redefining the meaning of poverty and wealth will expand opportunity and allow the poor to join the middle class.

Carson, Ben; Candy Carson

One Nation: What We Can All Do to Save America's Future

Sentinel, 2014

Famed physician calls for a return to traditional values to cure the nation's ills.

*EBook available on Overdrive

Daniels, Cora ;

John L. Jackson, Jr.

Impolite Conversations: On Race, Politics, Sex, Money, and Religion

Atria Books, 2014

Alternating chapters present disparate conversations on hot button topics.

Fund, John;

Hans Von Spakovsky

Obama's Enforcer: Eric Holder's Justice Department

Broadside Books, 2014

A scathing look at the former head of the most powerful law enforcement agency in America.

Gay, Roxane

Bad Feminist

Harper Perennial, 2014

Collection of essays examine the complexities of race and gender in the 21st century.

Hobbs, Allyson

A Chosen Exile: A History of Racial Passing in American Life

Harvard University Press, 2014

Recounts the stories of African Americans who passed as white and the benefits and repercussions of their decision.

Hobbs, Jeff

The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace: A Brilliant Young Man Who Left Newark for the Ivy League

Scribner Book Company, 2014

Chronicles the life of a gifted student who struggled to maintain his identity in disparate worlds.

Shipp, Robbin; Nick Chiles

Justice While Black: Helping African-American Families Navigate and Survive

the Criminal Justice System.

Bolden, 2014.

Noted journalist collaborates with a defense attorney to present a primer for plotting a successful course through the legal system.

Smith, Candis Watts

Black Mosaic: The Politics of Black Pan-Ethnic Diversity

New York University Press, 2014

Discusses the varying political identities in the black community and their roots.

Stevenson, Bryan

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

Spiegel & Grau, 2014

Author unveils the flaws in the American justice system that punishes the poor and disadvantaged disproportionately while calling for more humane methods of dealing with offenders.

West, Cornel;

Christa Buschendorf

Black Prophetic Fire

Beacon Press, 2014

Enlightening exploration of six key historic African Americans.

FORTHCOMING TITLES IN 2015



Lashonda Barnett
Jam On The Vine



Coval, Kevin; Lansana, Quraysh Ali
Breakbeat Poets: New American Poetry in the Age of Hip-Hop



Hughes, Langston; Arnold Rampersad; David Roessel; Christa Fratantoro (Eds.)
Selected Letters of Langston Hughes



Jealous, Benjamin
Reach: 40 Black Men Speak on Living, Leading, and Succeeding



Love, Reggie
Power Forward: My Presidential Education



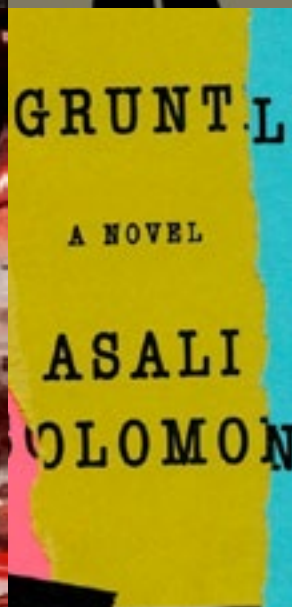
McCraney, Tarell Alvin
Choir Boy



Morris, James McGrath
Eye on the Struggle: Ethel Payne, the First Lady of the Black Press



Santiago, Wilfred
Michael Jordan: Bull on Parade



Solomon, Asali
Disgruntled



Tyson, Mike; Larry Sloan
Undisputed Truth

YOUTH BOOKS

PICTURE BOOKS

Beaty, Daniel
Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me
Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
A strong close loving relationship between father and son is disrupted after he leaves the family to fend for themselves.
Age: 3 – 6

Bolden, Tonya
Beautiful Moon: A Child's Prayers
Abrams Books, 2014
A little boy offers simple prayers for the homeless, the hungry, and others.
Age: 4 – 8

McQuinn, Anna
Leo Loves Baby Time
Charlesbridge, 2014
Mother and son enjoy quiet moments during story time.
Age: 4 – 5

Warner, Sally
EllRay Jakes Rocks the Holidays!
Puffin, 2014
Young boy is proud of himself until his father reminds him that his skin color makes a difference when trying to "blend in."
Age: 3 – 6

Williams, Oneeka
Dr. Dee Dynamo's Meteorite Mission (Dr. Dee Dee Dynamo Books)
Mascot Books, 2014
A picture book that pairs fun science projects with fanciful stories.
Age: 3 – 6

JUVENILE FICTION

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem
Streetball Crew Book One Sasquatch in the Paint
Disney-Hyperion; 2014
A sudden growth spurt in height transforms a science geek into a star basketball player.
Age: 8 – 12

Campbell, Isaiah
The Troubles of Johnny Cannon
A twelve year old boy wrestles with family poverty and race relations in the South.
Simon & Schuster, 2014
Age: 8 - 12



