



Beyond Emancipation

Juneteenth Cincinnati Booklist of **Juneteenth Booklist for PreK – Grade 6**

NONFICTION

[The Slave Trade](#)

Herr, Melody

306.362 H564 2010

This volume from the *World Black History* series discusses the horrible conditions of the Middle Passage and the political and economic forces that fueled the trade in African slaves. (Grades 4 & up)

[Slave Uprisings and Runaways](#)

Eskridge, Ann E.

306.362097 E75 2004

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

[Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement](#)

Bausum, Ann

323.092273 qB351 2006

Focuses on two college students from strikingly different backgrounds: Jim Zwerg, a white Wisconsin native who became involved during an exchange visit to Nashville, and John Lewis, a black seminarian and student leader of the nonviolence movement. (Grades 6 & up)

[African American Civil Rights Movement](#)

323.119607 qA2581 2011

A history of the African American civil rights movement, based on primary source documents and other historical artifacts. (Grades 5 & up)

[Birmingham Sunday](#)

Brimner, Larry Dane

323.119607 qB857 2010

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

[Rosa's Bus](#)

Kittinger, Jo S.

323.119607 P252Zk 2010

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

[Sit-in: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down](#)

Pinkney, Andrea Davis

323.119607 fP655 2010

This picture book is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the momentous Woolworth's lunch counter sit-in, when four college students staged a peaceful protest that became a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality and the growing civil rights movement. (Grades 1-3)

[Child of the Civil Rights Movement](#)

Shelton, Paula Young

323.119607 S545Zs 2010

Paula Young Shelton, daughter of Civil Rights activist Andrew Young, brings a child's unique perspective to an important chapter in America's history. (Grades 2-4)

[Bad News for Outlaws: the Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshall](#)

Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux

363.282092 qR332Zn 2009

Nelson relays the extraordinary story of Bass Reeves, a lawman in the Old West who escaped slavery to become one of the most successful U.S. Marshals in history. (Grades 3-5)

[This School Is Not White!: a True Story of the Civil Rights Movement](#)

Rappaport, Doreen

379.263097 R221 2005

The Carter family struggles to integrate an all-white school in Drew, Mississippi, in 1965. (Grades 4-5)

[The Harlem Renaissance: an Explosion of African-American Culture](#)

Worth, Richard

700.899607 W932 2009

The opening pages create a valuable historical context for understanding the origins and spirit of the Harlem Renaissance, while spotlighting many notable individual writers, musicians, actors, and visual artists. Period photos and color reproductions of paintings illustrate the book. (Grades 5 & up)

[The Great Migration: an American Story](#)

Lawrence, Jacob

759.13 qL421Zl 1993

A series of paintings chronicles the journey of African Americans who, like the artist's family, left the rural South in the early twentieth century to find a better life in the industrial North. (Grades 3-6)

[Oprah: The Little Speaker](#)

Weatherford, Carole Boston

791.45028 qW768Zwi3 2010

This picture-book account focuses solely on Oprah's childhood. This is the true rags-to-riches story about a poor girl on a Mississippi pig farm who became an entertainer, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. (Grades 1-3)

[Henry Aaron's Dream](#)

Tavares, Matt

796.357092 fA113Zt 2010

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

[Muhammad Ali: the People's Champion](#)

Myers, Walter Dean

796.83092 qA398zmy2 2010

The curious mix of bravado and humility constituting the life of Muhammad Ali receives a sensitive exploration in this vibrantly illustrated biography. (Grades 1-5)

[The Harlem Renaissance](#)

Hillstrom, Kevin

j810.989607 H655 2008

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

[The Great Migration: Journey to the North](#)

Greenfield, Eloise

811.54 qG812g 2011

Illuminates the experiences of families who left their homes in search of better lives during the move up north. (Grades 2-4)

[We Troubled the Waters](#)

Shange, Ntozake

j811.54 S528w 2009

Shange's stirring poems and Brown's raw, striking paintings evoke the turbulence of the civil rights movement. (Grades 5 & up)

[The Harlem Hellfighters: When Pride Met Courage](#)

Myers, Walter Dean

940.41273 U586Zm 2008

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

[Black and White Airmen: Their True History](#)

Fleischman, John

940.544973092 L434Zf 2007

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

[African Roots: Prehistory to 1440](#)

Herr, Melody.