Flake, Sharon G.
Unstoppable Octobia May

Dempsey, Kristy
A Dance Like Straight: One Ballerina's Dream
Philomel; First Edition, 2014
A girl from Harlem dreams of becoming a prima ballerina in the early 50's.
Age: 5 – 8

Flake, Sharon G.
Unstoppable Octobia May
Super sleuth journey into dangerous territory where she witnesses a murder.
Scholastic Press, 2014
Age: 8 – 12

Godin, Lynne Thelma
The Hula Hoopin' Queen
Lee & Low Books, 2014
Kameeka's goal in life is to become the Hula – Hoopin' Queen; until weekend chores, and a neighbor's birthday party changes everything.
Age: 6 – 10

McKay, Hilary
Lulu and the Cat in the Bag
Albert Whitman & Company; 2014
The adventure of a frightened large stray orange and white cat emerges to join the already overgrown house of animals.
Age: 7 – 9

Philbrick, Rodman
Zane and the Hurricane: A Story of Katrina
The Blue Sky Press, 2014
While visiting New Orleans a twelve year old boy and his dog experiences the horrors of the worst storm of the century.
Age: 10 – 14

Warner, Sally
EllRay Jakes Is Magic
Puffin, 2014
A boy and his classmates decide to sabotage the tryouts in the talent show by only offering the third grade's worst magic acts.
Age: 6 – 8

Woods, Brenda
The Blossoming Universe of Violet Diamond
Nancy Paulsen Books, 2014
A young girl's mixed heritage frustrates her after experiencing narrow-minded assumptions directed at her by those living in a predominantly white neighborhood in Seattle.
Age: 9 – 12

JUVENILE NONFICTION

Bolden, Tonya
Searching for Sarah Rector: The Richest Black Girl in America
Harry N. Abrams, 2014
A creek Indian freedmen in 1920 is given a land allotment with oil deposits that leads to enormous wealth.
Age: 10 – 14

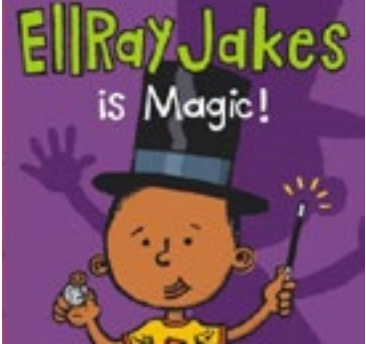
Freedman, Russell
Because They Marched: The People's Campaign for Voting Rights That Changed America
Holiday House, 2014
An account of the events in the history of Civil Rights Movement.
Age: 8 – 10

Grimes, Nikki
Chasing Freedom: The Life Journeys of Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony
Random House Books, 2014
An engaging source of historical facts about two of the nineteenth century's most powerful and inspiring American women.
Age: 7 – 9

Kanefield, Teri
The Girl from the Tar Paper School: Barbara Rose Johns and the Advent of the Civil Rights Movement
Harry N. Abrams; , 2014
In 1951, the unfair conditions in a segregated high school led to the first public protest demanding racial equality.
Age: 9 – 13

Mullenbach, Cheryl
Double Victory: How African American Women Broke Race Gender Barriers to Help Win World War II
Chicago Press, 2013
An overview of the efforts of women of color who integrated the workforce in military positions during World War II.
Age: 10 – 12

Oelschlager, Vanita
The Pullman Porter
Vanita Books, 2014
After the Civil War, a group of former slaves was hired to keep things running smoothly in the new rail sleeper cars. Racist attitudes from customers lead this group of men to be active members of the Civil Rights Movement.
Age: 7 – 8



Warner, Sally
EllRay Jakes Is Magic

Tadgell, Nicole
Friends for Freedom: The Story of Susan B. Anthony & Frederick Douglass
Charlesbridge, 2014
At a time when it was forbidden for races to mix, two trail blazers share stories of struggles and commitments toward equality.
Age: 6 – 9

Stoudemire, Amar'e
Stat #5: Most Valuable (STAT: Standing Tall and Talented)
Scholastic, 2014
The life story of a community oriented well – respected professional athlete.
Age: 8 – 12

Woodson, Jacqueline
Brown Girl Dreaming
Penguin Group, 2014
Author shares her life experiences growing up in the 60s & 70s during the Jim Crow era in prose.

Wyckoff, Brit Edwin
The African-American Heart Surgery Pioneer: The Genius of Vivien Thomas (Genius Inventors and Their Great Ideas)
Enslow Elementary, 2013
History of the first person of color without a doctorate to perform open heart surgery on a white patient in America.
Age: 10 & up

YOUTH BOOKS (con't)

JUVENILE BIOGRAPHY

Benson, Kathleen

Draw What You See: The Life and Art of Benny Andrews

Clarion Books, 2015

Finding inspiration from his childhood drawings of workers in southern cotton fields, despite hardships and struggles his work is finally accepted.

Age: 4 – 8

DePrince, Michaela

Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina

Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2014

A candid description of the physical and emotional struggles of becoming a high – performing classical ballerina dancer.

Age: 12 & up

Greenly, Larry

Eugene Bullard: World's First Black Fighter Pilot

NewSouth Books, 2013

The story of an aviator's life from birth to his combat experiences in World War I and II.

Age: 10 – 13

Nolan, Nina

Mahalia Jackson: Walking with Kings and Queens

Amistad, 2015

A tribute to an artist of exceptional musical talent and determination.

Age: 8 – 10

Norwich, Grace

I Am #12 LeBron James

Scholastic, 2014

An account of one of the best basketball players of all times.

Age: 3 – 7

Ransome-Cline, Lesa

Benny Goodman and Teddy Wilson: Taking the Stage as the First Black-and-White Jazz Band in History

Holiday House, 2014

True stories of how two famous jazz musicians help break down the color barrier.

Shabazz, Ilyasah

Malcolm Little: The Boy Who Grew Up to Become Malcolm X

Atheneum Books, 2014

A historical biographical offering of the life of an activist, educator, and speaker.

Age: 6 – 10

Turner, Ann

My Name Is Truth: The Life of Sojourner Truth

HarperCollins, 2015

A story of the violent dehumanization and escape from slavery that evolved into a well-known historical figure.

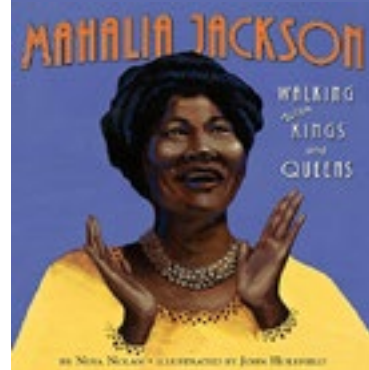
Age: 8 – 10

Walton, Eugene

Philip Reid Saves the Statue of Freedom

Sleep Bear Press, 2013

History of freed laborers, craftsmen, and sculptor contributions to one of the U.S.



Nolan, Nina

Mahalia Jackson: Walking with Kings and Queens

most noticeable monuments.

Age: 8 – 10

Weatherford, Boston Carole

Leontyne Price: Voice of a Century

Knopf, 2014

The life of a ground breaking opera singer from the segregated South.

Age: 5 – 9

TEEN FICTION

Alexander, Kwame

The Crossover

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014

Twin basketball players are awesome on the court; but the importance of an education must trump sports in this family.

Age: 9 – 12

Myers, Walter Dean

On A Clear Day

Random House Children Books, 2014

A futuristic novel depicting young heroes attempting to change the world.

Patrick, Denise Lewis

A Matter of Souls

Carolrhoda Books, 2014

A collection of short stories that introduces spirituality and

A TRIBUTE TO A LITERARY PIONEER



"He Who Leaves a Trail of Glitter is Never Forgotten"

Walter Dean Myers

August 12, 1937 –
July 1, 2014

*Prolific and Beloved
Author of Award-Winning
Children's Books*

romance as part of the everyday experiences for some young teens of color.

Age: 12 & up

Sewell, Earl

Boyfriend Shopping

Harlequin, 2014

A young girl must risk falling in love with her boyfriend before she is comfortable selecting the perfect Christmas gift.

Shabazz, Ilyasah

X: Novel

A fictionalized first – person narrative of moments in the life of this famous icon.

Candlewick, 2015

Age: 13 & up

Williams, Julie

Drama Queens in the House

Roaring Brook Press, 2014

Sixteen year old Jessie is confronted with family problems, homosexual parents, and a biracial complex.

Age: 14 & Up

SERIES

Billingsley, ReShonda Tate

Rumor Central: Real As It Gets

Rumor Central: Truth or Dare

Rumor Central: Boy Trouble

Kensington Publishing

Corporation, 2014

Teenage gossip reporter keeps you entertained with all the latest gossip.

Carter, Nikki

A Fab Life Novel: Get Over It

Kensington Publishing

Corporation, 2014

Successful singer/songwriter works to maintain college status and relationships with friends and family.

Gottesfeld, Jeff

Campus Confessions:

Frenemies

Campus Confessions: Choices

Campus Confessions: Crush

Saddleback Publishing, 2014

Freshman drama at a historically black college located in Washington, D. C.

Moore, Stephanie Perry

The Sharp Sisters: Make

Something of It

The Sharp Sisters:

Turn Up for Real

The Sharp Sisters:

Better Than Picture Perfect

The Sharp Sisters:

Truth and Nothing But

Saddleback Publishing, 2014

Daughters of political candidate try to find their individuality.