960 H564 2010

This volume from the World Black History series tells of the earliest known societies in Africa starting at 10,000 BCE, the ancient Egyptian and Nubian Kingdoms, and the more recent kingdoms of Benin, Ghana, Mali, and Zimbabwe. Color illustrations and maps throughout contribute to the text's effectiveness. (Grades 4 & up)

[Heart and Soul: the Story of America and African Americans](#)

Nelson, Kadir

973.0496073 qN427 2011

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

[Cause](#)

Bolden, Tonya

973.71 B687 2005

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

[Underground](#)

Evans, Shane

973.7115 qE92 2011

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

[John Brown: His Fight for Freedom](#)

Hendrix, John

973.7116092 qB878Zh 2009

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

[Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation](#)

Sherman, Patrice

973.714 qU58Zs 2010

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

[Traveling the Freedom Road: From Slavery and the Civil War Through Reconstruction](#)

Osborne, Linda Barrett

973.7415 qO81 2009

Told through unforgettable first-person accounts from slave narratives, journals, diaries, and other sources—much of it never before published for young people—this book is an overview of the antebellum South, the Civil War, and Reconstruction, 1800 to 1877. (Grades 6 & up)

[Obama: Only in America](#)

Weatherford, Carole Boston

973.932092 qO12Zw 2010

Weatherford puts an amazing amount of information about Barack Obama into a rhythmic text that is also wonderfully concise. (Grades 1-5)

[Michelle](#)

Hopkinson, Deborah

973.932092 qO121Zh 2009

Deborah Hopkinson and A.G. Ford capture the inspiring story of the first African American First Lady in this beautiful picture book biography. (Grades 1-3)

[Fort Mose: and the Story of the Man Who Built the First Free Black Settlement in Colonial America](#)

Turner, Glennette Tilley

975.918 qT946 2010

Tells the story of Fort Mose, the first free African settlement to legally exist in what is now the United States, established in St. Augustine, Florida, in 1738 after slave revolts. Includes over forty images, as well as notes on the uncovering of the fort. (Grades 3-5)

[The Black Cowboys](#)

De Angelis, Gina

978.00496073 D284 1998

An account of the adventurous African Americans whose exploits contributed to the legends of the Wild West. (Grades 4-6)

FICTION

[Chains](#)

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Fiction

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

[White Water: Inspired by a True Story](#)

Bandy, Michael S.

Easy

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

[Jefferson's Sons: a Founding Father's Secret Children](#)

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker

Fiction

A fictionalized look at the last twenty years of Thomas Jefferson's life at Monticello through the eyes of three of his slaves, two of whom were his sons by his slave, Sally Hemings. (Grades 5 & up)

[Night Running: How James Escaped with the Help of His Faithful Dog](#)

Carbone, Elisa Lynn

Easy

A runaway slave makes a daring escape to freedom with the help of his faithful hunting dog, Zeus. Based on the true story of James Smith's journey from Virginia to Ohio in the mid-1800s. (Grades 1-3)

[Elijah of Buxton](#)

Curtis, Christopher Paul

Fiction

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

[A Sweet Smell of Roses](#)

Johnson, Angela

Easy

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

[Wind Flyers](#)

Johnson, Angela

Easy

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

[Away West](#)

McKissack, Pat

Fiction

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

[Color Me Dark: the Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North](#)

McKissack, Pat

Fiction

Eleven-year-old Nellie Lee Love records in her diary the events of 1919, when her family moves from Tennessee to Chicago, hoping to leave the racism and hatred of the South behind. (Grades 4-6)

[Never Forgotten](#)

McKissack, Pat

Fiction

Bold illustrations accompany poems that tell about Dinga, a West African blacksmith, and his son Musafa, who is kidnapped and sold into slavery in America. Nature plays a central role in this story of pain, loss, healing, family, and memory. (Grades 4 & up)

[A Song for Harlem](#)

McKissack, Pat

Fiction

In the summer of 1928, Lilly Belle Turner of Smyrna, Tennessee, participates in a young author's writing program, taught by Zora Neale Hurston and hosted by A'Lelia Walker in her Harlem teahouse at the height of the Harlem Renaissance. (Grades 3-5)

[Busing Brewster](#)

Michelson, Richard

Easy

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

[Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation](#)

Pinkney, Andrea Davis

Easy

Illustrations and rhythmic text recall the December, 1955, bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama. (Grades 1-3)

[Back of the Bus](#)

Reynolds, Aaron

Easy

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

[Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry](#)

Taylor, Mildred D.

Fiction

Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, it is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. (Grades 5 & up)

[The Listeners](#)

Whelan, Gloria

Easy

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

[One Crazy Summer](#)

Williams-Garcia, Rita

Fiction

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