Reid, Kimberly

A Langdon Prep Mystery

Guys, Lies & Alibis

NLA, Digital, 2014

Teenage sleuth must focus on who is targeting her boyfriend. **Simone,**

Ni-ni; Abrams, Amir

Hollywood High: Put Your

Diamonds Up

Hollywood High: Lights, Love and Lip Gloss

Kensington Publishing Corp, 2014

Rich, pampered young divas compete to be on top.

TOO NEW TO REVIEW

Billingsley, Reshonda Tate

Real As It Gets: Rumor Central Book 3

Kensington Publishing Corporation, 2014

King, Joy Deja

Ride Wit' Me Part 2

Young Diamond Book, 2014

London, Kelli

Beware Of Boys:

Charly's Epic Fiasco

Book 4

Kensington Publishing

Corporation, 2014

Moore, Stephanie Perry &

Moore, Derrick

Scream Loud/Quiet Strength:

Grovehill Giants, Book 3

All In/Stand Firm: Grovehill

Giants, Book 4

Real Diva/Man Up: Grovehill

Giants, Book 5

Saddleback Publishing, 2014

DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATIONS

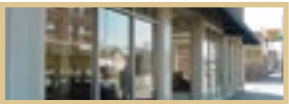
BOWEN BRANCH LIBRARY

3648 W. Vernor
Detroit, MI 48216
313.481.1540



CAMPBELL BRANCH LIBRARY

8733 W. Vernor
Detroit, MI 48209
313.481.1550



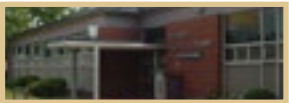
CHANDLER PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

12800 Harper
Detroit, MI 48213
313.481.1560



CHASE BRANCH LIBRARY

17731 W. Seven Mile
Detroit, MI 48235
313.481.1580



CHANNEY BRANCH LIBRARY

16101 Grand River
Detroit, MI 48227
313.481.1570



CONELY BRANCH LIBRARY

4600 Martin
Detroit, MI 48210
313.481.1590



**DOUGLASS BRANCH FOR
SPECIALIZED SERVICES**

3666 Grand River
Detroit, MI 48208
313.481.1707



DUFFIELD BRANCH LIBRARY

2507 W. Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48208
313.481.1710



EDISON BRANCH LIBRARY

18400 Joy Road
Detroit, MI 48228
313.481.1720



ELMWOOD PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

550 Chene
Detroit, MI 48207
313.481.1730



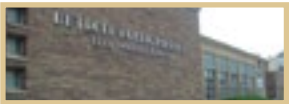
FRANKLIN BRANCH LIBRARY

13651 E. McNichols
Detroit, MI 48205
313.481.1740



HUBBARD BRANCH LIBRARY

12929 W. McNichols
Detroit, MI 48235
313.481.1750



JEFFERSON BRANCH LIBRARY

12350 E. Outer Drive
Detroit, MI 48224
313.481.1760



KNAPP BRANCH LIBRARY

13330 Conant
Detroit, MI 48212
313.481.1770



LINCOLN BRANCH LIBRARY

1221 E. Seven Mile
Detroit, MI 48203
313.481.1780



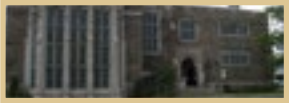
MAIN LIBRARY

5201 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
313.481.1300



MONTEITH BRANCH LIBRARY

14100 Kercheval
Detroit, MI 48215
313.481.1800



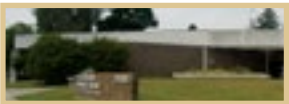
PARKMAN BRANCH LIBRARY

1766 Oakman Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48238
313.481.1810



REDFORD BRANCH LIBRARY

21200 Grand River
Detroit, MI 48219
313.481.1820



SHERWOOD FOREST BRANCH LIBRARY

7117 W. Seven Mile
Detroit, MI 48221
313.481.1840



SKILLMAN BRANCH LIBRARY

121 Gratiot Avenue
Detroit, MI 48226
313.481.1850



WILDER BRANCH LIBRARY

7140 E. Seven Mile
Detroit, MI 48234
313.481.1870



2015 CALENDAR

| January | | | | | | | February | | | | | | | March | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| April | | | | | | | May | | | | | | | June | | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| July | | | | | | | August | | | | | | | September | | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| October | | | | | | | November | | | | | | | December | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

IMPORTANT MILESTONES





DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION

Carole Jasper Quarterman, President
Victoria Inniss-Edwards, Vice-President
Jean-Vierre Adams, Secretary
Franklin G. Jackson
Judge Edward M. Thomas

Herman Davis, Ex-Officio

Jo Anne G. Mondowney
Executive Director

**FUNDED BY
THE DETROIT LIBRARY COOPERATIVE**

WWW.DETROITPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG