

Multicultural Book List
Department of Equity & Poverty
JCPS

African Culture:

Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Genre	<u>Culturally Conscious or Need to Disrupt</u>
<p><u>Africa is not a Country:</u> Enter into the daily life of children in the many countries of modern Africa. Countering stereotypes, Africa Is Not a Country celebrates the extraordinary diversity of this vibrant continent as experienced by children at home, at school, at work, and at play.</p>	Knight	3-5	Nonfiction Geography	CC
<p><u>An African Christmas:</u> It's Christmastime, and Afam has decided to create and dance his own Mmo, or masquerade, just like the big celebratory Mmos he sees performed at festivals. But each time he starts collecting things to make his costume, family preparations for Christmas -- haircuts, visiting the tailor, a church service, a trip to their village -- get in the way. Will Afam ever get to perform his Mmo? This brilliant photo-essay vividly depicts African village life, while the simple, endearing story uses a favorite holiday to gently point out the differences -- and similarities -- between cultures.</p>	Onyefulu	2-3	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Babu's Song:</u> In Tanzania, Bernardi's mute grandfather makes him a wonderful music box and then helps him realize his dream of owning a soccer ball and going to school.</p>	Bodeen	2-3	Fiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but lived in Tanzania
<p><u>Baby Goes to Market:</u> When Baby and Mama go to the market, Baby is so adorable that the banana seller gives him six bananas. Baby eats one and puts five in the basket, but Mama doesn't notice. As Mama and Baby wend their way through the stalls, cheeky Baby collects five oranges, four biscuits, three ears of sweet corn, two pieces of coconut . . . until Mama notices that her basket is getting very heavy! Poor Baby, she thinks, he must be very hungry by now! Rhythmic language, visual humor, and a bounty of delectable food make this a tale that is sure to whet little appetites for story time.</p>	Atinuke	Prek-1	Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Best Beekeeper of Lalibela:</u> Long ago in the mountains of Ethiopia, the bees arrived in Lalibela, and people poured in from all around to procure their sweet honey. A young girl named Almaz vows one day her honey</p>	Kessler	1-3	Fiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but lived in

will be the best of all. When she shares her dream with the current beekeepers, they laugh her away and tell her it's men's work. Almaz is determined to prove them all wrong, but she can barely climb the trees to reach the hives. The men think she's learned her lesson, but they don't know Almaz. She's steadfast in her pursuit of the honey. In this spirited text by Cristina Kessler, with stunning illustrations from Leonard Jenkins, perseverance is the key to achieving one's dreams.				Africa for 19 years
<u>Bintou's Braids:</u> Bintou wants braids. Long, pretty braids, woven with gold coins and seashells, just like her older sister and the other women in her family. But she is too young for braids. Instead, all she has are four little tufts of hair; all she ever gets are cornrows. However, when Bintou saves the lives of her two young cousins and is offered a reward of her choosing, Bintou discovers that true beauty comes in many different forms. Rich, earthy illustrations and a heartwarming story capture the spirit of a West African village in this wise tale about a girl who learns she's perfect just the way she is.	Diouf	PreK-3	Fiction	CC
<u>Boundless Grace:</u> When Grace gets the opportunity to go to Africa and visit with her father and his new family, she feels a little strange. But Nana says families are what you make them, and Grace is going to make the most of hers.	Hoffman	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<u>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind:</u> <i>(also a movie currently on Netflix)</i> When a terrible drought struck William Kamkwamba's tiny village in Malawi, his family lost all of the season's crops, leaving them with nothing to eat and nothing to sell. William began to explore science books in his village library, looking for a solution. There, he came up with the idea that would change his family's life forever: he could build a windmill. Made out of scrap metal and old bicycle parts, William's windmill brought electricity to his home and helped his family pump the water they needed to farm the land.	Kamkwamba	K-2	Fiction: based on a memoir	CC
<u>The Day Gogo Went to Vote:</u> Thembi accompanies her hundred-year-old great-grandmother to the polling place in the first election in which black South Africans are allowed to vote. Infirm and housebound, Gogo is determined to vote and does so with a little help from her community.	Sisulu	PreK-3	Fiction	CC
<u>Desmond and the Very Mean Word:</u> When Desmond takes his new bicycle out for a ride through his neighborhood, his pride and joy turn to hurt and anger when a group of boys shout a very mean word at him. He first responds by shouting an insult, but soon discovers that fighting back with mean words doesn't make him feel any better. With the help of kindly Father Trevor, Desmond comes to understand his conflicted feelings and see that all people deserve compassion, whether or not they say they are sorry. Brought to vivid life in A. G. Ford's energetic illustrations, this heartfelt, relatable story conveys timeless wisdom about how to handle bullying and angry feelings, while seeing the good in everyone.	Tutu	1-3	Fiction	CC
<u>Galimoto:</u> Kondi is determined to make a galimoto -- a toy vehicle made of wires. His brother laughs at	Williams	PreK-3	Fiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but lived in Malawi &

the idea, but all day Kondi goes about gathering up the wire he needs. By nightfall, his wonderful galimoto is ready for the village children to play with in the light of the moon.				Haiti for 6 years combined
<u>Long Walk to Freedom:</u> Nelson Mandela's autobiography, LONG WALK TO FREEDOM, offers a glimpse into the mind of a great leader, admired across the globe for his dedication to the struggles against apartheid in South Africa. Now the youngest readers can discover the remarkable story of Mandela's long walk from ordinary village boy, to his dynamic leadership of the African National Congress, to his many long years in prison-and, at last, his freedom and astonishing rise to become the leader of his country.	Mandela	3-5	Nonfiction	CC
<u>The Red Pencil:</u> Life in Amira's peaceful Sudanese village is shattered when Janjaweed attackers arrive, unleashing unspeakable horrors. After losing nearly everything, Amira needs to find the strength to make the long journey on foot to safety at a refugee camp. She begins to lose hope, until the gift of a simple red pencil opens her mind -- and all kinds of possibilities.	Pinkney	3-5	Fiction	CC
<u>The Kidnapped Prince: The Life of Olaudah Equiano:</u> Kidnapped at the age of 11 from his home in Benin, Africa, Olaudah Equiano spent the next 11 years as a slave in England, the U.S., and the West Indies, until he was able to buy his freedom. In searing scenes, Equiano describes the savagery of his capture, the appalling conditions on the slave ship, the auction, and the forced labor. Kids will read this young man's story on their own; it will also enrich curriculum units on history and on writing.	Cameron	3-7	Biography	CC
<u>Once Upon a Time in Ghana:</u> Recorded on location in the Volta Region in Ghana in 2006-07, these stories are the result of collaboration between Anna Cottrell and Agbotadua Togbi Kumassah. Agbotadua Togbi Kumassah translated the Ewe stories into English and Anna Cottrell has retold them in contemporary English for the wider European market. This edition presents the 24 stories in their original form for the Ghanaian market.	Cottrell	5-8	Anthology	CC
<u>One Shadow on the Wall:</u> An orphaned boy in contemporary Senegal must decide between doing what is right and what is easy as he struggles to keep a promise he made to his dying father in this captivating debut novel laced with magical realism.	Henderson	5-8	Fiction	CC
<u>Between Sisters:</u> When sixteen-year-old Gloria fails thirteen out of fifteen subjects on her final exams, her future looks bleak indeed. Her family's resources are meager so the entire family is thrilled when a distant relative, Christine, offers to move Gloria north to Kumasi to look after her toddler son. In exchange, after two years, Christine will pay for Gloria to go to school. Life in Kumasi is more grand than anything Gloria has ever experienced. She joins a youth band at church and Christine has even promised to teach her to read. But Kumasi is also full of temptations -- the owner of a popular clothing shop encourages her to buy on credit, and the smooth-talking Dr. Kusi offers Gloria rides in his sports car. Eventually Gloria is betrayed by the people around her and is disillusioned by her new life. But in the end she decides who she can trust, and draws on her own considerable inner resources to put the bad experiences behind her.	Badoe	YA	Fiction	CC

<p><u>When Morning Comes:</u> Zanele is skipping school and secretly plotting against the apartheid government. The police can't know. Her mother and sister can't know. Her best friend Thabo, schoolboy turned gang member, can tell she's up to something. But he has troubles of his own--a deal gone wrong and some powerful enemies. Across the bridge, in the wealthy white suburbs, Jack plans to spend his last days in Johannesburg burning miles on his beat-up Mustang--until he meets a girl with an unforgettable face from the simmering black township--Soweto. Working in her father's shop, Meena finds a packet of banned pamphlets. They lead to a mysterious black girl with a secret, a dangerous gangster with an expensive taste in clothes, and an engaging white boy who drives a battered red car. A series of chance meetings changes everything. A chain of events is set in motion--a failed plot, a murdered teacher, and a secret movement of students that has spread across the township. And the students will rise.</p>	Raina	6-YA	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Americanah:</u> Ifemelu and Obinze are young and in love when they depart military-ruled Nigeria for the West. Beautiful, self-assured Ifemelu heads for America, where despite her academic success, she is forced to grapple with what it means to be black for the first time. Quiet, thoughtful Obinze had hoped to join her, but with post-9/11 America closed to him, he instead plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London. Fifteen years later, they reunite in a newly democratic Nigeria, and reignite their passion—for each other and for their homeland.</p>	Adichie	YA	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Half of a Yellow Sun:</u> With effortless grace, celebrated author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie illuminates a seminal moment in modern African history: Biafra's impassioned struggle to establish an independent republic in southeastern Nigeria during the late 1960s. We experience this tumultuous decade alongside five unforgettable characters: Ugwu, a thirteen-year-old houseboy who works for Odenigbo, a university professor full of revolutionary zeal; Olanna, the professor's beautiful young mistress who has abandoned her life in Lagos for a dusty town and her lover's charm; and Richard, a shy young Englishman infatuated with Olanna's willful twin sister Kainene. <i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i> is a tremendously evocative novel of the promise, hope, and disappointment of the Biafran war.</p>	Adichie	YA	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Children of Blood and Bone:</u> They killed my mother. They took our magic. They tried to bury us. Now we rise. Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orisha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zélie's Reaper mother summoned forth souls. But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed, leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope. Now Zélie has one chance to bring back magic and strike against the monarchy. With the help of a rogue princess, Zélie must outwit and outrun the crown prince, who is hell-bent on eradicating magic for good.</p>	Adeyemi	YA	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Solo:</u> From award-winning and <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Kwame Alexander, with Mary Rand Hess, comes <i>Solo</i>, a YA novel written in poetic verse. <i>Solo</i> tells the story of</p>	Alexander	YA	Fiction	CC

<p>seventeen-year-old Blade Morrison, who knows the life of a rock star isn't really about the glitz and glamour. All the new cars and money in the world can't make up for the scathing tabloid covers or the fact that his father is struggling with just about every addiction under the sun including a desperate desire to make a comeback and regain his former fame. Haunted by memories of his mother who died when Blade was nine and the ruin his father's washed-up legacy and life have brought to the family, Blade is left to figure out life on his own. But, he's not all alone: He's got the friendship of a jazz-musician mentor, Robert; the secret love of a girlfriend, Chapel; and his music. All may not be well in the Morrison home, but things are looking up for Blade, until he discovers a deeply protected family secret one that further threatens his relationship with his family and has him questioning his own identity. Thrown into a tailspin, Blade decides the only way he will understand his past and begin his future is to find out the truth behind the music and himself. He soon sets out on a journey that will change everything he thought to be true. His quest lands him in Ghana, stuck in a village just shy of where answers to the secret can be found. There, Blade discovers a friendship he couldn't have imagined, a people founded in family and community, and a reconciliation he never expected.</p>				
<p><u>Zenzele: A Letter For My Daughter:</u> Written as a letter from a Zimbabwean mother to her daughter, a student at Harvard, J. Nozipo Maraire evokes the moving story of a mother reaching out to her daughter to share the lessons life has taught her and bring the two closer than ever before. Interweaving history and memories, disappointments and dreams, <i>Zenzele</i> tells the tales of Zimbabwe's struggle for independence and the men and women who shaped it: Zenzele's father, an outspoken activist lawyer; her aunt, a schoolteacher by day and secret guerrilla fighter by night; and her cousin, a maid and a spy.</p>	Maraire	YA	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Unbowed: A Memoir</u> In <i>Unbowed</i>, Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai recounts her extraordinary journey from her childhood in rural Kenya to the world stage. When Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement in 1977, she began a vital poor peoples environmental movement, focused on the empowerment of women, that soon spread across Africa. Persevering through run-ins with the Kenyan government and personal losses, and jailed and beaten on numerous occasions, Maathai continued to fight tirelessly to save Kenya's forests and to restore democracy to her beloved country. Infused with her unique luminosity of spirit, Wangari Maathai's remarkable story of courage, faith, and the power of persistence is destined to inspire generations to come.</p>	Maathai	YA	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Soldier Boy:</u> <i>Soldier Boy</i> begins with the story of Ricky Richard Anywar, abducted at age fourteen in 1989 to fight with Joseph Kony's rebel army in Uganda's decades-long civil war. Ricky is trained, armed, and forced to fight government soldiers alongside his brutal kidnapers, but never stops dreaming of escape. The story continues twenty years later, with a fictionalized character named Samuel, representative of the thousands of child soldiers Ricky eventually helped rehabilitate as founder of the internationally acclaimed charity Friends of Orphans. Working closely with Ricky himself, debut author Keely Hutton has written an eye-opening book about a boy's unbreakable spirit and indomitable courage in the face of unimaginable horror.</p>	Hutton	8-YA	Part Fiction/ Part Nonfiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but he worked closely with Ugandan child soldier Ricky Richard Anywar to tell his story

<p><u>Speak No Evil:</u> On the surface, Niru leads a charmed life. Raised by two attentive parents in Washington, D.C., he's a top student and a track star at his prestigious private high school. Bound for Harvard in the fall, his prospects are bright. But Niru has a painful secret: he is queer—an abominable sin to his conservative Nigerian parents. No one knows except Meredith, his best friend, the daughter of prominent Washington insiders—and the one person who seems not to judge him. When his father accidentally discovers Niru is gay, the fallout is brutal and swift. Coping with troubles of her own, however, Meredith finds that she has little left emotionally to offer him. As the two friends struggle to reconcile their desires against the expectations and institutions that seek to define them, they find themselves speeding toward a future more violent and senseless than they can imagine. Neither will escape unscathed.</p>	Iweala	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>A Long Walk to Water:</u> The <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.</p>	Park	5-7	Historical Fiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but she interviewed Salva who the story is based on
<p><u>We Kiss Them With Rain:</u> Life wasn't always this hard for 14-year-old Mvelo. There were good times living with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. Now her mother is dying of AIDS and what happened to Mvelo is the elephant in the room, despite its growing presence in their small shack. In this Shakespeare-style comedy, the things that seem to be are only a façade and the things that are revealed hand Mvelo a golden opportunity to change her fate. <i>We Kiss Them With Rain</i> explores both humor and tragedy in this modern-day fairy tale set in a squatter camp outside of Durban, South Africa.</p>	Ntshingila	8-YA	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Akata Witch: Akata Witch, Series Book 1</u> Sunny, born in the United States to Nigerian parents, returned to Nigeria with her family when she was nine. Now twelve, she's taunted by her peers because she's an albino. Her West African physical features, at odds with her blond hair, hazel eyes, and skin "the color of 'sour milk,'" make her the target of bullies. Then Sunny discovers it's not just her physical appearance that's unusual: She is one of the Leopard people, a "free agent" witch who possesses latent magical skills and the power to work juju. Unlike her classmate Orlu, and Chichi, a neighborhood girl, who both come from magical families, she knows nothing about the world of magic. Orlu and Chichi become Sunny's initial guides, introducing her to their teachers and the community of Leopard people. No one at home knows Sunny is moving back and forth between worlds, let alone that she, Orlu, Chichi, and Sasha, a Leopard boy visiting from Chicago, have become an Oha coven, fated to confront the Black Hat serial killer terrorizing communities in the area. At the heart of Sunny's journey into this distinctive realm of magic that coexists with the everyday world are the friendships she forges with other young Leopard people in Nnedi Okorafor's fresh fantasy novel.</p>	Okorafor	8-YA	Science Fiction Fantasy Mystery	CC

<p><u>Binti Book 1/Binti: Home Book 2/Binti: The Night Masquerade Book 3</u> Her name is Binti, and she is the first of the Himba people ever to be offered a place at Oomza University, the finest institution of higher learning in the galaxy. But to accept the offer will mean giving up her place in her family to travel between the stars among strangers who do not share her ways or respect her customs. Knowledge comes at a cost, one that Binti is willing to pay, but her journey will not be easy. The world she seeks to enter has long warred with the Meduse, an alien race that has become the stuff of nightmares. Oomza University has wronged the Meduse, and Binti's stellar travel will bring her within their deadly reach. If Binti hopes to survive the legacy of a war not of her making, she will need both the gifts of her people and the wisdom enshrined within the University, itself — but first she has to make it there, alive.</p>	Okorafor	8-YA	Science Fiction Fantasy	CC
<p><u>I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives</u> It started as an assignment. Everyone in Caitlin's class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place. All the other kids picked countries like France or Germany, but when Caitlin saw <i>Zimbabwe</i> written on the board, it sounded like the most exotic place she had ever heard of - so she chose it. Martin was lucky even to receive a pen-pal letter. There were only 10 letters and 40 kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives. In this compelling dual memoir, Caitlin and Martin recount how they became best friends - and better people - through letters. Their story will inspire listeners to look beyond their own lives and wonder about the world at large and their place in it.</p>	Ganda	7-YA	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p><u>Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters:</u> Inspired by a traditional African folktale, this is the story of Mufaro, who is proud of his two beautiful daughters. Nyasha is kind and considerate, but everyone—except Mufaro—knows that Manyara is selfish and bad-tempered. When the Great King decides to take a wife and invites the most worthy and beautiful daughters in the land to appear before him, Mufaro brings both of his daughters—but only one can be queen. Who will the king choose?</p>	Stephoe	PreK-5	Fairy Tales Folklore	CC
<p><u>Seeds of Change:</u> As a young girl in Kenya, Wangari was taught to respect nature. She grew up loving the land, plants, and animals that surrounded her -from the giant mugumo trees her people, the Kikuyu, revered to the tiny tadpoles that swam in the river. Although most Kenyan girls were not educated, Wangari, curious and hardworking, was allowed to go to school. There, her mind sprouted like a seed. She excelled at science and went on to study in the United States. After returning home, Wangari blazed a trail across Kenya, using her knowledge and compassion to promote the rights of her country women and to help save the land, one tree at a time. Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace brings to life the empowering story of Wangari Maathai, the first African woman, and environmentalist, to win a Nobel Peace Prize. Engaging narrative and vibrant images paint a robust portrait of this inspiring champion of the land and of women's rights.</p>	Johnson	1-8	Nonfiction Biography	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but she interviewed the person that the book is based on.
<p><u>When Trees Walked:</u> Long, long time ago, trees walked the earth. This is the story of how they came to stay in one place. Told in both English and Swahili, <i>When Trees Walked</i> promotes environmental awareness through mythic storytelling and engages readers with dynamic illustrations set in</p>	Tharani	K-3	Fiction Folklore	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but was raised in Tanzania

Tanzania.				
<p><u>The Maker of Oil:</u> Once a year, Mr. Sola visits this industrious village to enjoy colorful dancing, eat great Nigerian foods and buy a finely crafted gift for his beloved wife. Little Kimi is so excited about the party, she asked her parents if they too could attend. Kemi's father, a proud fruit peddler knows they have nothing fancy enough to sale at the gift buying party so they decide a give, Mr. Sola, a unique gift not made with hands. When the artisan neighbors find out what the happy family has done for Mr. Sola, they make the family the laughing stock of the village. After all, Mr. Sola only wants the best. However, to everyone's surprise, this year, Mr. Sola is not interested in eating, dancing or buying a finely crafted gift. He's on a quest for a rare perfumed oil that has long disappeared, and he won't stop till he finds it. Will Kemi's father rely on his past skills as an oil maker to help Mr. Sola find his rare fragrance? Or will everyone, including Mr. Sola discover, the best gifts in life are those not made with hands?</p>	Hawkins	PreK-3	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Eight Days: A Story of Haiti</u> <u>(could also be considered under afro-latinx)</u> Hope comes alive in this heartfelt and deeply resonating story. While Junior is trapped for 8 days beneath his collapsed house after an earthquake, he uses his imagination for comfort. Drawing on beautiful, everyday-life memories, Junior paints a sparkling picture of Haiti for each of those days--flying kites with his best friend or racing his sister around St. Marc's Square--helping him through the tragedy until he is finally rescued.</p>	Danticat	PreK-5	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation</u> <u>(could also be considered under afro-latinx)</u> After Saya's mother is sent to an immigration detention center, Saya finds comfort in listening to her mother's warm greeting on their answering machine. To ease the distance between them while she's in jail, Mama begins sending Saya bedtime stories inspired by Haitian folklore on cassette tape. Moved by her mother's tales and her father's attempts to reunite their family, Saya writes a story of her own—one that just might bring her mother home for good. With stirring illustrations, this tender tale shows the human side of immigration and imprisonment—and shows how every child has the power to make a difference.</p>	Danticat	Prek-2	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Running the Road to ABC</u> <u>(could also be considered under afro-latinx)</u> Six island children are running at daybreak -- over the hills, through the fields, across the city square -- to school! Never before has the love of learning (and learning <i>together</i>) been such a joyous time. Denise Lauture's buoyant, poetic text captures the happiness and youth of energetic children on the way to school; Reynold Ruffins perfectly illustrates the rich beauty of Haiti with the bright-colored vibrance of Haitian folk art. A great read-aloud book for the classroom.</p>	Lauture	PreK-5	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Selavi, That is Life:A Haitian Story of Hope</u> <u>(could also be considered under afro-latinx)</u> "Not so long ago and not so far away, people with guns could take a family, burn a house and disappear, leaving a small child alone in the world." So begins the true story of Selavi, a small boy who finds himself on the streets of Haiti. Selavi finds other street children who share their</p>	Landowne	PreK-5	Realistic Fiction	Author does not represent the culture of the book but she has lived in Haiti

<p>food and a place to sleep with him. Together they proclaim a message of hope through murals and radio programs.</p>				
<p><u>Behind the Mountains</u> <u>(could also be considered under afro-latinx)</u> Celiane, her mother and older brother, Moy, are living in Haiti while her father is in Brooklyn, New York. During the violent presidential elections in Haiti in the year 2000, both Celiane and her mother are injured in a bomb explosion. The family decides the time has come to be reunited. Celiane is sad to be leaving her beautiful country and relatives, but so eager to see Papa. Her joy fades quickly, however, overwhelmed by the changes in her life. Her new middle school in Brooklyn is huge. When she gets lost the first time she tries to get back to their apartment on her own, she feels she's failed her Papa. At home, her father and brother begin arguing—Moy wants to pursue art, while Papa wants him to attend the university once he learns enough English. Even her parents, who had missed each other so much, are fighting. Their 2-bedroom apartment seems so very small in the midst of it all. Edwidge Danticat's first book for young reader's is written as journal entries in Celiane's sensitive, first-person voice. It's a swiftly paced novel grounded in details that lend weight and realism to Celiane's situation as she chronicles the events in her life, which unfold to reveal both pleasures and disappointments and, ultimately, a future she looks toward with hope. Danticat briefly recounts her own story of coming to the United States from Haiti as a child in an afterword.</p>	<p>Danitcat</p>	<p>6-YA</p>	<p>Biographical Fiction</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>The Butter Man:</u> Too hungry to wait patiently for the couscous dinner to cook, Nora moans to her Baba that she's "staaarving!" Taking Nora on his knee, Baba shares the story of the butter man from his own childhood in Morocco. After a season of drought and poor harvest, food became scarce in his home, and Ali's father left to look for work across the mountains. Soon bread was the only thing left to eat, and the piece his mother gave him each day was smaller and harder than the piece on the day before. In an effort to distract Ali from his hunger, his mother suggested that he go outside and wait for the butter man. If the butter man passed by, Ali could ask for a bit of butter to spread on his bread. The butter man didn't pass by on that day, or any of the following days, but Ali was occupied by watching the villagers on the road, "forgetting for a while the gnawing feeling in [his] stomach." Finally, one of the travelers on the road was his own father, returning from across the mountains and carrying vegetables and a piece of meat. Folk-art paintings show Nora and her Baba in their contemporary kitchen at the story's opening and conclusion, and depict Ali and his parents in their Moroccan village.</p>	<p>Alalou</p>	<p>PreK-5</p>	<p>Fiction</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>Anna Hibiscus:</u> A pair of chapter books feature a young girl and her family who live in a large city in Africa. Anna Hibiscus's dad is Black African; her mom is white Canadian. Anna lives with her parents, twin baby brothers, and grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins in their family compound where cars, cell phones, and the Internet are a way of life, but so are traditional dress, food, and values. In these stories, humor is often drawn from situations in which embracing modern ideas has unexpected outcomes. When Anna Hibiscus's parents decide to take only their immediate family on a vacation to a nearby island—their house is so crowded!—they miss everyone else so much that one by one Anna Hibiscus's dad brings the rest of their relatives to join them. When Anna's uncles purchase a generator so the family has light when the electricity goes out—a predictably unpredictable occurrence—all of the children miss the thrill</p>	<p>Atinuke</p>	<p>PreK-3</p>	<p>Fiction</p>	<p>CC</p>

<p>that used to come with each power outage: of playing hide and seek in the dark, of listening to their grandmother's stories. The way the generator meets its demise is funny, but the decision not to replace it is one that emphasizes the importance of slowing down and taking time to be together in a mindful way. Author Atinuke, who is originally from Nigeria, incorporates the cadence of oral storytelling into the narrative of these warm, energetic volumes that offer an affirming look at African identity. (The author makes clear Anna Hibiscus lives in one of many countries in Africa, but the decision not to specify one in particular seems intentional and appropriate.) She engagingly portrays a contemporary urban African child who is not only surrounded by the love and bustling chaos of her family but is also learning about the larger world right outside her door in which not everyone is as fortunate as she. Enlightening but most of all entertaining, these books are a treat for newly independent readers, as well as children lucky enough to hear them read aloud.</p>				
<p>Africa is my Home: A Child of the Amistad Inspired by a true account, here is the compelling story of a child who arrives in America on the slave ship <i>Amistad</i>—and eventually makes her way home to Africa. Narrated in a remarkable first-person voice, this fictionalized book of memories of a real-life figure retells history through the eyes of a child. Lush, full-color illustrations by Robert Byrd, plus archival photographs and documents, bring an extraordinary journey to life.</p>	Edinger	4-8	Historical Fiction	Author does not represent the culture of the book but she has lived in Sierra Leone
<p>Hector: A Boy, A Protest, and the Photography that Changed Apartheid: On June 16, 1976, Hector Pieterse, an ordinary boy, lost his life after getting caught up in what was supposed to be a peaceful protest. Black South African students were marching against a new law requiring that they be taught half of their subjects in Afrikaans, the language of the White government. The story's events unfold from the perspectives of Hector, his sister, and the photographer who captured their photo in the chaos. This book can serve as a pertinent tool for adults discussing global history and race relations with children. Its graphic novel style and mixed media art portray the vibrancy and grit of Hector's daily life and untimely death.</p>	Wright	4-8	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p>The Women Who Caught the Babies: A Story of African American Midwives The Women Who Caught the Babies highlights important aspects of the training and work of African American midwives and the ways in which they have helped, and continue to help, so many families by "catching" their babies at birth. The blend of Eloise Greenfield's poetry and Daniel Minter's art evokes heartfelt appreciation of the abilities of African American midwives over the course of time. The poem, "Africa to America," begins the poetic journey. The poem, "The Women," both heralds the poetry/art pairing and concludes it with a note of gratitude to these women. The poem that ends the book is "Miss Rovenia Mayo," who was the midwife who caught newborn Eloise.</p>	Greenfield	8-YA	Nonfiction	CC
<p>Sulwe Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. She is darker than everyone in her family. She is darker than anyone in her school. Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything.</p>	Nyong'o	Prek-2	Fiction	CC

In this stunning debut picture book, actress Lupita Nyong'o creates a whimsical and heartwarming story to inspire children to see their own unique beauty.				
<p>Grandpa Cacao: A Tale of Chocolate from Farm to Family</p> <p>This beautifully illustrated story connects past and present as a girl bakes a chocolate cake with her father and learns about her grandfather harvesting cacao beans in West Africa. Chocolate is the perfect treat, everywhere! As a little girl and her father bake her birthday cake together, Daddy tells the story of her Grandpa Cacao, a farmer from the Ivory Coast in West Africa. In a land where elephants roam and the air is hot and damp, Grandpa Cacao worked in his village to harvest cacao, the most important ingredient in chocolate. "Chocolate is a gift to you from Grandpa Cacao," Daddy says. "We can only enjoy chocolate treats thanks to farmers like him." Once the cake is baked, it's ready to eat, but this isn't her only birthday present. There's a special surprise waiting at the front door . . .</p>	Zunon	3-6	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p>Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky</p> <p>Seventh grader Tristan Strong feels anything but strong ever since he failed to save his best friend when they were in a bus accident together. All he has left of Eddie is the journal his friend wrote stories in. Tristan is dreading the month he's going to spend on his grandparents' farm in Alabama, where he's being sent to heal from the tragedy. But on his first night there, a sticky creature shows up in his bedroom and steals Eddie's notebook. Tristan chases after it--is that a <i>doll?</i>--and a tug-of-war ensues between them underneath a Bottle Tree. In a last attempt to wrestle the journal out of the creature's hands, Tristan punches the tree, accidentally ripping open a chasm into the MidPass, a volatile place with a burning sea, haunted bone ships, and iron monsters that are hunting the inhabitants of this world. Tristan finds himself in the middle of a battle that has left black American folk heroes John Henry and Brer Rabbit exhausted. In order to get back home, Tristan and these new allies will need to entice the god Anansi, the Weaver, to come out of hiding and seal the hole in the sky. But bartering with the trickster Anansi always comes at a price. Can Tristan save this world before he loses more of the things he loves?</p>	Mbalia	4-8	Science Fiction Fantasy Adventure Folklore FairyTales	CC
African-American Culture:				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Fiction or Nonfiction	<u>Culturally Conscious or Need to Disrupt</u>
<p>Crossover:</p> <p>"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks... The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering," announces dreadlocked 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother, Jordan, are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood. He's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game changer for the entire family.</p>	Alexander	4-8	Fiction	CC

<p><u>Booked:</u> In this middle grade novel-in-verse by the Newbery Medal-winning and Coretta Scott King Honor Award-winning author of <i>The Crossover</i>, soccer, family, love, and friendship take center stage as 12-year-old Nick learns the power of words when he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate, Coby; and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read. This electric and heartfelt novel-in-verse by poet Kwame Alexander bends and breaks as it captures all the thrills and setbacks, action and emotion of a World Cup match!</p>	Alexander	6-8	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Ghost Boys:</u> Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing. Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened, on a journey toward recognizing how historical racism may have led to the events that ended his life. Jerome also meets Sarah, the daughter of the police officer, who grapples with her father's actions. Once again Jewell Parker Rhodes deftly weaves historical and sociopolitical layers into a gripping and poignant story about how children and families face the complexities of today's world and how one boy grows to understand American blackness in the aftermath of his own death.</p>	Rhodes	5-9	Fiction	CC
<p><u>As Brave as You:</u> When two brothers decide to prove how brave they are, everything backfires - literally - in this piercing middle grade novel by the winner of the Coretta Scott King - Johnson Steptoe Award. Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn for the very first time to spend the summer with their grandparents all the way in Virginia - in the COUNTRY! The second surprise comes when Genie figures out that their grandfather is blind. Thunderstruck, and being a curious kid, Genie peppers Grandpop with questions about how he covers it so well (besides wearing way cool Ray-Bans). How does he match his clothes? Know where to walk? Cook with a gas stove? Pour a glass of sweet tea without spilling it? Genie thinks Grandpop must be the bravest guy he's ever known, but he starts to notice that his grandfather never leaves the house - as in NEVER. And when he finds the secret room that Grandpop is always disappearing into - a room so full of songbirds and plants that it's almost as if it's been pulled inside out - he begins to wonder if his grandfather is really so brave after all. Then Ernie lets him down in the bravery department. It's his 14th birthday, and Grandpop says to become a man you have to learn how to shoot a gun. Genie thinks that is AWESOME until he realizes Ernie has no interest in learning how to shoot. None. Nada. Dumbfounded by Ernie's reluctance, Genie is left to wonder, are bravery and becoming a man only about proving something, or is it just as important to own up to what you won't do?</p>	Reynolds	6-8	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Ghost:</u> Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down in this first electrifying novel of a brand-new series from Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award-winning author Jason Reynolds. Ghost. Lu. Patina. Sunny. Four kids from wildly different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash. But they are also four kids chosen for an elite middle school track team - a team that could qualify them for the Junior Olympics if they can get their acts together. They all have a lot to</p>	Reynolds	4-8	Fiction	CC

<p>lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves. Ghost has a crazy natural talent, but no formal training. If he can stay on track, literally and figuratively, he could be the best sprinter in the city. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons - it all starting with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother through their apartment, then down the street, with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems - and running away from them - until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who blew his own shot at success by using drugs, and who is determined to keep other kids from blowing <i>their</i> shots at life.</p>				
<p><u>Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut</u> The barbershop is where the magic happens. Boys go in as lumps of clay and, with princely robes draped around their shoulders, a dab of cool shaving cream on their foreheads, and a slow, steady cut, they become royalty. That crisp yet subtle line makes boys sharper, more visible, more aware of every great thing that could happen to them when they look good: Lesser grades turn into As; girls take notice; even a mother's hug gets a little tighter. Everyone notices. A fresh cut makes boys fly.</p>	Barnes	3-5	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Miles Morales: Spiderman</u> "Everyone gets mad at hustlers, especially if you're on the victim side of the hustle. And Miles knew hustling was in his veins." Miles Morales is just your average teenager. Dinner every Sunday with his parents, chilling out playing old-school video games with his best friend, Ganke, crushing on brainy, beautiful poet Alicia. He's even got a scholarship spot at the prestigious Brooklyn Visions Academy. Oh yeah, and he's Spider-Man. But lately Miles' Spidey sense has been on the fritz. When a misunderstanding leads to his suspension from school, Miles begins to question his abilities. After all, his dad and uncle were Brooklyn jack-boys with criminal records. Maybe kids like Miles aren't meant to be superheroes. Maybe Miles should take his dad's advice and focus on saving himself. As Miles tries to get his school life back on track, he can't shake the vivid nightmares that continue to haunt him. Nor can he avoid the relentless buzz of his Spidey sense every day in history class, amid his teacher's lectures on the historical benefits of slavery and the importance of the modern-day prison system. But after his scholarship is threatened, Miles uncovers a chilling plot, one that puts his friends, his neighborhood, and himself at risk. It's time for Miles to suit up.</p>	Reynolds	7-9	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Another Brooklyn:</u> Running into a long-ago friend sets memories from the 1970s in motion for August, transporting her to a time and a place where friendship was everything - until it wasn't. For August and her girls, sharing confidences as they ambled through neighborhood streets, Brooklyn was a place where they believed that they were beautiful, talented, brilliant - a part of a future that belonged to them. But beneath the hopeful veneer, there was another Brooklyn, a dangerous place where grown men reached for innocent girls in dark hallways, where ghosts haunted the night, where mothers disappeared. A world where madness was just a sunset away and fathers found hope in religion. Like Louise Meriwether's <i>Daddy Was a Number Runner</i> and Dorothy Allison's <i>Bastard out of Carolina</i>, Jacqueline Woodson's <i>Another Brooklyn</i> heartbreakingly illuminates the formative time when childhood gives way to adulthood - the promise and peril of growing up - and exquisitely renders a powerful, indelible, and fleeting friendship that united four young lives.</p>	Woodson	8-YA	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>For Black Girls Like Me:</u></p>	Lockington	6-8	Fiction	CC

<p>Makeda June Kirkland is eleven years old, adopted, and black. Her parents and big sister are white, and even though she loves her family very much, Makeda often feels left out. When Makeda's family moves from Maryland to New Mexico, she leaves behind her best friend, Lena— the only other adopted black girl she knows— for a new life. In New Mexico, everything is different. At home, Makeda's sister is too cool to hang out with her anymore and at school, she can't seem to find one real friend. Through it all, Makeda can't help but wonder: <i>What would it feel like to grow up with a family that looks like me?</i> Through singing, dreaming, and writing secret messages back and forth with Lena, Makeda might just carve a small place for herself in the world. <i>For Black Girls Like Me</i> is for anyone who has ever asked themselves: How do you figure out where you are going if you don't know where you came from?</p>				
<p>Piecing Me Together: Jade believes she must get out of her neighborhood if she's ever going to succeed. Her mother says she has to take every opportunity. She has. She accepted a scholarship to a mostly-white private school and even Saturday morning test prep opportunities. But some opportunities feel more demeaning than helpful. Like an invitation to join Women to Women, a mentorship program for "at-risk" girls. Except really, it's for black girls. From "bad" neighborhoods. But Jade doesn't need support. And just because her mentor is black doesn't mean she understands Jade. And maybe there are some things Jade could show these successful women about the real world and finding ways to make a real difference. Friendships, race, privilege, identity - this compelling and thoughtful story explores the issues young women face.</p>	Watson	YA	Fiction	CC
<p>Milos Museum: Milo is excited about her class trip to the museum. The docent leads them on a tour and afterward Milo has time to look around on her own. But something doesn't feel right, and Milo gradually realizes that the people from her community are missing from the museum. When her aunt urges her to find a solution, Milo takes matters into her own hands and opens her own museum!</p>	Elliott	1-2	Fiction	CC
<p>Bird: Young Mekhai, better known as Bird, loves to draw. With drawings, he can erase the things that don't turn out right. In real life, problems aren't so easily fixed. As Bird struggles to understand the death of his beloved grandfather and his older brother's drug addiction, he escapes into his art. Drawing is an outlet for Bird's emotions and imagination, and provides a path to making sense of his world. In time, with the help of his grandfather's friend, Bird finds his own special somethin' and wings to fly. Told with spare grace, <i>Bird</i> is a touching look at a young boy coping with real-life troubles. Readers will be heartened by Bird's quiet resilience, and moved by the healing power of putting pencil to paper.</p>	Elliott	K-2	Fiction	CC
<p>Chasing Space: In this inspiring memoir, adapted from the simultaneous version for adults, young readers will get to learn about Leland Melvin's remarkable life story, from being drafted by the Detroit Lions to bravely orbiting our planet in the International Space Station to writing songs with will.i.am, working with Serena Williams, and starring in top-rated television shows like <i>The Dog Whisperer</i>, <i>Top Chef</i>, and <i>Child Genius</i>. With do-it-yourself experiments in the back of the book and sixteen pages of striking full-color photographs, this is the perfect book to inspire young readers. When the former Detroit Lion's football career was cut short by an injury,</p>	Melvin	5-7	Nonfiction Memoir	CC

<p>Leland didn't waste time mourning his broken dream. Instead, he found a new one—something that was completely out of this world. He joined NASA, braved an injury that nearly left him permanently deaf, and still managed to muster the courage and resolve to travel to space on the shuttle <i>Atlantis</i> to help build the International Space Station. Leland's problem-solving methods and can-do attitude turned his impossible-seeming dream into reality. Leland's story introduces readers to the fascinating creative and scientific challenges he had to deal with in space and will encourage the next generation of can-do scientists to dare to follow their dreams.</p>				
<p><u>Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down:</u> It was February 1, 1960. They didn't need menus. Their order was simple. A doughnut and coffee, with cream on the side. 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. Andrea Davis Pinkney uses poetic, powerful prose to tell the story of these four young men, who followed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s words of peaceful protest and dared to sit at the "whites only" Woolworth's lunch counter. Brian Pinkney embraces a new artistic style, creating expressive paintings filled with emotion that mirror the hope, strength, and determination that fueled the dreams of not only these four young men, but also countless others.</p>	Pinkney	3-5	Nonfiction Historical	CC
<p><u>Bill Pickett: Rodeo Ridin' Cowboy:</u> The true sweat-and-dirt tale of the feisty cowboy-child who became the most famous black rodeo performer who ever lived. Includes a note about the history of the black West and a bibliography.</p>	Pinkney	PreK-3	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p><u>Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshall:</u> Vaunda Micheaux Nelson received the Coretta Scott King Award for her children's book <i>Almost to Freedom</i>. Here she 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.</p>	Pinkney	4-8	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p><u>Beneath a Meth Moon:</u> Laurel would do anything to turn back time - to tell her mother and grandmother not to stay home near the beach with a hurricane coming, to say no when her boyfriend, T-Boom, the co-captain of the basketball team, offers her that first hit of moon -the drug that makes her feel bigger than all she's lost, to have been there for her little brother and her best friend, Kaylee, when they needed her, instead of chasing the moon. But she can't. All she can do is move forward now. And only she can decide whether to face the pain and joy that is a part of living, or follow the moon to numbness and probably death. Only she can decide to choose to be there for her family and friends - or give them another thing to grieve. Kaylee says, "Write an elegy to the past... and move on." She says it's all about moving on....</p>	Woodson	8-YA	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>The Stars Beneath our Feet:</u> It's Christmas Eve in Harlem, but 12-year-old Lolly Rachpaul and his mom aren't celebrating.</p>	Moore	4-8	Fiction Realistic LGBTQ	CC

<p>They're still reeling from his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting just a few months earlier. Then Lolly's mother's girlfriend brings him a gift that will change everything: two enormous bags filled with Legos. Lolly's always loved Legos, and he prides himself on following the kit instructions exactly. Now, faced with a pile of building blocks and no instructions, Lolly must find his own way forward. His path isn't clear - and the pressure to join a "crew", as his brother did, is always there. When Lolly and his friend are beaten up and robbed, joining a crew almost seems like the safe choice. But building a fantastical Lego city at the community center provides Lolly with an escape - and an unexpected bridge back to the world. David Barclay Moore paints a powerful portrait of a boy teetering on the edge - of adolescence, of grief, of violence - and shows how Lolly's inventive spirit helps him build a life with firm foundations and open doors.</p>				
<p><u>Out of My Mind:</u> Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom - the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow. In this breakthrough story - reminiscent of <i>The Diving Bell and the Butterfly</i> - from multiple Coretta Scott King Award winner Sharon Draper, listeners will come to know a brilliant mind and a brave spirit who will change forever how they look at anyone with a disability.</p>	Draper	4-8	Realistic Fiction Disability	CC
<p><u>One Crazy Summer:</u> Eleven-year-old Delphine and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, travel to Oakland to meet their mother, Cecil, who abandoned their family years earlier. But even when Cecil gets them to her house, she shows no interest and seems to view them as nothing but a nuisance. Cecil's cold, unloving attitude leaves the girls wishing for the mother-daughter connection they've never had. But Cecil acts remarkably different after she sees her daughters at the Black Panther rally, where they recite a poem Cecil herself had written. At that point, Cecil's attitude toward her daughters begins a remarkable change.</p>	Williams-Garcia	4-8	Fiction Historical Realistic	CC
<p><u>From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun:</u> Melanin Sun has a lot to say. But sometimes it's hard to speak his mind, so he fills up notebooks with his thoughts instead. He writes about his mom a lot--they're about as close as they can be, because they have no other family. So when she suddenly tells him she's gay, his world is turned upside down. And if that weren't hard enough for him to accept, her girlfriend is white. Melanin Sun is angry and scared. How can his mom do this to him-- is this the end of their closeness? What will his friends think? And can he let her girlfriend be part of their family?</p>	Woodson	7-12	Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>Hurricane Child:</u> Caroline Murphy is a Hurricane Child. Being born during a hurricane is unlucky, and 12-year-old Caroline has had her share of bad luck lately. She's hated and bullied by everyone in her small school on St. Thomas of the US Virgin Islands, a spirit only she can see won't stop following her, and -- worst of all -- Caroline's mother left home one day and never came back. But when a new student named Kalinda arrives, Caroline's luck begins to turn around. Kalinda, a solemn girl from Barbados with a special smile for everyone, becomes Caroline's first and</p>	Callender	4-8	Science Fiction Fantasy LGBTQ	CC

<p>only friend -- and the person for whom Caroline has begun to develop a crush. Now, Caroline must find the strength to confront her feelings for Kalinda, brave the spirit stalking her through the islands, and face the reason her mother abandoned her. Together, Caroline and Kalinda must set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother -- before Caroline loses her forever.</p>				
<p><u>Odd One Out:</u> Courtney Cooper and Jupiter Sanchez (Coop & Jupe!) have been next-door neighbors and best friends since they were seven-years-old. She's his partner-in-crime and other half. But lately, Cooper can't ignore he might want something more than friendship from Jupiter. When Rae Chin moves to town she can't believe how lucky she is to find Coop and Jupe. Being the new kid is usually synonymous with pariah, but around these two, she finally feels like she belongs. She's so grateful she wants to kiss him...and her. Jupiter has always liked girls. But when Rae starts dating Cooper, Jupe realizes that the only girl she ever really imagined by his side was <i>her</i>. One story. Three sides. No easy answers.</p>	Stone	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>Let's Talk About Love:</u> Alice had her whole summer planned. Nonstop all-you-can-eat buffets while marathoning her favorite TV shows (best friends totally included) with the smallest dash of adulting—working at the library to pay her share of the rent. The only thing missing from her perfect plan? Her girlfriend (who ended things when Alice confessed she's asexual). Alice is done with dating—no thank you, do not pass go, stick a fork in her, done. But then Alice meets Takumi and she can't stop thinking about him or the rom com-grade romance feels she did not ask for (uncertainty, butterflies, and swoons, oh my!).</p>	Kann	8-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>The House You Pass on the Way:</u> Thirteen-year-old Staggerlee used to be called Evangeline, but she took on a fiercer name. She's always been different—set apart by the tragic deaths of her grandparents in an anti-civil rights bombing, by her parents' interracial marriage, and by her family's retreat from the world. This summer she has a new reason to feel set apart—her confused longing for her friend Hazel. When cousin Trout comes to stay, she gives Staggerlee a first glimpse of her possible future selves and the world beyond childhood.</p>	Woodson	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>The Root:</u> Erik, a former teen star living in San Francisco, thought his life was complicated; having his ex-boyfriend in jail because of the scandal that destroyed his career seemed overwhelming. Then Erik learned he was Blooded: descended from the Gods. Struggling with a power he doesn't understand and can barely control, Erik discovers that a secret government agency is selling off Blooded like lab rats to a rival branch of preternatural beings in 'Zebub—San Francisco's mirror city in an alternate dimension. Lil, a timid apprentice in 'Zebub, is searching for answers to her parents' sudden and mysterious deaths. Surrounded by those who wish her harm and view her as a lesser being, Lil delves into a forgotten history that those in power will go to dangerous lengths to keep buried. What neither Erik nor Lil realize is that a darkness is coming, something none have faced in living memory. It eats. It hunts. And it knows them. In <i>The Root</i>, the dark and surging urban fantasy debut from Na'amen Tilahun, two worlds must come together if even a remnant of one is to survive.</p>	Tilahun	7-YA	Science Fiction Fantasy LGBTQ	CC

<p><u>The Stars and the Blackness Between Them:</u> Trinidad. Sixteen-year-old Audre is despondent, having just found out she's going to be sent to live in America with her father because her strictly religious mother caught her with her secret girlfriend, the pastor's daughter. Audre's grandmother Queenie (a former dancer who drives a white convertible Cadillac and who has a few secrets of her own) tries to reassure her granddaughter that she won't lose her roots, not even in some place called Minneapolis. "America have dey spirits too, believe me," she tells Audre. Minneapolis. Sixteen-year-old Mabel is lying on her bed, staring at the ceiling and trying to figure out why she feels the way she feels--about her ex Terrell, about her girl Jada and that moment they had in the woods, and about the vague feeling of illness that's plagued her all summer. Mabel's reverie is cut short when her father announces that his best friend and his just-arrived-from-Trinidad daughter are coming for dinner. Mabel quickly falls hard for Audre and is determined to take care of her as she tries to navigate an American high school. But their romance takes a turn when test results reveal exactly why Mabel has been feeling low-key sick all summer and suddenly it's Audre who is caring for Mabel as she faces a deeply uncertain future.</p>	<p>Petrus</p>	<p>7-YA</p>	<p>Science Fiction Fantasy LGBTQ</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>Men of the House: A B-Boy Blues Novel:</u> Things are definitely "jood" (better than good) for 15-year-old Raheim Errol Rivers, III. A senior at Brooklyn Technical High School, he's on track to become salutatorian of his graduating class. He's juggling early admissions offers from Yale, Harvard, and MIT. He's dating an "older woman": 19-year-old New York University sophomore Maxine "Max" Edgewood. But the chocolate icing on his yellow layer cake is his father, Raheim Errol Rivers, Jr., and godfather, Mitchell Crawford, reuniting after four years. Errol is ecstatic when Raheim moves back in with he, Mitchell, and Mitchell's five-year-old daughter, Destiny. But he soon discovers that making room for another Rivers man in their home is easier said than done.</p>	<p>Hardy</p>	<p>7-YA</p>	<p>Realistic Fiction LGBTQ</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>Brown Girl Dreaming:</u> Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.</p>	<p>Woodson</p>	<p>4-8</p>	<p>Nonfiction Biography Poetry</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>Trombone Shorty:</u> Hailing from the Tremé neighborhood in New Orleans, Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews got his nickname by wielding a trombone twice as long as he was high. A prodigy, he was leading his own band by age six, and today this Grammy-nominated artist headlines the legendary New Orleans Jazz Fest. Along with esteemed illustrator Bryan Collier, Andrews has created a lively picture book autobiography about how he followed his dream of becoming a musician, despite the odds, until he reached international stardom. <i>Trombone Shorty</i> is a celebration of the rich cultural history of New Orleans and the power of music.</p>	<p>Andrews</p>	<p>1-5</p>	<p>Nonfiction Biography</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>My Nana and Me:</u> A joyful story celebrating the love between a granddaughter and her grandmother.</p>	<p>Smalls</p>	<p>PreK-3</p>	<p>Fiction</p>	<p>CC</p>

<p>This delightful picture books follows a young girl and her grandmother through a day of tea parties, dancing, hide and seek, pat-a-cake, bath time, story time, and bedtime. At the end of the story the little girl discovers why she is so extra special. Irene Smalls' rhythmic, upbeat text and Cathy Ann Johnson's lush artwork make My Nana and Me the perfect book to share. My Nana and Me is a great opportunity for fabulous hat dress up tea parties, etiquette lessons and a bedtime read aloud.</p>				
<p><u>The Jumbies:</u> Corinne La Mer claims she isn't afraid of anything. Not scorpions, not the boys who tease her, and certainly not jumbies. They're just tricksters made up by parents to frighten their children. Then one night Corinne chases an agouti all the way into the forbidden forest, and shining yellow eyes follow her to the edge of the trees. They couldn't belong to a jumbie. Or could they? When Corinne spots a beautiful stranger at the market the very next day, she knows something extraordinary is about to happen. When this same beauty, called Severine, turns up at Corinne's house, danger is in the air. Severine plans to claim the entire island for the jumbies. Corinne must call on her courage and her friends and learn to use ancient magic she didn't know she possessed to stop Severine and to save her island home.</p>	Baptiste	4-8	Fairytale Horror Folklore	Author's culture does not reflect the culture of the book. She is African American. Character is Latinx.
<p><u>Rise of the Jumbies:</u> Corinne LaMer defeated the wicked jumbie Severine months ago, but things haven't exactly gone back to normal in her Caribbean island home. Everyone knows Corinne is half-jumbie, and many of her neighbors treat her with mistrust. When local children begin to go missing, snatched from the beach and vanishing into wells, suspicious eyes turn to Corinne. To rescue the missing children and clear her own name, Corinne goes deep into the ocean to find Mama D'Leau, the dangerous jumbie who rules the sea. But Mama D'Leau's help comes with a price. Corinne and her friends Dru, Bouki, and Malik must travel with mermaids across the ocean to fetch a powerful object for Mama D'Leau. The only thing more perilous than Corinne's adventures across the sea is the jumbie that waits for her back home.</p>	Baptiste	3-7	Science Fiction Fantasy	CC
<p><u>Dear Black Boy: It's OK to Cry</u> Author Ebony Lewis hopes that Dear Black Boy: It's Ok to Cry will serve as a part of the necessary conversations around the world about mental health, especially when it comes to the African American community. She wrote this book not just for boys, but for parents, community leaders, youth, everyone from all backgrounds to find the strength and courage to feel comfortable embracing emotions and seeking help when needed.</p>	Lewis	PreK-5	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Garvey's Choice:</u> Garvey is often teased at school for his weight, while his father's disapproval weighs heavily on him at home. "Why can't Garvey be / like his sister?' I heard Dad / ask when I was eight. Mom said, / 'That's the wrong question. / Ask Garvey what interests him.'" Unlike his sister, Garvey could not care less about sports. But he loves to read, especially science fiction. He also loves music, and often hums, or sings alone at home, but has never considered trying out for middle school Chorus. It's his best—and only—friend Joe who encourages him to do so. In Chorus, Garvey finds acceptance, and a second friend, Manny. Garvey shines when he sings, and it's no surprise that his mom and sister are proud of him. But Garvey discovers singing is a source of surprising pride for a dad who, he learns, once sang in a band. A quietly triumphant novel told through Japanese Tanka poems (explained in an author's note) follows an African American boy gaining confidence and finding connection doing something he loves.</p>	Grimes	4-8	Poetry Realistic Fiction	CC

<p><u>Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman:</u> Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman was always being told what she could & couldn't do. In an era when Jim Crow laws and segregation were a way of life, it was not easy to survive. Bessie didn't let that stop her. Although she was only 11 when the Wright brothers took their historic flight, she vowed to become the first African -American female pilot. Her sturdy faith and determination helped her overcome obstacles of poverty, racism, and gender discrimination. Innovatively told through a series of monologues.</p>	Grimes	1-8	Biography Nonfiction Poetry	CC
<p><u>Beautiful Black Bird</u> Of all of the birds in the forest, Blackbird was considered the most beautiful. All of the other birds envied his beautiful black feathers, despite their own bright colors. Even though Blackbird assures them it's what they have on the inside that makes them beautiful, they eventually convince him to stir a "blackening brew." He uses this to paint specks and stripes and spots of black on their feathers. Ashley Bryan's rhythmic prose and stunning, vibrant cut-paper collages retell this Zambian folk tale that celebrates the beauty of all creatures both outside and in.</p>	Bryan	PreK-5	Fairy Tales Folklore Fiction	CC
<p><u>What Color is My World?: The Lost History of African-American Inventors</u> Did you know that James West invented the microphone in your cell phone? That Fred Jones invented the refrigerated truck that makes supermarkets possible? Or that Dr. Percy Julian synthesized cortisone from soy, easing untold people's pain? These are just some of the black inventors and innovators scoring big points in this dynamic look at several unsung heroes who shared a desire to improve people's lives. Offering profiles with fast facts on flaps and framed by a funny contemporary story featuring two feisty twins, here is a nod to the minds behind the gamma electric cell and the ice-cream scoop, improvements to traffic lights, open-heart surgery, and more — inventors whose ingenuity and perseverance against great odds made our world safer, better, and brighter.</p>	Jabar	4-8	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Letters to a Young Brother: Manifest Your Destiny</u> Bombarded with messages from music and the media, Harper set out to dispel the stereotypical image of success that young people receive today and instead emphasizes alternative views of what it truly means to be a successful male, such as educational and community achievements and self-respect. Intended to provide this frequently regarded "lost generation" of young men with words of encouragement and guidance, Harper's deep-rooted passion regarding the plight of today's youth drove him to write this book, sure to change the lives of readers for years to come.</p>	Harper	7-YA	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Letters to a Young Sister: DeFINE Your Destiny</u> * Does life sometimes seem so much harder for girls? * Do you ever feel insecure, pressured, or confused? * Do you wish you had someone to give you honest advice on topics like boys, school, family, and pursuing your dreams? * Do you want to make a positive impact on the world, but don't even know how to begin? In the follow-up to his award winning national bestseller, <i>Letters to a Young Brother</i>, actor and star of CSI: NY shares powerful wisdom for young women everywhere, drawing on the courageous advice of the female role models who transformed his life.</p>	Harper	7-YA	Nonfiction	CC

<p><i>Letters to a Young Sister</i> unfolds as a series of letters written by older brother Hill to a universal young sister. She's up against the same challenges as every young woman: from relating to her parents and dealing with peer pressure, to juggling schoolwork and crushes and keeping faith in the face of heartache. Hill offers guidance, encouragement, personal stories, and asks his female friends to help answer some truly tough questions. Every young sister needs to know that it's okay to dream big and to deFINE her own destiny. This is a book that will educate, uplift and inspire.</p>				
<p>March: Book 1 Congressman John Lewis (GA-5) is an American icon, one of the key figures of the civil rights movement. His commitment to justice and nonviolence has taken him from an Alabama sharecropper's farm to the halls of Congress, from a segregated schoolroom to the 1963 March on Washington, and from receiving beatings from state troopers to receiving the Medal of Freedom from the first African-American president. <i>March</i> is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement. Book One spans John Lewis' youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., the birth of the Nashville Student Movement, and their battle to tear down segregation through nonviolent lunch counter sit-ins, building to a stunning climax on the steps of City Hall.</p>	Lewis	4-12	Nonfiction	CC
<p>March: Book 2 The second volume of this graphic novel memoir trilogy follows U.S. Congressman John Lewis's activism and leadership in the Civil Rights Movement in the early 1960s. Beaten, jailed, but steadfast and further politicized and energized during the Freedom Rides, he emerged into a leadership role in the Student Nonviolent Coordinator Committee (SNCC) as protests heated up in Birmingham early in 1963. It was in his SNCC role that he was involved in planning the March on Washington that year and to speak at the event, only to be asked to make last-minute changes to lines in his speech questioned as too divisive and critical. The direct, powerful conversational narrative is paired with dramatic black-and-white panel art and occasional full-page illustrations, and includes Lewis's account of other key figures and their role in the sweeping social change taking place. Like <i>March: Book One</i>, President Obama's 2008 inauguration provides a framing device in a volume that ends, tragically and poignantly, with the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham that killed four girls in September, 1963. The original draft of Lewis's March on Washington speech is included in the end matter.</p>	Lewis	4-12	Nonfiction	CC
<p>March: Book 3 By Fall 1963, the Civil Rights Movement is an undeniable keystone of the national conversation, and as chair of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, John Lewis is right in the thick of it. With the stakes continuing to rise, white supremacists intensify their opposition through government obstruction and civilian terrorist attacks, a supportive president is assassinated, and African-Americans across the South are still blatantly prohibited from voting. To carry out their nonviolent revolution, Lewis and an army of young activists launch a series of innovative projects, including the Freedom Vote, Mississippi Freedom Summer, and a pitched battle for the soul of the Democratic Party waged live on national television. But strategic disputes are deepening within the movement, even as 25-year-old John Lewis heads</p>	Lewis	4-12	Nonfiction	CC

to Alabama to risk everything in a historic showdown that will shock the world.				
<p>The Undeclared:</p> <p>"This is for the unforgettable. The swift and sweet ones who hurdled history and opened a world of possible. The ones who survived American by any means necessary." This is for those with "undeniable" strength, unforgettable achievements, "unflappable" courage. This is for "unspeakable" pain that was endured. Kwame Alexander's powerful ode, a celebration of African American survival, achievement, creativity, and resilience, is brimming with references to historical and contemporary people and cultural touchstones and incorporates direct quotes that speak to past ("we shall not be moved") and present ("black lives matter"). Events and individuals are further illuminated in Kadir Nelson's stirring oil-on-panel artwork that expands the emotional resonance of the arresting poem that is also a celebration of the promise of every Black youth today: "This is for you. And you. And you. This is for us." An author's note is followed by brief information about each of the individuals and events referenced in the narrative and artwork.</p>	Alexander	1-5	Nonfiction Poetry	CC
<p>Before She was Harriet</p> <p>A journey backward in time through the life of the woman known most often as "Harriet Tubman" emphasizes the many roles she played—suffragist, Union spy, nurse, conductor on the Underground Railroad, daughter—the many names by which she was known—General Tubman, Aunt Harriet, Moses, Minty, Araminta—and the name she chose for herself, Harriet. She "dreamed of living long enough / to one day / be old / stiff and achy / tired and worn and wrinkled / and free." The skillful narrative's imaginative and effective structure, in which Tubman's life unspools from old woman back to childhood, allows the child audience to build on prior knowledge and emphasizes Harriet's agency throughout her life. The many facets of Tubman's life and the many roles she played are vividly portrayed in the full-page paintings that provide a rich backdrop for the fine narrative.</p>	Cline-Ransome	K-3	Biography Nonfiction	CC
Asian/Pacific American Culture:				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Fiction or Nonfiction	<u>Culturally Conscious or Need to Disrupt</u>
<p>Landed:</p> <p>Sun is ready to leave his village in China for America, the place known as Gum Saan, Gold Mountain. His father warns him, though, that passage will not be easy. Because of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, new immigrants like Sun are detained at Angel Island until they are called to take a difficult oral exam before they can "land" – leave Angel Island and go ashore. On the boat, Sun had studied maps of his village and memorized facts about his ancestors. But as the weeks pass in detention, the map's compass points swirl in his memory, and Sun worries that he will lose his direction and be turned away. The oil paintings are rich with historical details in this vivid recounting, based on the author's father-in-law's experiences, of a disturbing chapter in Chinese American history.</p>	Lee	PreK-5	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p>Bringing in the New Year:</p>	Lin	PrK-5	Board book	CC

<p>In a brightly colored board book, perfect for the youngest child, Newbery Honoree Grace Lin tells the tale of a Chinese American family as they prepare for the Lunar New Year. Each family member lends a hand as they sweep out the dust of the old year, hang decorations, and make dumplings. Then it's time to celebrate. There will be fireworks and lion dancers, shining lanterns, and a great, long dragon parade at the end! Lin's bold and gloriously patterned artwork makes for an unforgettable holiday tale. Her story is simple and tailor-made for reading aloud to young children, and she includes an informative author's note for parents, teachers and children who want to learn even more.</p>				
<p><u>The Great Wall of Lucy Wu:</u> Lucy Wu, aspiring basketball star and interior designer, is on the verge of having the best year of her life. She's ready to rule the school as a sixth grader, go out for captain of the school basketball team, and take over the bedroom she has always shared with her sister. In an instant, though, her plans are shattered when she finds out that Yi Po, her beloved grandmother's sister, is coming to visit for several months -- and is staying in Lucy's room.</p>	Wan-Long Shang	4-8	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Coolies:</u> When Shek and little Wong journey to America in 1865, they have work! Along with hundreds of other Chinese, the brothers are going to help build a great railroad across the West. But as days grow into months, Shek and Wong endure more than they could have imagined--bleeding hands, blasting dynamite, and treacherous avalanches. For very little pay. Are they being treated this way because of their almond-shaped eyes--because they are coolies? Inspired by actual events in the history of the American railroad, Coolies reveals the harsh truth about life for thousands of Chinese laborers, while it celebrates the love and loyalty between two brothers who were determined not only to survive, but to succeed.</p>	Yin	PreK-5	Fiction Historical	CC
<p><u>Mountain Chef: How One Man Lost His Groceries, Changed His Plans, and Helped Cook Up the National Park:</u> The true story of a Chinese American mountain man who fed thirty people for ten days in the wilderness--and helped inspire the creation of the National Park Service. Tie Sing was born in the mountains. The mountains were in his blood. But because he was of Chinese descent at a time in America when to be Chinese meant working in restaurants or laundries, Tie Sing's prospects were limited. But he had bigger plans. He began cooking for mapmakers and soon built a reputation as the best trail cook in California. When millionaire Stephen Mather began his quest to create a national park service in 1915, he invited a group of influential men--writers, tycoons, members of Congress, and even a movie star--to go camping in the Sierras. Tie Sing was hired to cook. Tie Sing planned diligently. He understood the importance of this trip. But when disaster struck--twice!--and Tie Sing's supplies were lost, it was his creative spirit and quick mind that saved the day. His sumptuous menus had to be struck and Tie Sing had to start over in order to feed the thirty people in the group for ten whole days. His skills were tested and Tie Sing rose to the challenge. On the last night, he fed not just the campers' bodies, but also their minds, reminding them to remember and protect the mountains. 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, created by Congress on August 25, 1916. Today, you can hike to Sing Peak, named for Tie Sing, in Yosemite National Park.</p>	Pimentel	1-5	Nonfiction Biography	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but conducted research at the Bancroft Library
<p><u>Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean: Remembering Chinese Scientist Phu</u></p>	Schmalzer	3-5	Nonfiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book

<p><u>Zhelong's Work for Sustainable Farming:</u> A fictional narrator recounts real-life scientist Pu Zhelong's pest-control efforts with Chinese farmers in the province of Guangdong. Known in the 1960s and 1970s for their lychees and rice, village farmers struggled to eradicate the stinkbugs and leafroller moths that wreaked havoc on their crops. When they began using chemical pesticides, the problem seemed to be solved—until the pests returned even stronger the next year, forcing the farmers to up their pesticide use in what quickly became an increasingly poisonous and futile cycle. Pu Zhelong, who lived in the city of Guangzhou and had studied in the United States, traveled to the village to help the farmers implement a natural form of pest control: wasps that lay their eggs inside moth eggs, destroying the moth larvae before they have a chance to hatch. Cooperation between the initially reluctant village farmers and Pu Zhelong represents the merging of the concepts of soil ("local, rural, humble, and Chinese") and ocean ("foreign, modern, elite, and Western"), with the goal of achieving environmentally sustainable—and effective—pest control.</p>			Biography	but lived in China and holds a doctorate in Modern Chinese history
<p><u>American Born Chinese:</u> Jin Wang starts at a new school where he's the only Chinese-American student. When a boy from Taiwan joins his class, Jin doesn't want to be associated with an FOB like him. Jin just wants to be an all-American boy, because he's in love with an all-American girl. Danny is an all-American boy: great at basketball, popular with the girls. But his obnoxious Chinese cousin Chin-Kee's annual visit is such a disaster that it ruins Danny's reputation at school, leaving him with no choice but to transfer somewhere he can start all over again. The Monkey King has lived for thousands of years and mastered the arts of kung fu and the heavenly disciplines. He's ready to join the ranks of the immortal gods in heaven. But there's no place in heaven for a monkey. Each of these characters cannot help himself alone, but how can they possibly help each other? They're going to have to find a way—if they want fix the disasters their lives have become.</p>	Yang	7-YA	Fiction Graphic Novel	CC
<p><u>Front Desk:</u> Mia Tang has a lot of secrets. Number one: She lives in a motel, not a big house. Every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, 10-year-old Mia manages the front desk of the Calivista Motel and tends to its guests. Number two: Her parents hide immigrants. And if the mean motel owner, Mr. Yao, finds out they've been letting them stay in the empty rooms for free, the Tangs will be doomed. Number three: She wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language? It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams?</p>	Yang	4-8	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Escape to Gold Mountain: A Graphic History of the Chinese in North America:</u> This is a vivid graphic history of the Chinese experience in North America over the last 150 years, beginning with the immigration of Chinese to "Gold Mountain" (the Chinese colloquialism for North America) in the 1800s that resulted in decades of discrimination, subjugation, and separation from loved ones. Based on historical documents and interviews with elders, the book is also the epic story of the Wong family as they traverse these challenges with hope and determination, creating an immigrant's legacy in their new home of</p>	Wong	7-YA	Fiction Historical Graphic Novel	CC

North America.				
<p><u>Drawn Together:</u> When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens-with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words. With spare, direct text by Minh Lê and luminous illustrations by Caldecott Medalist Dan Santat, this stirring picture book about reaching across barriers will be cherished for years to come.</p>	Le	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Shadow Hero:</u> In the comics boom of the 1940s, a legend was born: the Green Turtle. He solved crimes and fought injustice just like the other comics characters. But this mysterious masked crusader was hiding something more than your run-of-the-mill secret identity... The Green Turtle was the first Asian American super hero. The comic had a short run before lapsing into obscurity, but Gene Luen Yang, the acclaimed author of <i>American Born Chinese</i>, and Sonny Liew, the author of the <i>New York Times</i>-bestseller <i>The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye</i>, have finally revived this character in <i>Shadow Hero</i>, a new graphic novel that creates an origin story for the Green Turtle. This gorgeous, funny comics adventure for teens is a new spin on the long, rich tradition of American comics lore.</p>	Yang	7-YA	Fiction: Adventure Graphic Novel Fantasy Science	CC
<p><u>A Different Pond:</u> A 2018 Caldecott Honor Book that Kirkus Reviews calls "a must-read for our times," A Different Pond is an unforgettable story about a simple event - a long-ago fishing trip. Graphic novelist Thi Bui and acclaimed poet Bao Phi deliver a powerful, honest glimpse into a relationship between father and son - and between cultures, old and new. As a young boy, Bao and his father awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. A successful catch meant a fed family. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam. Thi Bui's striking, evocative art paired with Phi's expertly crafted prose has earned this powerful picture books six starred reviews and numerous awards.</p>	Phi	K-4	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Love from A to Z:</u> A marvel: something you find amazing. Even ordinary-amazing. Like potatoes - because they make French fries happen. Like the perfect fries Adam and his mom used to make together. An oddity: whatever gives you pause. Like the fact there are hateful people in the world. Like Zayneb's teacher, who won't stop reminding the class how "bad" Muslims are. But Zayneb, the only Muslim in class, isn't bad. She's <i>angry</i>. When she gets suspended for confronting her teacher and he begins investigating her activist friends, Zayneb heads to her aunt's house in Doha, Qatar, for an early start to spring break. Fueled by the guilt of getting her friends in trouble, she resolves to try out a newer, "nicer" version of herself in a place where no one knows her. Then her path crosses with Adam's. Since he got diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in November, Adam's stopped going to classes, intent, instead, on perfecting the making of things. Intent on keeping the memory of his mom alive for his little sister. Adam's also intent on keeping his diagnosis a secret from his grieving father. Alone, Adam and Zayneb are playing roles for others, keeping their real thoughts locked away in their journals. Until a marvel <i>and</i> an oddity occurs....Marvel: Adam and Zayneb meeting. Oddity: Adam and Zayneb meeting.</p>	Ali	YA	Fiction Realistic Humor Disability	CC

<p><u>Amina's Voice:</u> A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community in this sweet and moving middle-grade novel from the award-winning author of <i>It's Ramadan</i>, <i>Curious George</i> and <i>Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns</i>. Amina has never been comfortable in the spotlight. She is happy just hanging out with her best friend, Soojin. Except now that she's in middle school everything feels different. Soojin is suddenly hanging out with Emily, one of the "cool" girls in the class, and even talking about changing her name to something more "American." Does Amina need to start changing too? Or hiding who she is to fit in? While Amina grapples with these questions, she is devastated when her local mosque is vandalized. <i>Amina's Voice</i> brings to life the joys and challenges of a young Pakistani American and highlights the many ways in which one girl's voice can help bring a diverse community together to love and support each other.</p>	Khan	4-8	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Nanni's Hijab:</u> Nanni's Hijab is the story of Nanni, a little girl who loves wearing her hijab. She wears a different hijab every day. Her classmates enjoy seeing all the colors and designs of Nanni's hijabs, except Leslie. Leslie doesn't like Nanni or her hijabs. She tries to bully Nanni for wearing her hijabs to school. Leslie humiliates Nanni in the school yard in front of all their classmates by snatching Nanni's hijab off of her head. Nanni, not unlike any other Muslim girl, gets very upset with Leslie's bullying. In her heart, she wants to fight Leslie, but she knows there has to be a better way. Instead of fighting, she goes home to think about the best way to handle Leslie's bullying. Read about how she handles the situation.</p>	Abdul-Haaq	K-3	Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family</u> With her new backpack and light-up shoes, Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's the start of a brand new year and, best of all, it's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab--a hijab of beautiful blue fabric, like the ocean waving to the sky. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful, and in the face of hurtful, confusing words, Faizah will find new ways to be strong. Paired with Hatem Aly's beautiful, whimsical art, Olympic medalist Ibtihaj Muhammad and Morris Award finalist S.K. Ali bring readers an uplifting, universal story of new experiences, the unbreakable bond between siblings, and of being proud of who you are.</p>	Muhammad	PreK-2	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Inside Out & Back Again:</u> Written in rich, free-verse poems, this moving tale follows a young Vietnamese girl as she leaves her war-torn homeland for America in 1975. With Saigon about to fall to the communists, 10-year-old Hà, her mother, and brothers are forced to flee their beloved city and head to the United States. But living in a new country isn't easy for Hà, and she finds adapting to its strange customs ever challenging.</p>	Lai	4-8	Fiction Historical Poetry	CC
<p><u>The Thing About Luck:</u> Summer knows that <i>kouun</i> means <i>good luck</i> in Japanese, and this year her family has none of it. Just when she thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong, an emergency whisks her parents away to Japan - right before harvest season. Summer and her little brother, Jaz, are left in the care of their grandparents, who come out of retirement in order to harvest wheat and help pay the bills. The thing about Obaachan and Jiichan is that they are old-fashioned and demanding, and between helping Obaachan cook for the workers, covering for her when her back pain</p>	Kadohata	4-8	Fiction	CC

worsens, and worrying about her lonely little brother, Summer just barely has time to notice the attentions of their boss' cute son. But notice she does, and what begins as a welcome distraction from the hard work soon turns into a mess of its own. Having thoroughly disappointed her grandmother, Summer figures the bad luck must be finished - but then it gets worse. And when that happens, Summer has to figure out how to change it herself, even if it means further displeasing Obaachan. Because it might be the only way to save her family.				
<u>Kira-Kira</u> kira-kira (kee' ra kee' ra): glittering; shining Glittering. That's how Katie Takeshima's sister, Lynn, makes everything seem. The sky is kira-kira because its color is deep but see-through at the same time. The sea is kira-kira for the same reason. And so are people's eyes. When Katie and her family move from a Japanese community in Iowa to the Deep South of Georgia, it's Lynn who explains to her why people stop them on the street to stare. And it's Lynn who, with her special way of viewing the world, teaches Katie to look beyond tomorrow. But when Lynn becomes desperately ill, and the whole family begins to fall apart, it is up to Katie to find a way to remind them all that there is always something glittering, kira-kira, in the future.	Kadonaga	4-YA	Fiction Historical	CC
<u>Tea with Milk (Rise and Shine):</u> At home in San Francisco, May speaks Japanese and the family eats rice and miso soup and drinks green tea. When she visits her friends' homes, she eats fried chicken and spaghetti. May plans someday to go to college and live in an apartment of her own. But when her family moves back to Japan, she soon feels lost and homesick for America. In Japan everyone calls her by her Japanese name, Masako. She has to wear kimonos and sit on the floor. Poor May is sure that she will never feel at home in this country. Eventually May is expected to marry and a matchmaker is hired. Outraged at the thought, May sets out to find her own way in the big city of Osaka.	Say	PreK-3	Fiction	CC
<u>Darius the Great is Not Ok:</u> Darius is a self-described "fractional" Iranian; his mom from Iran, his dad a white "ubermensch." Darius loves tea and <i>Star Trek</i> with equal passion. Watching episodes of "The Next Generation" is one of the few ways he and his dad connect. Otherwise, he feels judged—for his lack of friends, for being overweight, for being so sensitive, for not standing up to bullies in high school. Although both he and his dad take medication for depression, they don't talk about it. When Darius's family travels to Iran to spend time with his grandparents, Darius makes his first good, true friend in Sohrab. Sohrab "doesn't have walls around his heart"—he is easy to talk to and openly affectionate. Because of Sohrab, Darius starts to see himself differently. And because of Sohrab, and his grandparents and extended family, and the places they visit in Iran, Darius also begins to understand the history and culture of the place and people that live in his mother's—and now his—heart. And because of his grief—over his grandfather's illness, over unexpected hurt—his dad bridges the distance between them, revealing love that's always been there. Darius is a funny and tender first-person narrator in a debut novel with terrifically drawn characters, richly depicted relationships, and full of warmth and hope. Darius is just beginning to consider his love for Sohrab may be more than friendship by story's end.	Khorram	7-9	Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<u>Picture Us in the Light:</u> Danny Cheng has always known his parents have secrets. But when he discovers a taped-up	Gilbert	7-YA	Realistic Fiction	CC

<p>box in his father's closet filled with old letters and a file on a powerful Silicon Valley family, he realizes there's much more to his family's past than he ever imagined. Danny has been an artist for as long as he can remember and it seems his path is set, with a scholarship to RISD and his family's blessing to pursue the career he's always dreamed of. Still, contemplating a future without his best friend, Harry Wong, by his side makes Danny feel a panic he can barely put into words. Harry and Danny's lives are deeply intertwined and as they approach the one-year anniversary of a tragedy that shook their friend group to its core, Danny can't stop asking himself if Harry is truly in love with his girlfriend, Regina Chan. When Danny digs deeper into his parents' past, he uncovers a secret that disturbs the foundations of his family history and the carefully constructed façade his parents have maintained begins to crumble. With everything he loves in danger of being stripped away, Danny must face the ghosts of the past in order to build a future that belongs to him.</p>			LGBTQ	
<p>When the Chant Comes: Kay Ulanday Barrett has been bringing his unique poetry to audiences for over a decade, unpicking vital political questions around race, sickness and disability and gender, and chronicling the everydayness of life in the U.S. Empire with humor, poignancy and inimitable vitality. Now at last a generous selection of his work will be available in print. Each of these poems is a brilliant little story. Taken together, they show a master craftsman at the top of his game.</p>	Barrett	7-YA	Poetry Disability LGBTQ	CC
<p>Noteworthy: It's the start of Jordan Sun's junior year at the Kensington-Blaine Boarding School for the Performing Arts. Unfortunately, she's an Alto 2, which—in the musical theatre world—is sort of like being a vulture in the wild: She has a spot in the ecosystem, but nobody's falling over themselves to express their appreciation. So it's no surprise when she gets shut out of the fall musical for the third year straight. But then the school gets a mass email: A spot has opened up in the Sharpshooters, Kensington's elite a cappella octet. Worshiped . . . revered . . . all male. Desperate to prove herself, Jordan auditions in her most convincing drag, and it turns out that Jordan Sun, Tenor 1, is exactly what the Sharps are looking for.</p>	Redgate	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p>It's Not Like It's a Secret: Sixteen-year-old Sana Kiyohara has too many secrets. Some are small, like how it bothers her when her friends don't invite her to parties. Some are big, like the fact that her father may be having an affair. And then there's the one that she can barely even admit to herself—the one about how she might have a crush on her best friend. When Sana and her family move to California, she begins to wonder if it's finally time for some honesty, especially after she meets Jamie Ramirez. Jamie is beautiful and smart and unlike anyone Sana's ever known. There are just a few problems: Sana's new friends don't trust Jamie's crowd; Jamie's friends clearly don't want her around anyway; and a sweet guy named Caleb seems to have more-than-friendly feelings for her. Meanwhile, her dad's affair is becoming too obvious to ignore. Sana always figured that the hardest thing would be to tell people that she wants to date a girl, but as she quickly learns, telling the truth is easy...what comes after it, though, is a whole lot more complicated.</p>	Sugiura	6-8	Fiction Poetry LGBTQ	CC
<p>The Boy and the Bindi: In this beautiful children's picture book by Vivek Shraya, author of the acclaimed <i>God Loves Hair</i>, a five-year-old South Asian boy becomes fascinated with his mother's bindi, the red dot</p>	Shraya Perera	PreK-5	Fiction LGBTQ	CC

commonly worn by Hindu women to indicate the point at which creation begins, and wishes to have one of his own. Rather than chastise her son, she agrees to it, and teaches him about its cultural significance, allowing the boy to discover the magic of the bindi, which in turn gives him permission to be more fully himself.				
<p><u>They Called Us Enemy:</u> A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love. In 1942, at the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten "relocation centers," hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard. <i>They Called Us Enemy</i> is Takei's firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the joys and terrors of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.</p>	Takei	7-YA	Nonfiction Biography Graphic Novel LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>Accidental Adventures of India McAllister</u> Fourth grade is a year of changes, challenges, and ordinary joys for India McAllister. She lives in Maine with her artist mom and their dog, Tofu. Her father lives in the next town over with his new partner, Richard and their bird, Beatrice Strawberry. India – named for the ink, not the subcontinent – was adopted from China as a baby. Being the only Chinese girl in her small town fuels India's search for identity. India reports in her own words and drawings about life, adventures (many with her good friend Colby) and all things annoying as well as what makes her happy. First three on the happy list: Tofu, Bird, and Colby!</p>	Agell	3-5	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but she has lived in Hong Kong
<p><u>The Best at It:</u> Rahul Kapoor is heading into seventh grade in a small town in Indiana. The start of middle school is making him feel increasingly anxious, so his favorite person in the whole world, his grandfather, Bhai, gives him some well-meaning advice: <i>Find one thing you're really good at and become the BEST at it.</i> Those four little words sear themselves into Rahul's brain. While he's not quite sure what that special thing is, he is convinced that once he finds it, bullies like Brent Mason will stop torturing him at school. And he won't be worried about staring too long at his classmate Justin Emery. With his best friend, Chelsea, by his side, Rahul is ready to crush this challenge.... But what if he discovers he isn't <i>the best</i> at anything? Funny, charming, and incredibly touching, this is a story about friendship, family, and the courage it takes to live your truth.</p>	Pancholy	4-8	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>My Footprints:</u> Every child feels different in some way, but Thuy feels "double different." She is Vietnamese American and she has two moms. Thuy walks home one winter afternoon, angry and lonely after a bully's taunts. Then a bird catches her attention and sets Thuy on an imaginary exploration. What if she could fly away like a bird? What if she could sprint like a deer, or roar like a bear? Mimicking the footprints of each creature in the snow, she makes her way home to the arms of her moms. Together, the three of them imagine beautiful and powerful creatures who always have courage - just like Thuy.</p>	Phi	PreK-4	Fiction LGBTQ	CC

<p><u>Home is Beyond the Mountains:</u> Samira is only nine years old when the Turkish army invades northwestern Persia in 1918, and she and her parents, brother and baby sister are driven from their tiny village. Taking only what they can carry, they flee into the mountains, but the journey is so difficult that only Samira and her older brother, Benyamin, survive. When Samira finally arrives in a refugee camp, it is her friendship with another orphan, Anna, that pulls her out of her sadness. And when the two girls are given a toddler named Elias to care for, they form a new kind of family. Over the years the children are shunted from one refugee camp to another, from Persia to Iraq and back again, and finally end up in an orphanage, where it seems that they will live out their childhood. Then a new orphanage director arrives -- Susan Shedd, a woman whose authority and energy Samira has never seen before. And Samira's respect turns to amazement when Miss Shedd decides that she will take the three hundred children back to their home villages to make new lives for themselves. It will be a journey of three hundred miles, through the mountains, and it will be made on foot.</p>	<p>Lottridge</p>	<p>4-8</p>	<p>Fiction but based on actual events</p>	<p>Author does not reflect the culture of the book but she receive a BA in Modern European History</p>
<p><u>Malala's Magic Pencil:</u> As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy, to erase the smell of garbage from her city, to sleep an extra hour in the morning. But as she grew older, Malala saw that there were more important things to wish for. She saw a world that needed fixing. And even if she never found a magic pencil, Malala realized that she could still work hard every day to make her wishes come true.</p>	<p>Yousafzai</p>	<p>PreK-3</p>	<p>Nonfiction Biography</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>Name Jar:</u> Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighborhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce it—<i>Yoon-Hee</i>.</p>	<p>Choi</p>	<p>PreK-5</p>	<p>Realistic Fiction</p>	<p>CC</p>
<p><u>I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up For Education and Changed the World:</u> The young reader's edition of Malala Yousafzai's memoir is more focused on her own life and work than the adult volume, which talks more about her father, who ran the school Malala attended in her home in Pakistan's SWAT Valley. Malala's voice is both wise and authentically young as she describes her childhood in a family where girls and education both were valued; and where her two younger brothers sometimes annoyed her as siblings do. Her growing passion for speaking out in support of girls' education was in part a direct response to the growing threat presented by conservative voices in Pakistan, including the Taliban, and both her parents were sources of inspiration — her father for his passion and commitment, her mother for her courage. Malala had been speaking out for five years before she was shot by the Taliban at age fifteen. She talks about the immediate aftermath of the shooting and what happened in the weeks and months that followed as her story became a source of both outrage and inspiration. She and her family now live in Birmingham, England, where she was</p>	<p>Yousafzai</p>	<p>4-YA</p>	<p>Biography Nonfiction</p>	<p>CC</p>

taken for care following the shooting, because it is unsafe for them to return home.				
<p><u>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up For Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</u></p> <p>"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday." When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. <i>I AM MALALA</i> is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. <i>I AM MALALA</i> will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.</p>	Yousafzai	7-YA	Biography Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Inside Out and Back Again:</u></p> <p>In South Vietnam in 1975, ten-year-old Ha lives with her mother and three older brothers. The violence of the Vietnam War reaches them in the midst of celebrating Tet—Vietnamese New Year. With Saigon falling, Ha's family makes it onto a transport ship. Their journey's ultimate end is the American Deep South: Alabama. Thanhha Lai's novel chronicles Ha's family's flight and adaptation to their new life in poems full of insight and sharp humor. For Ha, it's not just language and food and culture that are foreign, it's the faces and attitudes around her and the feelings she has about herself. While some people in their new community are kind to Ha's Vietnamese family, others are not. When her new teacher tells the class to clap when Ha counts to twenty in English, Ha is "furious / unable to explain / I already learned / fractions / and how to purify / river water. / So this is / what dumb / feels like. / I hate, hate, hate it." Ha's struggle with esteem, and the profound sense of longing in the story for what has been left behind, is balanced by the sense of looking forward to a future of hope as the strange new place begins to feel like home. Lai's writing vividly conveys characters, scenes, and emotions in this compelling debut.</p>	Lai	4-8	Historical Fiction Poetry	CC
<p><u>Front Desk:</u></p> <p>Nine-year-old Mia Tang's immigrant Chinese parents manage the Calivista Motel in Anaheim. Because the job comes with a room to live in, and because their family has been homeless on and off since coming to the United States, Mia's parents won't complain to Mr. Yao, the owner, about his unfair labor practices. Outgoing Mia likes helping out at the front desk. She checks short-term guests in and becomes friends with the "regulars," customers who live there, while unofficial guests—Chinese immigrants her parents occasionally let stay for free when Mr. Yao isn't around—give her an even deeper understanding of how immigrant workers can be threatened and exploited. Mia's English is more proficient than her parents, although, her mom cautions, not good enough to be a writer, Mia's dream. It's a remark made out of the concern that Mia be realistic, but it cuts deep, undermining Mia's confidence. Mia is a natural optimist, however. She's also precocious and determined, whether entering an essay contest to win a hotel in Vermont, fighting back against racism faced by an African American resident, or pulling off an incredible organizational coup. The results of her efforts are not only satisfying,</p>	Yang	4-8	Realistic Fiction	CC

but firmly grounded in this upbeat, engaging novel's realm of possibility.				
<p>Stargazing: Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic . . . and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. But after Moon moves in next door, these unlikely friends are soon <i>best</i> friends, sharing their favorite music videos and painting their toenails when Christine's strict parents aren't around. Moon even tells Christine her deepest secret: that she has visions, sometimes, of celestial beings who speak to her from the stars. Who reassure her that earth isn't where she <i>really</i> belongs. Moon's visions have an all-too-earthly root, however, and soon Christine's best friend is in the hospital, fighting for her life. Can Christine be the friend Moon needs, now, when the sky is falling? Jen Wang draws on her childhood to paint a deeply personal yet wholly relatable friendship story that's at turns joyful, heart-wrenching, and full of hope.</p>	Wang	4-8	Graphic Novel Realistic Fiction	CC
<p>Grandfather Counts Helen has to adjust to changes in her household when Gong Gong, her grandfather from China, comes to live with her family. Gong Gong can't speak any English, nor can Helen speak Chinese. So it's difficult for them to communicate. Worse, she has had to give up her back bedroom, so she can no longer watch the passing trains from her window. But Helen soon learns that Gong Gong is also a train watcher, and the two find they can enjoy counting the cars together, in both English and Chinese. Several Chinese words, including the numbers one to eight, are naturally incorporated into this moving story of a bicultural, biracial family.</p>	Cheng	1-5	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p>Crouching Tiger: A young boy is excited to learn <i>tai chi</i> when his grandpa, who's visiting from China, explains it's a martial art. But at the first lesson, all his grandpa tells him to do is stand with his arms out. This is the first of a string of disappointments that leave the boy feeling resentful, not to mention embarrassed: His grandpa insists on calling him Ming Da, his Chinese name, rather than Vinson, his American name. Things turn around with the arrival of Chinese New Year. His grandpa has been training the lion dancers, and now he has a role for Ming Da—one that all that standing with arms out has prepared him for! Ying Chang Compestine's beautifully nuanced story is perfectly paired with Yan Nascimbene's wonderfully composed pen-and-ink and watercolor illustrations. The art offers a great range of perspectives and many details to notice, while reflecting both the grandfather's serenity and the excitement of the New Year festival.</p>	Chang Campestine	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<p>The Story of Divaali: The Story of Divaali is a wonderful rendition of the "Ramayana," an age-old Hindu epic filled with magic, miracles and adventure. The compelling story tells of a young prince Rama who overcomes Ravana the Demon King. Out of his triumph, Divaali, the Indian festival of lights, is born. The powerful narrative is perfectly complemented by the jewel-like illustrations of Nilesh Mistry. Drawing on the versions told to him in childhood by his parents, Jatinder Verma brings the essence of this great Indian epic to life for a new generation.</p>	Valmiki	1-5	Fairytale Folklore Nonfiction Holiday	CC
<p>Baseball Saved Us: The treatment of Japanese-Americans during World War II is the subject of this remarkable</p>	Mochizuki	1-8	Historical Fiction	CC

<p>first picture book. "Shorty," a young Japanese-American boy, has a hard time understanding why he and his family had to move out of their house and into a camp in the desert. "We weren't in a camp that was fun, like summer camp. Ours was in the middle of nowhere, and we were behind a barbed-wire fence. Soldiers with guns made sure we stayed there..." Everything at camp is different - and more difficult - than life back home: there are dust storms, the buildings have no privacy (even for going to the bathroom) and there is nothing for anyone to do. The day the Shorty's dad decides they need a baseball diamond marks a turning point in camp life as, first building the field and later competing in the games themselves, adults and children finally have something to hope and work for. Shorty, who has never been good at baseball, practices hard and eventually makes a game-winning hit in the camp championship. "But it wasn't as if everything was all fixed." Returning home after the war, he finds that he still must persevere against prejudice and his own fears to succeed. The straightforward narrative movingly captures a young boy's bewilderment over events which make no logical sense to adults, let alone to children. Sepia-toned color illustrations by Lee evoke a sense of a past that is washed in sadness.</p>			Sports	
<p><u>A Different mirror for Young People: A History of Multicultural America</u> Upon its first publication, <i>A Different Mirror</i> was hailed by critics and academics everywhere as a dramatic new retelling of our nation's past. Beginning with the colonization of the New World, it recounted the history of America in the voice of the non-Anglo peoples of the United States--Native Americans, African Americans, Jews, Irish Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, and others--groups who helped create this country's rich mosaic culture. Now, Ronald Takaki has revised his landmark work and made it even more relevant and important. Among the new additions to the book are: --The role of black soldiers in preserving the Union --The history of Chinese Americans from 1900-1941 --An investigation into the hot-button issue of "illegal" immigrants from Mexico --A look at the sudden visibility of Muslim refugees from Afghanistan. This new edition of <i>A Different Mirror</i> is a remarkable achievement that grapples with the raw truth of American history and examines the ultimate question of what it means to be an American.</p>	Takaki	4-12	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration During World War II and a Librarian Who Made a Difference:</u> In the early 1940's, Clara Breed was the children's librarian at the San Diego Public Library. But she was also friend to dozens of Japanese American children and teens when war broke out in December of 1941. The story of what happened to these American citizens is movingly told through letters that her young friends wrote to Miss Breed during their internment. This remarkable librarian and humanitarian served as a lifeline to these imprisoned young people, and was brave enough to speak out against a shameful chapter in American history.</p>	Oppenheim	4-12	Nonfiction Biography	Author is not Japanese--may need to disrupt text
<p><u>Growing Up Asian American:</u> Stories of childhood, adolescence and coming of age in America, from the 1800's to the 1900's -- by 32 Asian-American writers.</p>	Hong	7-12	Nonfiction	CC

<p><u>Vietnamerica:</u> A superb new graphic memoir in which an inspired artist/storyteller reveals the road that brought his family to where they are today: Vietnamerica GB Tran is a young Vietnamese American artist who grew up distant from (and largely indifferent to) his family's history. Born and raised in South Carolina as a son of immigrants, he knew that his parents had fled Vietnam during the fall of Saigon. But even as they struggled to adapt to life in America, they preferred to forget the past-and to focus on their children's future. It was only in his late twenties that GB began to learn their extraordinary story. When his last surviving grandparents die within months of each other, GB visits Vietnam for the first time and begins to learn the tragic history of his family, and of the homeland they left behind. In this family saga played out in the shadow of history, GB uncovers the root of his father's remoteness and why his mother had remained in an often fractious marriage; why his grandfather had abandoned his own family to fight for the Viet Cong; why his grandmother had had an affair with a French soldier. GB learns that his parents had taken harrowing flight from Saigon during the final hours of the war not because they thought America was better but because they were afraid of what would happen if they stayed. They entered America-a foreign land they couldn't even imagine-where family connections dissolved and shared history was lost within a span of a single generation. In telling his family's story, GB finds his own place in this saga of hardship and heroism. Vietnamerica is a visually stunning portrait of survival, escape, and reinvention-and of the gift of the American immigrants' dream, passed on to their children. Vietnamerica is an unforgettable story of family revelation and reconnection-and a new graphic-memoir classic.</p>	Tran	7-12	Nonfiction Biography Graphic Novel	CC
American Indian/Native/Indigenous Culture:				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Fiction or Nonfiction	Culturally Conscious or Need to Disrupt
<p><u>Thunder Boy Jr.</u> Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. Just because people call his dad Big Thunder doesn't mean he wants to be Little Thunder. He wants a name that celebrates something cool he's done, like Touch the Clouds, Not Afraid of Ten Thousand Teeth, or Full of Wonder. But just when Thunder Boy Jr. thinks all hope is lost, he and his dad pick the perfect name...a name that is sure to light up the sky.</p>	Alexie	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</u> Best-selling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.</p>	Alexie	7-YA	Fiction Realistic Humor Biography	CC
<p><u>Code Talker: The First and Only Memoir by One of the Original Navajo</u></p>	Nez	4-YA	Fiction	CC

<p><u>Code Talkers of WWII:</u> Chester Nez, the only surviving member of the original 29 Navajo code talkers, shares the fascinating inside story of his life and service during World War II.</p>			Historical	
<p><u>Crazy Horse's Vision:</u> Crazy Horse is among the best known Native American heroes. Yet many people do not know his boyhood name was Curly, inspired by his curly hair. Curly was a leader even as a young boy, taming wild horses and hunting powerful buffalo. But all his bravery could not prepare him for the trouble he and the other Lakota Indians would face with the white settlers. Wanting to help his people after a fierce battle that mortally wounded Chief Conquering Bear, Curly defied traditional custom and risked his own life by running away, up to the hills, to seek a vision. Renowned Abenaki author Joseph Bruchac tells a gripping and compelling story of how the dedicated young boy, Curly, grows into the brave warrior Crazy Horse. Sioux artist S.D. Nelson, with paintings inspired by the ledger book style of the Plains Indians, evokes the drama and tragedy of an important figure in American history.</p>	Bruchac	1-5	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p><u>The Marrow Thieves:</u> Humanity has nearly destroyed its world through global warming, but now an even greater evil lurks. The indigenous people of North America are being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow, which carries the key to recovering something the rest of the population has lost: the ability to dream. In this dark world, Frenchie and his companions struggle to survive as they make their way up north to the old lands. For now, survival means staying hidden—but what they don't know is that one of them holds the secret to defeating the marrow thieves.</p>	Demaline	7-YA	Fiction Fantasy Science	CC
<p><u>Killer of Enemies:</u> Years ago, seventeen-year-old Apache hunter Lozen and her family lived in a world of haves and have-nots. There were the Ones--people so augmented with technology and genetic enhancements that they were barely human--and there was everyone else who served them. Then the Cloud came, and everything changed. Tech stopped working. The world plunged back into a new steam age. The Ones' pets--genetically engineered monsters--turned on them and are now loose on the world. Lozen was not one of the lucky ones pre-C, but fate has given her a unique set of survival skills and magical abilities. She hunts monsters for the Ones who survived the apocalyptic events of the Cloud, which ensures the safety of her kidnapped family. But with every monster she takes down, Lozen's powers grow, and she connects those powers to an ancient legend of her people. It soon becomes clear to Lozen that she is not just a hired gun. As the legendary Killer of Enemies was in the ancient days of the Apache people, Lozen is meant to be more than a hunter. Lozen is meant to be a hero.</p>	Bruchac	7-YA	Fiction Fantasy Adventure Science	CC
<p><u>Skeleton Man:</u> Molly's father, who grew up on the Mohawk Reserve of Akwesasne, always had the best scary stories. One of her favorites was the legend of Skeleton Man, a gruesome tale about a man with such insatiable hunger he ate his own flesh before devouring those around him. But ever since her parents mysteriously vanished, those spooky tales have started to feel all too real. Don't miss <i>The Legend of Skeleton Man</i>: a spine-tingling collection of <i>Skeleton Man</i> and its sequel, <i>The Return of Skeleton Man</i>!</p>	Bruchac	4-8	Fiction Mystery Adventure Horror	CC
<p><u>In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse:</u></p>	Marshall	4-8	Fiction	CC

<p>Jimmy McClean is a Lakota boy—though you wouldn't guess it by his name: his father is part white and part Lakota, and his mother is Lakota. When he embarks on a journey with his grandfather, Nyles High Eagle, he learns more and more about his Lakota heritage—in particular, the story of Crazy Horse, one of the most important figures in Lakota and American history. Drawing references and inspiration from the oral stories of the Lakota tradition, celebrated author Joseph Marshall III juxtaposes the contemporary story of Jimmy with an insider's perspective on the life of Tasunke Witko, better known as Crazy Horse (c. 1840–1877). The book follows the heroic deeds of the Lakota leader who took up arms against the US federal government to fight against encroachments on the territories and way of life of the Lakota people, including leading a war party to victory at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Along with Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse was the last of the Lakota to surrender his people to the US army. Through his grandfather's tales about the famous warrior, Jimmy learns more about his Lakota heritage and, ultimately, himself.</p>				
<p><u>#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women:</u> Whether looking back to a troubled past or welcoming a hopeful future, the powerful voices of Indigenous women across North America resound in this book. In the same style as the best-selling <i>Dreaming in Indian</i>, #NotYourPrincess presents an eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that combine to express the experience of being a Native woman. Stories of abuse, humiliation, and stereotyping are countered by the voices of passionate women making themselves heard and demanding change. Sometimes angry, often reflective, but always strong, the women in this book will give teen readers insight into the lives of women who, for so long, have been virtually invisible.</p>	Leatherdale	8-YA	Nonfiction	Author does not reflect the culture of the book but she has a Master of Sociology with a focus in anti-racist curricula.
<p><u>The First Strawberries:</u> A captivating Cherokee folktale retelling the creation of strawberries. Luminous watercolors capture the simplicity of the story. A quarrel between the first man and the first woman is reconciled when the Sun causes strawberries to grow out of the earth.</p>	Vojtech Bruchac	PreK-5	Fiction Folktale Fairy Tales	CC
<p><u>Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team:</u> Jim Thorpe: Super athlete, Olympic gold medalist, Native American Pop Warner: Indomitable coach, football mastermind, Ivy League grad</p> <p>Before these men became legends, they met in 1907 at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, where they forged one of the winningest teams in American football history. Called "the team that invented football," they took on the best opponents of their day, defeating much more privileged schools such as Harvard and the Army in a series of breathtakingly close calls, genius plays, and bone-crushing hard work.</p>	Sheinkin	4-8	Nonfiction Biography Sports	CC
<p><u>Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back: A Native American Year of Moons:</u> In many Native cultures, seasonal changes in the natural world are noted by naming a month with a descriptive phrase. The Micmac, for example, call the ninth month "the moose-calling moon" while the Cherokee call the tenth "the moon of falling leaves." Each of the thirteen months included in this book is illustrated with an oil painting accompanied by a three-verse poem about the distinctive features which led to its name.</p>	Locker Bruchac	PreK-5	Poetry	CC
<p><u>When We Were Alone:</u></p>	Robertson	PreK-2	Fiction	CC

When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long, braided hair and beautifully coloured clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away. <i>When We Were Alone</i> is a story about a difficult time in history, and, ultimately, one of empowerment and strength.				Author is of Swampy Cree heritage
<u>A Boy Called Slow: The True Story of Sitting Bull</u> Anxious to be given a name as strong and brave as that of his father, a proud Lakota Sioux grows into manhood, acting with careful deliberation, determination, and bravery, which eventually earned him his proud new name: Sitting Bull.	Bruchac	1-5	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<u>The Boy Who Lived with the Bears: And Other Iroquois Stories:</u> Presents a collection of traditional Iroquois tales in which animals learn about the importance of caring and responsibility and the dangers of selfishness and pride.	Bruchac	1-5	Fiction Fairy Tales Folklore	CC
<u>The Birchbark House:</u> Set in the Lake Superior region in the mid-1800s, <i>The Birchbark House</i> is a vital novel providing fascinating details of a year in the life of young Omakayas, a girl of the Ojibwa. With exquisite care, National Book Critics Circle Award winner Louise Erdrich has fashioned a story rich in the way of life and heritage of the Ojibwa people, a story that begs to be told out loud. As each season in a year of Omakayas' life is lovingly portrayed, the satisfying rhythm of her days is shattered when a stranger visits the lodge one night, bringing with him an invisible enemy that will change things forever.	Erdrich	4-8	Fiction Historical	CC She is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, a federally recognized tribe of the Anishinaabe.
<u>I Am Not a Number:</u> When Irene is removed from her First Nations family to live in a residential school, she is confused, frightened and terribly homesick. She tries to remember who she is and where she came from despite being told to do otherwise. When she goes home for summer holidays, her parents decide never to send her away again, but where will she hide and what will happen when her parents disobey the law?	Dupuis	1-5	Nonfiction Biography	CC Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis was born in Northern Ontario and is a proud member of Nipissing First Nation.
<u>Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom:</u> Martha Tom is a Choctaw girl who becomes friends with Little Mo, a slave boy who lives on the other side of the Bok Chitto River in the 1800s. When the boy's family faces separation, Martha Tom and the Choctaw women help them to escape to freedom.	Tingle	2-7	Fiction Historical	CC Author is a member of the Choctaw Indians
<u>Missing Nimama:</u> A young mother, one of the many missing indigenous women, watches over her small daughter as she grows up without her nimama, experiencing important milestones - her first day of school, first dance, first date, wedding, first child - from afar. A free verse story of love, loss, and acceptance told in alternating voices. <i>Missing Nimama</i> shows the human side of a tragic set of circumstances. An afterword by the author provides a simple, age-appropriate context for young readers. Includes a glossary of Cree terms.	Florence	PreK-2	Poetry	CC Author is of Cree and Scottish heritage

<p>Fall in Line Holden! Fall in Line, Holden! tells the story of a young Navajo student named Holden as he ventures through boarding school while constantly being told to “fall in line”. While surrounded by a world that requires him to conform and follow strict rules, Holden's imagination creates a colorful world of excitement.</p>	Vandever	PreK-2	Fiction Realistic	CC Author has Navajo heritage
<p>Love Beyond Body, Space, and Time: Love Beyond Body, Space, and Time is a collection of indigenous science fiction and urban fantasy focusing on LGBT and two-spirit characters. These stories range from a transgender woman undergoing an experimental transition process to young lovers separated through decades and meeting in their own far future. These are stories of machines and magic, love and self-love.</p>	Van Camp Robertson Nicholson	7-YA	Fiction LGBTQ	CC One author is member of the Dene Nation One author is of Swampy Cree heritage
<p>Fire Song: (adapted from a movie) Reeling from his teenage sister's suicide and worried about his depressed and grieving mother, an Anishinaabe teen finds his plans disrupted immediately after high school graduation. Shane had been planning to leave the reservation for college in Toronto, but with a gaping hole in the roof of his family's house and a lack of financial assistance, he won't be going anywhere soon. He longs to move to the city, where he can live authentically as a gay man, preferably with David, with whom he is secretly involved. David, though, is reluctant to leave the reservation or to come out. Shane is closeted too, and his girlfriend, Tara, hopes to accompany him to the city. As Shane's options become fewer, his desperation and despair grow, leading him to hatch a foolhardy escape plan. In elegant prose, this novel movingly portrays the determination and desires of characters struggling to embrace their various identities within the spaces they inhabit, despite a dearth of resources and overwhelming odds against them, while the tragedy of suicide among young First Nations women echoes through the narrative.</p>	Jones	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC Author is of Cree heritage
<p>Rez Runaway: Raised on an Indian reserve, seventeen-year-old Joe Littlechief tries to be like the other guys. But Joe knows he's different—he's more interested in guys than girls. One night Joe makes a drunken pass at his best friend and, by the next morning, everyone on the rez is talking about Joe. His mother, a devout Christian, is horrified, and the kids who are supposed to be his friends make it clear there's no place for him on the rez. Joe thinks about killing himself, but instead runs away to the city. Alone and penniless on the city streets, Joe has to come to terms with who he really is.</p>	Florence	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQ	CC Author is of Cree heritage
<p>We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga The word <i>otsaliheliga</i> (oh-jah-LEE-hay-lee-gah) is used by members of the Cherokee Nation to express gratitude. Beginning in the fall with the new year and ending in summer, follow a full Cherokee year of celebrations and experiences. Written by a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, this look at one group of Native Americans is appended with a glossary and the complete Cherokee syllabary, originally created by Sequoyah.</p>	Sorrell	PreK-2	Nonfiction	CC Author is of Cherokee heritage
<p>All Around Us: When Irene is removed from her First Nations family to live in a residential school, she is confused, frightened and terribly homesick. She tries to remember who she is and where she</p>	Gonzalez	PreK-2	Fiction	CC Author is of the Tapilam Coahuiltecan

came from despite being told to do otherwise. When she goes home for summer holidays, her parents decide never to send her away again, but where will she hide and what will happen when her parents disobey the law?				Nation
<u>Dreaming in Indian:</u> Whether discussing the transformative power of art or music, the lasting trauma of residential schools, growing up poor, or achieving success, the contributors to this remarkable anthology all have something in common: a rich Native heritage that has informed who they are.	Charleyboy	4-YA	Nonfiction Poetry	CC Author is First Nation
<u>Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom:</u> Martha Tom, a young Choctaw girl, knows better than to cross Bok Chitto, but one day--in search of blackberries--she disobeys her mother and finds herself on the other side. A tall slave discovers Martha Tom. A friendship begins between Martha Tom and the slave's family, most particularly his young son, Little Mo. Soon afterwards, Little Mo's mother finds out that she is going to be sold. The situation seems hopeless, except that Martha Tom teaches Little Mo's family how to walk on water to their freedom.	Tingle	1-8	Historical Fiction	CC Author is an Oklahoma Choctaw
<u>If I Ever Get Out Of Here:</u> Lewis "Shoe" Blake is used to the joys and difficulties of life on the Tuscarora Indian reservation in 1975: the joking, the Fireball games, the snow blowing through his roof. What he's not used to is white people being nice to him -- people like George Haddonfield, whose family recently moved to town with the Air Force. As the boys connect through their mutual passion for music, especially the Beatles, Lewis has to lie more and more to hide the reality of his family's poverty from George. He also has to deal with the vicious Evan Reininger, who makes Lewis the special target of his wrath. But when everyone else is on Evan's side, how can he be defeated? And if George finds out the truth about Lewis's home -- will he still be his friend?	Gansworth	7-YA	Realistic Fiction	CC Author is an enrolled citizen of the Onondaga Nation
<u>As Long as the Rivers Flow:</u> Starting in the 1800s and continuing into the 20th century, First Nations children were forcibly taken to government-sponsored residential schools to erase their traditional languages and cultures. This moving book tells of one such child, author Larry Loyie, and his last summer with his Cree tribe. It is a time of learning and adventure. He cares for an abandoned baby owl, watches his grandmother make winter moccasins, and sees her kill a huge grizzly with one shot. The sensitive text and Heather Holmlund's expressive illustrations beautifully capture the joy and drama of a First Nations family's last summer together.	Loyie	4-8	Nonfiction	CC Author is of Cree Heritage
<u>Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Cheif on the Reservation and Beyond:</u> National Geographic presents the amazing life story of Joseph Medicine Crow, the man who begins life as Winter Man. Trained as a warrior by his grandfather, Yellowtail, he bathes in icy rivers and endures the ceremony of "counting coup"—facing fierce combat with an enemy Sioux boy.	Crow	4-YA	Nonfiction Biography	CC Author was a war chief, author, and historian of the Crow Nation of Native Americans.
<u>Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story:</u> Told in lively and powerful verse by debut author Kevin Noble Maillard, <i>Fry Bread</i> is an evocative depiction of a modern Native American family, vibrantly illustrated by Pura Belpre	Maillard	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction	CC Author is part of the Seminole Nation.

<p>Award winner and Caldecott Honoree Juana Martinez-Neal. <i>Fry bread is food.</i> It is warm and delicious, piled high on a plate. <i>Fry bread is time.</i> It brings families together for meals and new memories. <i>Fry bread is nation.</i> It is shared by many, from coast to coast and beyond. <i>Fry bread is us.</i> It is a celebration of old and new, traditional and modern, similarity and difference.</p>				
<p><u>We Are Grateful:</u> Throughout the year Cherokee people express their gratitude with the word “otsaliheliga” as “a reminder to celebrate our blessings and reflect on struggles.” Beginning in fall, the book moves through the year, touching on seasons, ceremonies, celebrations, and everyday cultural practices and daily life, all instances in which Cherokee say “otsaliheliga.” Cherokee words are integrated into the text, with pronunciations and the words written in the Cherokee syllabary at the bottom of the page on which they appear. Notes at the end provide more information about objects, games, historical events, and ceremonies mentioned in the book, as well as the lived experiences of the author and various cultural experts she spoke to in her research. The naïve style illustrations use bold, bright colors and show a variety of contemporary Cherokee people in a single community.</p>	Sorell	PreK-2	Nonfiction	CC Author is part of Cherokee Nation
<p><u>I Can Make This Promise:</u> All her life, Edie has known that her mom was adopted by a white couple. So, no matter how curious she might be about her Native American heritage, Edie is sure her family doesn’t have any answers. Until the day when she and her friends discover a box hidden in the attic—a box full of letters signed “Love, Edith,” and photos of a woman who looks just like her. Suddenly, Edie has a flurry of new questions about this woman who shares her name. Could she belong to the Native family that Edie never knew about? But if her mom and dad have kept this secret from her all her life, how can she trust them to tell her the truth now?</p>	Day	4-8	Realistic Fiction	CC Author is part of the Upper Skagit Tribe
<p><u>How I Became a Ghost:</u> A Choctaw boy tells the story of his tribe’s removal from its Mississippi homeland, and how its exodus to the American West led him to become a ghost --one able to help those left behind.</p>	Tingle	4-8	Historical Fiction	CC Author is part of the Choctaw Nation
<p><u>Mission to Space</u> Astronaut John Herrington shares his passion for space travel and his Chickasaw heritage as he gives children a glimpse into his astronaut training at NASA and his mission to the International Space Station. Learn what it takes to train for space flight, see the tasks he completed in space, and join him on his spacewalk 220 miles above the earth. This unique children’s book is illustrated with photos from Herrington’s training and space travel and includes an English-to-Chickasaw vocabulary list with space-related terms.</p>	Herrington	PreK-2	Biography Nonfiction	CC Author is part of the Chickasaw Nation
<p><u>Shi-shi-etko</u> Shi-shi-etko just has four days until she will have to leave her family and everything she knows to attend residential school. She spends her last precious days at home treasuring and appreciating the beauty of her world — the dancing sunlight, the tall grass, each shiny rock,</p>	Campbell	PreK-5	Realistic Fiction	CC Author is Okanagan heritage

<p>the tadpoles in the creek, her grandfather's paddle song. Her mother, father, and grandmother, each in turn, share valuable teachings that they want her to remember. Shi-shi-etko carefully gathers her memories for safekeeping.</p>				
<p><u>Shin-chi's Canoe:</u> This sequel to <i>Shi-shi-etko</i> (Groundwood, 2005) details the Indian boarding school experience of Native children in the United States and in Canada, where this story is set. Forced by law to leave home to attend government-run schools where their language and culture are suppressed, siblings Shi-shi-etko (called Mary at school) and Shin-chi (David) are not allowed to speak to one another so strict are the rules and so regimented the hours of their day. When he can bear missing his family no longer, Shin-chi sends the tiny carved canoe his father gave him down the river toward home. He knows he and Shi-shi-etko will follow when the school year finally ends. Days turn into weeks, and then months. There are bright spots, like Shin-chi's new friend, John. But the brightest of all is when June arrives he and Shi-shi-etko are homeward bound at last.</p>	<p>Campbell</p>	<p>PreK-5</p>	<p>Realistic Fiction</p>	<p>CC Author is Okanagan heritage</p>
<p><u>Indian Shoes:</u> Ray Halfmoon prefers hightops, but he gladly trades them for a nice pair of moccasins for his Grampa. After all, it's Grampa Halfmoon who's always there to help Ray get in and out of scrapes -- like the time they are forced to get creative after a homemade haircut makes Ray's head look like a lawn-mowing accident. This collection of interrelated stories is heartwarming and laugh-out-loud funny. Cynthia Leitich Smith writes with wit and candor about what it's like to grow up as a Seminole-Cherokee boy who is just as happy pounding the pavement in windy Chicago as rowing on a take in rural Oklahoma.</p>	<p>Smith</p>	<p>1-8</p>	<p>Fiction</p>	<p>CC Author is of the Muscogee Creek Nation</p>
<p><u>Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa</u> “My name is Buffalo Bird Woman, Waheenee, and my people are known as the Hidatsa. When I was young, they called me Buffalo Bird Girl—after the little brown bird that lives on the prairies of the Great Plains.” In a beautifully realized work, S.D. Nelson pairs a narrative written in the first-person voice of Buffalo Bird Woman looking back on her childhood with illustrations and documentary photographs—including one of Buffalo Bird Woman—showing dimensions of nineteenth-century Hidatsa life. The mix of illustrations and photographs works wonderfully. Nelson's striking paintings reflect scenes described in the narrative, which are punctuated with occasional black-and-white photos showing these elements in real life. In an author's note Nelson describes personal memories that echo some of the traditions described by Buffalo Bird Woman. He goes on to tell more about Buffalo Bird Woman, including the published works about her life on which she collaborated and from which he drew in writing his narrative. He also discusses the Hidatsa people, past and present. A timeline, notes, and a bibliography are also provided.</p>	<p>Nelson</p>	<p>1-8</p>	<p>Biography Nonfiction</p>	<p>CC Author is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in the Dakota</p>
<p><u>I Am Not a Number:</u> Irene Couchie is an eight-year-old Anishinaabe living happily with her family on the Nippissing Reserve in Northern Ontario. But when the Indian agent comes to their home to take her and her two brothers away to attend a residential boarding school, the only thing her parents can do to protect them is to tell them to never forget who they are. Life in the school is terrifying. Irene is separated from her two brothers and has her identity stripped from her—even her name. She is told that from now on she will be number 759. The year passes slowly. Irene faces harsh living conditions and cruel physical punishment for speaking her own language.</p>	<p>Dupuis (Ojibway Anishinaabe)</p>	<p>1-5</p>	<p>Biography Nonfiction</p>	<p>CC Author is a member of Nipissing First Nation</p>

When summer finally comes, she and her brothers return home, and her parents vow to never send them back after hearing what the children endured, hiding them when the agent returns. Based on the childhood experience of the author's grandmother, the heart- wrenching story is illustrated with realistic paintings that convey Irene's fear and sadness.				
<u>The People Shall Continue:</u> "Many, many years ago, all things came to be. The stars, rocks, plants, rivers, animals, Mountains, sun, moon, birds, all things. And the People were born." A 40 th -anniversary edition of this essential work offers a history of Native peoples in the Americas from a Native perspective. Written in the cadences of oral tradition, and imbued with the perspective of one descended from the original inhabitants of the land, the story acknowledges and honors the emergence of numerous distinct Indigenous cultures, and the shared, tragic impact of Europeans' arrival. It speaks of treaties made and treaties broken, of suffering, and above all of endurance and survival, which comes in the sharing of knowledge and experience with the next generation. The need to protect the earth, and to honor the dignity of all people, is a powerful theme that resonates across the narrative. This new edition concludes with an author's note referencing the original publication, and the continued presence and ongoing struggles of Indigenous people, including the Standing Rock Tribe of Sioux's protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline.	Ortiz	1-8	Nonfiction	CC Author is a Puebloan writer of the Acoma Pueblo tribe
<u>This Place: 150 Years Retold</u> Explore the past 150 years through the eyes of Indigenous creators in this groundbreaking graphic novel anthology. Beautifully illustrated, these stories are an emotional and enlightening journey through Indigenous wonderworks, psychic battles, and time travel. See how Indigenous peoples have survived a post-apocalyptic world since Contact.	Van Camp	7-12	Nonfiction Graphic Novel	CC Author is a Dogrib Tłı̄chǫ writer of the Dene nation from Fort Smith, Northwest Territories
<u>Night Flying Woman: An Ojibway Narrative</u> With the art of a practiced storyteller, Ignatia Broker recounts the life of her great-great-grandmother, Night Flying Woman, who was born in the mid-19th century and lived during a chaotic time of enormous change, uprootings, and loss for the Minnesota Ojibway. But this story also tells of her people's great strength and continuity.	Broker	1-YA	Nonfiction Biography	CC Author was an Ojibwe writer and community leader from Minneapolis, Minnesota
Latinx/Afro Latinx Culture:				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Fiction or Nonfiction	Culturally Conscious or Need to Disrupt
<u>90 Miles to Havana:</u> When Julian's parents make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away from Cuba to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation, the boys are thrust into a new world where bullies run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves.	Flores-Galbis	4-8	Fiction Realistic	CC
<u>Esperanza Rising:</u> Esperanza Ortega possesses all the treasures a young girl could want: fancy dresses; a	Munoz Ryan	4-8	Fiction Realistic Historical	CC

<p>beautiful home filled with servants in Aguascalientes, Mexico; and the promise of one day rising to Mama's position and presiding over all of Rancho de las Rosas. But a sudden tragedy shatters that dream, forcing Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. There, Esperanza must relinquish her hold on the past as she confronts the challenges of hard labor, acceptance by her own people, and economic difficulties brought on by the Great Depression, and ultimately discovers the riches of family and community. Pam Muñoz Ryan eloquently portrays the Mexican workers' plight in this abundant and passionate novel that gives voice to those who have historically been denied one.</p>				
<p><u>Separate is Never Equal:</u> Almost 10 years before Brown vs. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California. An American citizen of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage who spoke and wrote perfect English, Mendez was denied enrollment to a "Whites only" school. Her parents took action by organizing the Hispanic community and filing a lawsuit in federal district court. Their success eventually brought an end to the era of segregated education in California.</p>	Tonatiuh	1-8	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Merci Suarez Changes Gears:</u> Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just <i>how</i> different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. They don't have a big house or a fancy boat, and they have to do extra community service to make up for their free tuition. So when bossy Edna Santos sets her sights on the new boy who happens to be Merci's school-assigned Sunshine Buddy, Merci becomes the target of Edna's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately - forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over nothing. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school. In a coming-of-age tale full of humor and wisdom, award-winning author Meg Medina gets to the heart of the confusion and constant change that defines middle school - and the steadfast connection that defines family.</p>	Medina	4-8	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Who Was Selena?:</u> As a young girl, Selena Quintanilla sang in a band called <i>Selena y Los Dinos</i> with her brother and sister. The family performed at fairs, weddings, quinceañeras, and on street corners in their native Texas. Selena learned how to sing in Spanish and soon became hugely popular within the Latino community - so much so that she became the best-selling Latin artist of the 1990s. Selena was poised to be a great success, but her life was cut short after being fatally wounded by the president of her fan club. Selena's contributions to music and fashion during her life made her one of the top Latin musicians in the 1990s, and listeners will want to know more about the woman who introduced the world to Tejano music.</p>	Bisantz	1-4	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Under the Mesquite:</u> When Lupita discovers Mami has been diagnosed with cancer, she is terrified by the possibility of losing her mother, the anchor of their close-knit Mexican American family. In the midst of juggling high school classes, finding her voice as an actress, and dealing with friends who don't always understand, Lupita desperately wants to support her mother by doing anything she can to help. While Papi is preoccupied with caring for Mami, Lupita takes charge</p>	Garcia McCall	7-YA	Fiction Realistic	CC

of her seven younger siblings. Struggling in her new roles and overwhelmed by change, Lupita escapes the chaos of home by writing in the shade of a mesquite tree, seeking refuge in the healing power of words. Told in evocative free verse, Lupita's journey is both heart-wrenching and hopeful. Under the Mesquite is an empowering story about the testing of family bonds, the strength of a teenage girl navigating pain and hardship, and the kind of love that cannot be uprooted.				
<p><u>Undocumented: A Workers Fight:</u> <i>Undocumented</i> is the story of immigrant workers who have come to the United States without papers. Everyday these men and women join the workforce and contribute positively to society. Juan grew up in Mexico working in the fields to help provide for his family. Struggling for money, he crosses over into the United States and becomes an undocumented worker, living in a poor neighborhood and working hard to survive. Although he is able to get a job as a busboy at a restaurant, he is severely undercompensated - he receives less than half of the minimum wage! Risking his boss reporting him to the authorities for not having proper resident papers, Juan stands up for himself and the rest of his community.</p>	Tonatiuh	7-YA	Fiction Graphic Novel	CC
<p><u>The Poet X:</u> Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers - especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, whom her family can never know about. With Mami's determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. So when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she doesn't know how she could ever attend without her mami finding out. But she still can't stop thinking about performing her poems. Because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent.</p>	Acevedo	7-YA	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>Los Gatos Black on Halloween:</u> The monsters crowd the Haunted Hall. Los monstruos throw a monstrous ball. This lively poem introduces a spooky array of creatures and Spanish words to little niños everywhere.</p>	Montes	PreK-5	Fiction Holiday Poetry	CC
<p><u>Alma and How She Got Her Name:</u> If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; José, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes too. As she hears the story of her name, Alma starts to think it might be a perfect fit after all - and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell. Through Alma's vibrant story, Juana Martinez-Neal opens a treasure box of discovery for children who may be curious about their own origin stories or names.</p>	Martinez-Neal	PreK-2	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>All the Way to Havana:</u> <i>So we purr, cara cara, and we glide, taka taka, and we zoom, zoom, ZOOM!</i> Together, a boy and his parents drive to the city of Havana, Cuba, in their old family car. Along the way, they experience the sights and sounds of the streets—neighbors talking, musicians</p>	Engle	PreK-2	Fiction	CC

performing, and beautiful, colorful cars putt-putting and bumpety-bumping along. In the end, though, it's their old car, Cara Cara, that the boy loves best. A joyful celebration of the Cuban people and their resourceful innovation.				
<u>Echo:</u> Lost and alone in the forbidden Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself entwined in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica. Decades later Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California each becomes interwoven when the very same harmonica lands in their lives, binding them by an invisible thread of destiny. All the children face daunting challenges: rescuing a father, protecting a brother, holding a family together. How their suspenseful solo stories converge in an orchestral crescendo will resound in your heart long after the last note has been struck.	Munoz Ryan	4-8	Fiction Fairy Tales Folklore	CC
<u>Viva Frida:</u> Frida Kahlo, one of the world's most famous and unusual artists, is revered around the world. Her life was filled with laughter, love, and tragedy, all of which influenced what she painted on her canvases.	Morales	1-5	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<u>Lucky Broken Girl:</u> Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated from Castro's Cuba to New York City. Just when she's finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English - and enjoying her reign as her neighborhood's hopscotch queen - a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined her to her bed for a long recovery. As Ruthie's world shrinks because of her inability to move, her powers of observation and her heart grow larger, and she comes to understand how fragile life is, how vulnerable we all are as human beings, and how friends, neighbors, and the power of the arts can sweeten even the worst of times.	Behar	4-8	Fiction Historical	CC
<u>Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood:</u> What good can a splash of color do in a community of gray? As Mira and her neighbors discover, more than you might ever imagine! Based on the true story of the Urban Art Trail in San Diego, California, <i>Maybe Something Beautiful</i> reveals how art can inspire transformation - and how even the smallest artists can accomplish something big. Pick up a paintbrush and join the celebration!	Campoy	PreK-2	Fiction Realistic	CC
<u>Burn Baby Burn:</u> Nora Lopez is 17 during the infamous New York summer of 1977, when the city is besieged by arson, a massive blackout, and a serial killer named Son of Sam who shoots young women on the streets. Nora's family life isn't going so well either: her bullying brother, Hector, is growing more threatening by the day, her mother is helpless and falling behind on the rent, and her father calls only on holidays. All Nora wants is to turn 17 and be on her own. And while there is a cute new guy who started working with her at the deli, is dating even worth the risk when the killer likes picking off couples who stay out too late? Award-winning author Meg Medina transports us to a time when New York seemed balanced on a knife-edge, with tempers and temperatures running high, to share the story of a young woman who discovers that the greatest dangers are often closer than we like to admit - and the hardest to accept.	Medina	7-YA	Fiction Historical	CC
<u>Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant's Tale:</u>	Tonatiuh	1-5	Fiction	CC

<p>In this allegorical picture book, a young rabbit named Pancho eagerly awaits his papa's return. Papa Rabbit traveled north two years ago to find work in the great carrot and lettuce fields to earn money for his family. When Papa does not return, Pancho sets out to find him. He packs Papa's favorite meal—mole, rice and beans, a heap of warm tortillas, and a jug of aguamiel—and heads north. He meets a coyote, who offers to help Pancho in exchange for some of Papa's food. They travel together until the food is gone and the coyote decides he is still hungry . . . for Pancho! Duncan Tonatiuh brings to light the hardships and struggles faced by thousands of families who seek to make better lives for themselves and their children by illegally crossing the border.</p>			Adventure	
<p><u>Island Born:</u> <i>Every kid in Lola's school was from somewhere else. Hers was a school of faraway places.</i> So when Lola's teacher asks the students to draw a picture of where their families immigrated from, all the kids are excited. Except Lola. She can't remember The Island—she left when she was just a baby. But with the help of her family and friends, and their memories—joyous, fantastical, heartbreaking, and frightening—Lola's imagination takes her on an extraordinary journey back to The Island. As she draws closer to the heart of her family's story, Lola comes to understand the truth of her abuela's words: "Just because you don't remember a place doesn't mean it's not in you."</p>	Diaz	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<p><u>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe:</u> Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship—the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.</p>	Saenz	8-YA	Fiction Realistic LGBTQ	CC
<p><u>The First Rule of Punk:</u> There are no shortcuts to surviving your first day at a new school - you can't fix it with duct tape like you would your Chuck Taylors. On day one, 12-year-old Malu (Maria Luisa, if you want to annoy her) inadvertently upsets Posada Middle School's queen bee, violates the school's dress code with her punk rock look, and disappoints her college-professor mom in the process. Her dad, who now lives a thousand miles away, says things will get better as long as she remembers the first rule of punk: Be yourself. The real Malu loves rock music, skateboarding, zines, and Soyrizo (hold the cilantro, please). And when she assembles a group of like-minded misfits at school and starts a band, Malu finally begins to feel at home. She'll do anything to preserve this, which includes standing up to an anti-punk school administration to fight for her right to express herself!</p>	Perez	4-YA	Fiction Realistic	CC
<p><u>The Truth Is:</u> Fifteen-year-old Verdad doesn't think she has time for love. She's still struggling to process the recent death of her best friend, Blanca; dealing with the high expectations of her hardworking Puerto Rican mother and the absence of her remarried father; and keeping everyone at a distance. But when she meets Danny, a new guy at school—who happens to be trans—all bets are off. Verdad suddenly has to deal with her mother's disapproval of her relationship with Danny as well as her own prejudices and questions about her identity, and Danny himself,</p>	Ramos	8-YA	Realistic Fiction Disability LGBTQ	CC

who is comfortable in his skin but keeping plenty of other secrets.				
<p>Marvelous Maravilloso: Me and My Beautiful Family: <i>The world is full of different colors...hundreds of colors, everywhere. People are different colors too. Our colors make us beautiful and unique. Mommy says it is part of our culture and the big word diversity — diversidad.</i></p> <p><i>Marvelous Maravilloso</i> follows a young girl as she finds joy in the colors of the world all around her. Her vantage point is particularly special as she comes from a bi-cultural family, and is able to appreciate the differences between her parents, as well as her own unique and beautiful color. As she is coming into her own identity and exploring what this means for her, she comes to appreciate how all families are uniquely beautiful.</p>	Lara	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p>Capoeira: CAPOEIRA it's a game, a dance, a martial art! It's a way of expressing oneself through movement and music. With action-packed photographs and accessible text, readers are introduced to this exciting, popular game. At Madinga Academy in Oakland, California, a group of girls and boys practice the acrobatic moves of capoeira. Then they begin to play games to the infectious, rhythmic beat of traditional music and singing. On to Brazil to experience capoeira in its historic birthplace, where it dates back four hundred years. Capoeira developed as a way of fighting among enslaved Africans, was outlawed the the government, and was permitted once again in 1930 as a martial art and game. Back in Oakland, at an end-of-year ceremony, students receive their colored ropes indicating their levels of accomplishment.</p>	Ancona	1-5	Nonfiction Sports	CC
<p>Drum Dream Girl: How Ones Girl's Courage Changed Music: Millo Castro Zaldarriaga was born in Cuba in the 1920s and grew up attuned to the rhythms in the world around her and inside her. She dreamed of drumming, but only boys and men learned how to play at that time. She dared to drum anyway, "tall conga drums / small bongo drums / and big, round, silvery / moon-bright <i>timbales</i> ... Her hands seemed to fly / as they rippled / rapped / and pounded / all the rhythms / of her drum dreams." Her father said no when her sisters asked 10-year-old Millo to join their band. Only boys should play drums, he said. But Millo couldn't silence the sounds. Her father agreed to find her a teacher who was amazed by her talent and helped Millo change the way people thought about girls and drumming. Margarita Engle's musical poem makes a striking picture book narrative and is set against the vibrating tropical colors of Rafael López's lush illustrations. A note tells how Afro-Chinese-Cuban Millo went on to be a world-famous musician who played alongside jazz greats, in addition to changing hearts and minds with her beats.</p>	Engle	PreK-2	Nonfiction Biography Poetry	CC
<p>Grandma's Records: Every summer, Eric goes to live with his grandmother in El Barrio (Spanish Harlem) while his parents work. Through the long hot days, Grandma fills her apartment with the blaring horns and conga drums of Bomba y Plena, salsa, and merengue—the music she grew up with in Puerto Rico-sharing her memories and passions with Eric. But Eric sees Grandma in a new light when she gets them tickets to hear their favorite band in concert. The music sounds so different than it does at home on their scratchy records. And then the lead singer serenades Grandma right in front of the whole audience! Join Eric Velasquez on a magical journey through time and across cultures, as a young boy's passion for music and art is forged by a</p>	Velasquez	PreK-5	Realistic Fiction	CC

powerful bond between generations.				
<p><u>Little Night/Nochecita:</u> Mother Sky tells daughter Little Night that it is bedtime. Like any child, Little Night wants to play a little longer and engages her mama in a game of hide-and-seek. Mother Sky searches hidden corners and finds Little Night camouflaged behind a dark hill. Sweeping her up, she bathes her in a tub of stars. Wrapped in her towel, Little Night hides again, begging Mother Sky to find her. The ritual is played out again and again while the sun sets. Soon it is time for Little Night to take her place in the evening sky, stars in her hair and moon ball under her arm. Sumptuous paintings with celestial details illuminate a dreamlike bedtime story.</p>	Morales	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>My Name is Celia: TheLife of Celia Cruz:</u> A Bilingual Storybook Biography of The Life of Celia Cruz, The Cuban-Born Queen of Salsa.</p>	Brown	1-8	Nonfiction Biography	CC Author is of peruvian heritage
<p><u>The Streets Are Free:</u> This inspiring book is based on the true story of the children of the barrio of San Jose de la Urbina in Caracas, Venezuela. There are no parks where they live, and the children must play in the streets. They ask the mayor for an empty lot to build a playground, but all they get are campaign promises. They know that they are the only ones who will make something happen, so they get their friends and family involved until the whole barrio unites to create a space of their own.</p>	Kurusa	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Storytellers Candle:</u> The winter of 1929 feels especially cold to cousins Hildamar and Santiago when they arrived in New York City from sunny Puerto Rico only months before. Their island home feels very far away indeed, especially with Three Kings' Day rapidly approaching. But then a magical thing happened. A visitor appears in their class, a gifted storyteller and librarian by the name of Pura Belpré. She opens the children's eyes to the public library and its potential to be the living, breathing heart of the community. The library, after all, belongs to everyone-whether you speak Spanish, English, or both. The award-winning team of Lucía González and Lulu Delacre have crafted an homage to Pura Belpré, New York City's first Latina librarian. Through her vision and dedication, the warmth of Puerto Rico came to the island of Manhattan in a most unexpected way.</p>	Gonzales	1-5	Historical Fiction Holiday	CC
<p><u>Tan to Tamarind:</u> A poetry collection that explores the spectrum of beautiful shades of brown.</p>	Iyengar	PreK-5	Poetry	CC
<p><u>Eva The Afro-Latina:</u> Eva Sarai Johnson is an eight year old rising leader with a big imagination and an even bigger curiosity for understanding her cultural roots. In this story, Eva shares her journey about self-identifying as an Afro-Latina. Eva was inspired to write this book to encourage others to celebrate all aspects of their culture. Her parents taught her the importance of appreciating and valuing what makes her unique. Eva created this story to share that same message with others. She wants to remind everyone their historical roots are what makes them beautiful. What makes them powerful. Eva hopes that you enjoy this book and share it with others.</p>	Johnson			CC

<p><u>Listening with My Heart: A Story of Kindness and Self-Compassion:</u> We talk to kids a lot about how to be friends to others, but not much about how to be friends to themselves. Yet self-acceptance and positive self-talk help them build emotional resilience, happiness and well-being. When Esperanza finds a heart shaped rock, she sees it as a reminder to spread kindness and love in the world. But when the school play doesn't go the way she'd hoped, will she remember to show it to herself? Listening with my heart reminds us of the importance of being friends to ourselves. It also touches on the universal themes of friendship, empathy and kindness. Includes mindfulness and self-compassion activities.</p>	Garcia	PreK-2	Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Other Half of Happy:</u> This immersive and beautifully written novel follows the story of Quijana, a girl in pieces. Quijana must figure out which parts of herself are most important, and which pieces come together to make her whole. One-half Guatemalan, one-half American: When Quijano's Guatemalan cousins move to town, her dad seems ashamed that she doesn't know more about her family's heritage. One-half crush, one-half buddy: When Quijana meets Zuri and Jayden, she knows she's found true friends. But she can't help the growing feelings she has for Jayden. One-half kid, one-half grown-up: Quijana spends her nights Skyping with her ailing grandma and trying to figure out what's going on with her increasingly hard-to-reach brother.</p>	Balcarcel	4-8	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You:</u> Feeling different, especially as a kid, can be tough. But in the same way that different types of plants and flowers make a garden more beautiful and enjoyable, different types of people make our world more vibrant and wonderful. In <i>Just Ask</i>, United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids (and people of all ages) have. Using her own experience as a child who was diagnosed with diabetes, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges--and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. As the kids work together to build a community garden, asking questions of each other along the way, this book encourages readers to do the same: When we come across someone who is different from us but we're not sure why, all we have to do is <i>Just Ask</i>.</p>	Sotomayor	PreK-2	Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>Dreamers:</u> In 1994, Yuyi Morales left her home in Xalapa, Mexico and came to the US with her infant son. She left behind nearly everything she owned, but she didn't come empty-handed. She brought her strength, her work, her passion, her hopes and dreams. . . and her stories. Caldecott Honor artist and six-time Pura Belpré winner Yuyi Morales's gorgeous picture book <i>Dreamers</i> is about making a home in a new place. Yuyi and her son Kelly's passage was not easy, and Yuyi spoke no English whatsoever at the time. But together, they found an unexpected, unbelievable place: the public library. There, book by book, they untangled the language of this strange new land, and learned to make their home within it. <i>Dreamers</i> is a celebration of what migrants bring with them when they leave their homes. It's a story about family. And it's a story to remind us that we are all dreamers, bringing our own gifts wherever we roam. Beautiful and powerful at any time but given particular urgency as the status of our own Dreamers becomes uncertain, this is a story that is both topical and timeless. The lyrical text is complemented by sumptuously detailed illustrations, rich in symbolism. Also included are a brief autobiographical essay about Yuyi's own experience, a list of books that inspired her (and still do), and a description of the beautiful images, textures, and mementos she used to create this book.</p>	Morales	PreK-2	Biography Nonfiction	CC

<p><u>Dancing Home</u> Mexico may be her parents' home, but it's certainly not Margie's. She has finally convinced the other kids at school she is one-hundred percent American—just like them. But when her Mexican cousin Lupe visits, the image she's created for herself crumbles. Things aren't easy for Lupe, either. Mexico hadn't felt like home since her father went North to find work. Lupe's hope of seeing him in the United States comforts her some, but learning a new language in a new school is tough. Lupe, as much as Margie, is in need of a friend. Little by little, the girls' individual steps find the rhythm of one shared dance, and they learn what "home" really means. In the tradition of <i>My Name is Maria Isabel</i>—and simultaneously published in English and in Spanish—Alma Flor Ada and her son Gabriel M. Zubizarreta offer an honest story of family, friendship, and the classic immigrant experience: becoming part of something new, while straying true to who you are.</p>	Ada	1-8	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Island Treasures: Growing Up in Cuba</u> These true autobiographical tales from renowned Hispanic author and educator Alma Flor Ada are filled with family love and traditions, secrets and deep friendships, and a gorgeous, moving picture of the island of Cuba, where Alma Flor grew up. Told through the eyes of a child, a whole world comes to life in these pages: the blind great-grandmother who never went to school but whose wisdom and generosity overflowed to those around her; the hired hand Samoné, whose love for music overcame all difficulties; the beloved dance teacher who helped sustain young Alma Flor through a miserable year in school; her dear and daring Uncle Medardo, who bravely flew airplanes; and more.</p>	Ada	4-8	Nonfiction Biography	CC
<p><u>Ruiz Street Kids:</u> Meet the Silva kids, the Guerra boys, and the new Perez family who live on Ruiz Street. On a hot summer day, a new kid named David rides into the neighborhood. Gossip about the mysterious boy stretches longer than a wad of gum. The kids wonder why he rides a different bike everyday. Is he stealing them? He gets rough at the swimming pool, he scares the younger kids, and he spies over the fence. Why is he always so mean? Is it true that he eats a bee's nest for breakfast and sleeps on a bed of nails? What does he want from the kids who live on Ruiz Street and why in the world would they ever want to be friends with somebody like David? The young narrator, Joe Silva, introduces intermediate readers to both his friends and their common enemy on Ruiz Street. David doesn't have good people skills and doesn't know quite how to improve them. Can the other kids see beyond his faults and discover another side to the boy on the bike? Filled with humor and mystery, the Ruiz Street kids' adventures are sure to entertain as they try to understand the peculiar habits of the new boy named David.</p>	Chavarria-Chairez	1-8	Realistic Fiction	CC
<p><u>Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You</u> In <i>Just Ask</i>, United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids (and people of all ages) have. Using her own experience as a child who was diagnosed with diabetes, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges—and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. As the kids work together to build a community garden, asking questions of each other along the way, this book encourages readers to do the same: When we come across someone who is different from us but we're not sure why, all we have to do is <i>Just Ask</i>.</p>	Sotomayor	PreK-2	Nonfiction Disability	CC

<p><u>Clemente!</u> A little boy named Clemente learns about his namesake, the great baseball player Roberto Clemente, in this joyful picture book biography.</p> <p>Born in Puerto Rico, Roberto Clemente was the first Latin American player to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, and the only player for whom the five-year initiation period was waived. Known not only for his exceptional baseball skills but also for his extensive charity work in Latin America, Clemente was well-loved during his 18 years playing for the Pittsburgh Pirates. He died in a plane crash while bringing aid supplies to earthquake victims in Nicaragua. Willie Perdomo's rhythmic text and Bryan Collier's energetic art combine to tell the story of one of baseball's greats.</p>	Perdomo	1-5	Biography Nonfiction	CC
<p><u>The Firefly Letters: A Suffragette's Journey to Cuba:</u> When Fredrika Bremer asked the Swedish Consulate to find her a quiet home in the Cuban countryside, she expected a rustic thatched hut, not this luxurious mansion in Matanzas, where Elena, the daughter of the house, can barely step foot outside. The freedom to roam is something that women and girls in Cuba do not have. Yet when Fredrika sets off to learn about the people of this magical island, she is accompanied by Cecilia, a young slave who longs for her lost home in Africa. Soon Elena sneaks out of the house to join them. As the three women explore the lush countryside, they form a bond that breaks the barriers of language and culture. In this quietly powerful new book, which is young adult historical fiction based on a true story, award-winning poet Margarita Engle paints a portrait of early women's rights pioneer Fredrika Bremer and the journey to Cuba that transformed her life.</p>	Engle	4-12	Nonfiction Biography Poetry	CC
<p><u>Lion Island:</u> In the 1840s, Spaniards brought Chinese laborers as indentured servants to work in the sugar cane fields of Cuba with African slaves. In the early 1870s, Chinese also came to Cuba from California, fleeing racism and racist-fueled violence. "California's violence must be dragon-fierce / to make so many refugees seek new homes / on this island / of war." This historical novel-in-verse set in 1870s Cuba weaves the stories of three young people during the war for freedom from Spain, and from servitude for Cubans of Chinese and African descent. One of the principle narrators is Antonio Chuffat, the "warrior of words" from the title, a 13-year-old Afro-Cuban-Chinese boy who is free. He works for a Chinese man in Cuba writing to newspapers and powerful people in China to protest the agreement that sent the Chinese into servitude in Cuba. Antonio, a character based on an actual person, meets Wing and Fan, two wholly fictional characters, brother and sister whose family came from California. The three young people each play a different role in the fight against servitude and slavery of Chinese and Africans in Cuba in this story that illuminates intriguing and important dimensions of history.</p>	Engle	4-12	Historical Fiction	CC
<p><u>The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano:</u> Juan Francisco Manzano was born a slave in Cuba in 1797. Taken from his loving birth mother, he was placed in the home of a wealthy woman who insisted he call her mother. She treated young Juan like a pet. The boy found solace in words, reading books and making up poems of his own. "I love the words / written with my feathery mind / in the air / and with my sharp fingernails / on leaves in the garden." In this breathtaking biography, Margarita Engle</p>	Engle	4-12	Nonfiction	CC

has written poems to tell the story of Juan’s childhood and young adulthood. Her powerful narrative—in the voice of Juan and others in his life—is both joy and heartbreak to read, evocative of all the cruelty, beauty, and irony that was Juan’s life. Sean Qualls’s occasional black-and-white illustrations are haunting in a volume that concludes with a note providing additional information on Juan’s life, and brief excerpts (in Spanish, with English translations) of his remarkable poetry.				
<u>Clap When You Land:</u> Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people...In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal’s office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance—and Papi’s secrets—the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they’ve lost everything of their father, they learn of each other.	Acevedo	7-12	Poetry Realistic Fiction	CC
People With Disabilities/Different Abilities Authors not of color				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Genre	Protagonist Ethnicity
<u>Lily and Dunkin:</u> Lily Jo McGrother, born Timothy McGrother, is a girl. But being a girl is not so easy when you look like a boy. Especially when you’re in the eighth grade. Dunkin Dorfman, birth name Norbert Dorfman, is dealing with bipolar disorder and has just moved from the New Jersey town he’s called home for the past 13 years. This would be hard enough, but the fact that he is also hiding from a painful secret makes it even worse. One summer morning, Lily Jo McGrother meets Dunkin Dorfman, and their lives forever change.	Gephart	5-8	Realistic Fiction Disability LGBTQIA+	white
<u>I’m Here:</u> “Can you hear it? Voices. Splashes upon splashes of sound. I hear it all like one big noise ... Boom. Boom. Boom. Boom.” A child on a playground sits apart from all of the other children while they play. “They are there. I am here.” The child turns a piece of paper into a paper airplane and launches it on an imaginary journey, riding the plane up into the clouds before coming back down to find the other children ready to catch the plane: “We’ve got you!” Eventually the paper airplane is noticed in the real world by one other child. But one is enough. “I’m here,” says the girl’s smile.” Peter H. Reynolds imagines the interior world and external experience of a child on the autism spectrum—or any child who has felt her- or himself to be an outsider—in this spare, graceful picture book featuring softly colored, uncluttered illustrations surrounded by ample white space.	Reynolds	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
<u>My Three Best Friends and me Zulay:</u> Zulay, who is blind, wants to be treated like the other kids in her elementary classroom. And mostly, she is. She and her three best friends (one white, one Asian American, and one	Best (ww) Brantley-Newman	PreK-3	Realistic Fiction Disability	Black white

<p>African American, like Zulay) help one another in class and play together during recess. But Zulay also has to work with Ms. Turner, who is teaching her to walk with a cane. Zulay doesn't want to use a cane because it makes her stand out. When their teacher announces an upcoming Field Day, however, Zulay is determined to run a race in her new pink shoes, and this motivates her to work hard with Ms. Turner so she will be able to participate. Inspired by a real child the author met on a school visit in New York City, the story is refreshingly realistic. Vanessa Brantley-Newton's spirited illustrations show uniformed students in a public school where accommodation is shown as an integral part of their inclusive community. The name labels tacked to the desks of all 22 students in Zulay's classroom, for example, are written in both print and Braille.</p>	(aaf)			Asian
<p>Slug Days: On slug days Lauren feels slow and slimy. She feels like everyone yells at her, and that she has no friends. Today there is a different bus driver; Dan and Sachi are sitting in Lauren's seat on the bus; and Lauren's teacher interrupts her reading time. It is definitely a slug day. But not every day is like this. On butterfly days Lauren makes her classmates laugh, or goes to get ice cream, or works on a special project with Mom. Lauren has Autism Spectrum Disorder (an umbrella term that has included Asperger Syndrome since 2013), and she sees the world differently from many people. Sometimes this can be frustrating and makes Lauren want to flip her lid, especially at school where she learns differently from her classmates. But with support and stubbornness and a flair that's all her own, Lauren masters tricks to stay calm, to understand others' feelings, and to let her personality shine. She even manages to find common ground with her sticky, slobbery baby sister. Best of all, it is being different that gives Lauren insight into the insecurities of the new student, Irma.</p>	Leach Bender	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
<p>A Boy and a Jaguar: Alan loves animals, but the great cat house at the Bronx Zoo makes him sad. Why are they all alone in empty cages? Are they being punished? More than anything, he wants to be their champion—their voice—but he stutters uncontrollably. Except when he talks to animals... Then he is fluent. Follow the life of the man <i>Time Magazine</i> calls, "the Indiana Jones of wildlife conservation" as he searches for his voice and fulfills a promise to speak for animals, and people, who cannot speak for themselves. This real-life story with tender illustrations by Catia Chien explores truths not defined by the spoken word.</p>	Rabinowitz	PreK-2	Biography Nonfiction Disability	white
<p>El Deafo: A 2015 Newbery Honor Book Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become "El Deafo, Listener for All." And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.</p>	Bell	1-8	Biography Humor Graphic Novel Disability	white
<p>Susan Laughs <i>Susan laughs, she sings. she rides, she swings.</i></p>	Willis	Prek-2	Fiction	white

<p><i>She gets angry, she gets sad, she is good, she is bad...</i></p> <p>Told in rhyme, this story follows Susan through a series of familiar activities. She swims with her father, works hard in school, plays with her friends -- and even rides a horse. Lively, thoughtfully drawn illustrations reveal a portrait of a busy, happy little girl with whom younger readers will identify. Not until the end of the story is it revealed that Susan uses a wheelchair. Told with insight, and without sentimentality, here is an inspiring look at one spunky little girl whose physical disability is never seen as a handicap.</p>			Disability	
<p>My Friend Isabelle:</p> <p>Isabelle and Charlie are friends. They both like to draw, dance, read, and play at the park. They both like to eat Cheerios. They both cry if their feelings are hurt. And, like most friends, they are also different from each other. Isabelle has Down syndrome. Charlie doesn't. Written by Isabelle's mother, this charming tale encourages readers to think about what makes a friendship special. MY FRIEND ISABELLE also opens the door for young children to talk about differences and the world around them. It's a wonderful story to read at bedtime or to share at school. Lively full color illustrations dovetail beautifully with the text to bring the simple story to life.</p>	Woloson	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
<p>Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah:</p> <p>Born with only one functioning leg, Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah grew up with a mother who focused on his abilities. "He learned to crawl and hop, to fetch water and climb coconut trees." When he grew too heavy for her to carry, he hopped two miles to school and two miles home again. "Emmanuel had a sharp mind, a bold heart, and one strong leg." At 13, he left home for the city of Accra in Ghana to earn money to help support his family. Time and again he encountered people who assumed he couldn't do much because of his disability. After his mother's death, he decided to honor her last words by showing that being disabled doesn't mean being unable, and, after much organization and planning, embarked on a bike ride across Ghana: 400 miles in 10 days, with one strong leg. An understated narrative emphasizes Emmanuel's spirit and persistence in addition to his physical abilities, while the stylized illustrations are full of emotion. An author's note tells of Emmanuel's continued disability rights activism.</p>	Thompson	PreK-2	Biography Nonfiction Sports Disability	African
<p>Thank you Mr. Falker:</p> <p>Before she started school, Trisha looked forward to learning how to read more than anything else. But in first grade, when all her classmates are learning to read, she finds that she can't. Each year her problem gets worse and worse and, although she struggles to keep it a secret, she begins to think of herself as stupid and ugly. It isn't until Trisha is in fifth grade that she has a teacher who discovers her secret and helps her learn to read. An autobiographical story shows the frustration and determination of child who's different, and offers a tender portrait of the real life teacher who made a difference in her life.</p>	Polacco	PreK-5	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
<p>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</p> <p>Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, for fifteen-year-old Christopher everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning. He lives on patterns, rules, and a diagram kept in his pocket. Then one day, a neighbor's dog, Wellington, is killed and his carefully constructive</p>	Haddon	7-YA	Realistic Fiction	white

universe is threatened. Christopher sets out to solve the murder in the style of his favourite (logical) detective, Sherlock Holmes. What follows makes for a novel that is funny, poignant and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing are a mind that perceives the world entirely literally.				
A Friend for Henry: In Classroom Six, second left down the hall, Henry has been on the lookout for a friend. A friend who shares. A friend who listens. Maybe even a friend who likes things to stay the same and all in order, as Henry does. But on a day full of <i>too close</i> and <i>too loud</i> , when nothing seems to go right, will Henry ever find a friend—or will a friend find him? With insight and warmth, this heartfelt story from the perspective of a boy on the autism spectrum celebrates the everyday magic of friendship.	Bailey	PreK-2	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
Wonder: August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. WONDER, now a #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestseller and included on the Texas Bluebonnet Award master list, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.	Polacio	4-8	Realistic Fiction	white
LGBTQIA+ Authors not of color				
Book title:	Author	Approximate Grade Level	Genre	Protagonist Ethnicity
Julian is a Mermaid Riding the train home from the swimming pool, Julián and his abuela see women clad in elegant, mint-green dresses trailing tail fins: mermaids. Wide-eyed Julián drifts into a fantasy: submerged in water, his hair lengthens and he's swept up in a stream of sea creatures, a tail where his legs had been, a large blue fish presenting him with a coral necklace. Once home, while Abuela takes a bath Julián removes his clothing, tucks fern leaves and flowers into a headband, and kneels on the vanity to apply lipstick. From the gauzy window curtain he fashions a tail and strikes a pose—only to be discovered by a towel-wrapped Abuela, who promptly walks away. Julián's relief is palpable when Abuela, dressed in blue, returns to present him with a beaded coral necklace. Without a word, she takes Julián's hand and leads him to the mermaid parade, where they join in the celebration. A soft, colorful palette and gorgeous watercolor and ink illustrations on brown paper realistically portray bodies of all different sizes in this touching story of an abuela's love and acceptance of her gender-creative grandchild.	Love	PreK-2	Fiction LGBTQIA+	Afro Latinx
Red: A Crayon's Story: All the other crayons expect Red to conform to their expectations but he simply can't. He can't draw a red strawberry, and when he and Yellow are paired in school and assigned to draw an	Hill	PreK-2	Fiction LGBTQIA+	n/a

<p>orange together, he fails at that, too. Even his self-portrait is wrong—he draws himself blue. Everyone tries to fix Red, but with no success. Children will see what the other crayons can't—that Red is actually a blue crayon with the wrong paper label. Ultimately Red's story is both a clever and accessible way to show that people aren't always what you expect them to be, and that we must look beyond labels and outside appearances.</p>				
<p>Afterworlds: Darcy Patel has put college on hold to publish her teen novel, <i>Afterworlds</i>. With a contract in hand, she arrives in New York City with no apartment, no friends, and all the wrong clothes. But lucky for Darcy, she's taken under the wings of other seasoned and fledgling writers who help her navigate the city and the world of writing and publishing. Over the course of a year, Darcy finishes her book, faces critique, and falls in love. Woven into Darcy's personal story is her novel, <i>Afterworlds</i>, a suspenseful thriller about a teen who slips into the "Afterworld" to survive a terrorist attack. The Afterworld is a place between the living and the dead, and where many unsolved—and terrifying—stories need to be reconciled. Like Darcy, Lizzie too falls in love...until a new threat resurfaces, and her special gifts may not be enough to protect those she cares about most.</p>	Westerfield	7-YA	Science Fiction Fantasy LGBTQIA+	Pacific American South Asian
<p>Better Nate Than Ever: Nate Foster has big dreams. His whole life, he's wanted to star in a Broadway show. (Heck, he'd settle for seeing a Broadway show.) But how is Nate supposed to make his dreams come true when he's stuck in Jankburg, Pennsylvania, where no one (except his best pal Libby) appreciates a good show tune? With Libby's help, Nate plans a daring overnight escape to New York. There's an open casting call for <i>E.T.: The Musical</i>, and Nate knows this could be the difference between small-town blues and big-time stardom.</p>	Federle	4-8	Realistic Fiction LGBTQIA+	white
<p>The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime that Changed Their Lives: Despite recently losing a friend to gun violence, African American Richard is focused on improving his grades and graduating from his Oakland high school. Sasha, who attends private school, is agender and brilliant, the type of person who invents languages for fun. On November 4, 2013, as Richard and Sasha ride the bus home from their respective schools, Richard holds a lighter to Sasha's skirt, which erupts into flames. This event sets in motion a long, painful process of court appearances for Richard, and healing for both. The two teens are treated with respect and empathy in this nonfiction account that begins with an exploration of their backgrounds, including Sasha's gradual understanding that they don't identify as either male or female, and continues through Sasha's recovery and Richard's sentencing. Accessible descriptions of aspects of the U.S. and California justice systems—the practice of restorative justice and California's Proposition 21, which allows juvenile offenders to be charged as adults—in addition to information about Richard's personality and adolescent brains and behavior, suggest that, as Richard's friend attests, the crime "was like a funny prank-joke turns to something that ends your whole life." Although a grim event begins this narrative, the humanity of both teens and their families is palpable throughout.</p>	Slater	7-YA	Nonfiction LGBTQIA+	Black white
<p>George: A girl born into a boy's body, 10-year-old George hasn't yet confided this truth to anyone. Then she decides to try out for the part of Charlotte in the fourth grade's dramatization of <i>Charlotte's</i></p>	Gino	4-8	Realistic Fiction LGBTQIA+	white

<p><i>Web.</i> George thinks the play will be a vehicle to let her mom know that she's really a girl, not a boy. But she also wants the part of Charlotte because she loves the character. George finally tells her friend Kelly the truth, and after Kelly is cast as Charlotte, she and George conspire to have George play Charlotte in the second performance. By then George has told both her mom and her older brother. Both of them had assumed George was gay, and while George's brother looks at George as if she finally makes sense to him, George's mom is struggling. Alex Gino's warm debut novel is a pitch-perfect story for younger middle grade. Substantial without a hint of heaviness, the almost lighthearted tone offers a matter-of-fact presentation of George's identity, leaving room for the delightful development of characters and the plot around Kelly and George's plan. The support George receives from Kelly, from her brother, and from the school principal, as well as the range of responses of others, are all realistic. But all of the characters are more than their responses, just as George is more than her gender. She's George, a girl with many interests finally able to outwardly express an elemental aspect of her identity.</p>				
<p><u>The Upside of Unrequited:</u> Seventeen-year-old Molly Peskin-Suso knows all about unrequited love. No matter how many times her twin sister, Cassie, tells her to woman up, Molly can't stomach the idea of rejection. So she's careful. Fat girls always have to be careful. Then a cute new girl enters Cassie's orbit, and for the first time ever, Molly's cynical twin is a lovesick mess. Meanwhile, Molly's totally not dying of loneliness-except for the part where she is. Luckily, Cassie's new girlfriend comes with a cute hipster-boy sidekick. If Molly can win him over, she'll get her first kiss and she'll get her twin back. There's only one problem: Molly's coworker, Reid. He's a chubby Tolkien superfan with a season pass to the Ren Faire, and there's absolutely no way Molly could fall for him. Right?</p>	Albertalli	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQIA+	Black
<p><u>The Porcupine of Truth</u> When Carson meets Aisha in the gift shop of ZooMontana, he is awed by her beauty and quick wit. Although initially disappointed to discover that Aisha, a lesbian, isn't the potential romantic partner he'd hoped, Carson realizes she has the friendship potential that he craves. Recently arrived in Billings from his New York City home, Carson and his mom intend to spend the summer caring for his terminally ill, alcoholic, long-estranged father. African American Aisha's father made her leave home after she came out to her parents. New information about his paternal grandfather (also estranged from the family) sends Carson and Aisha on a quest to track the man down and bring him back into his son's life before it's too late. During a road trip that eventually takes them to San Francisco, the two teens struggle with difficult questions about religion, race, alcoholism, family relationships, and the sometimes rocky road to an open and equal friendship. Humor, honesty, and a willingness to explore important but often uncomfortable topics combine in this exceptional contemporary novel.</p>	Konigsburg	7-YA	Realistic Fiction LGBTQIA+	Black
<p><u>Lies We Tell Ourselves:</u> In 1959 Virginia, the lives of two girls on opposite sides of the battle for civil rights will be changed forever. Sarah Dunbar is one of the first black students to attend the previously all-white Jefferson High School. An honors student at her old school, she is put into remedial classes, spit on and tormented daily. Linda Hairston is the daughter of one of the town's most vocal opponents of school integration. She has been taught all her life that the races should be kept "separate but equal." Forced to work together on a school project, Sarah and Linda must confront harsh truths about race, power and the fact that they may be falling for one another.</p>	Talley	7-YA	Historical Fiction LGBTQIA+	Black white

<p>Boldly realistic and emotionally compelling, <i>Lies We Tell Ourselves</i> is a brave and stunning novel about finding truth amidst the lies, and finding your voice even when others are determined to silence it.</p>				
<p><u>The Edge of the Abyss:</u> Three weeks have passed since Cassandra Leung pledged her allegiance to ruthless pirate-queen Santa Elena and set free Bao, the sea monster Reckoner she'd been forced to train. The days as a pirate trainee are long and grueling, but it's not the physical pain that Cas dreads most. It's being forced to work with Swift, the pirate girl who broke her heart. But Cas has even bigger problems when she discovers Boa is not the only a monster swimming free. Other Reckoners illegally sold to pirates have escaped their captors and are taking the NeoPacific by storm, attacking ships at random and ruining the ocean ecosystem. As a Reckoner trainer, Cas might be the only one who can stop them. But how can she take up arms against the creatures she used to care for and protect? Will Cas embrace the murky morals that life as a pirate brings or perish in the dark waters of the NeoPacific?</p>	Skrutskie	7-YA	Adventure Science Fiction Fantasy LGBTQIA+	Pacific American Asian
<p><u>The Perks of Being a Wallflower:</u> The critically acclaimed debut novel from Stephen Chbosky, <i>Perks</i> follows observant "wallflower" Charlie as he charts a course through the strange world between adolescence and adulthood. First dates, family drama, and new friends. Sex, drugs, and <i>The Rocky Horror Picture Show</i>. Devastating loss, young love, and life on the fringes. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it, Charlie must learn to navigate those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.</p>	Chbosky	7-YA	Realistic Fiction Disability	white
<p><u>Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda</u> Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met.</p>	Albertalli	7-YA	Realistic Fiction	white
<p><u>Symptoms of Being Human:</u> Riley Cavanaugh is many things: Punk rock. Snarky. Rebellious. And gender fluid. Some days Riley identifies as a boy, and others as a girl. But Riley isn't exactly out yet. And between starting a new school and having a congressman father running for reelection in über-conservative Orange County, the pressure—media and otherwise—is building up in Riley's life. On the advice of a therapist, Riley starts an anonymous blog to vent those pent-up feelings and tell the truth of what it's really like to be a gender fluid teenager. But just as Riley's starting to settle in at school—even developing feelings for a mysterious outcast—the blog goes viral, and an unnamed commenter discovers Riley's real identity, threatening exposure. And Riley must make a choice: walk away from what the blog has created—a lifeline, new friends, a cause to believe in—or stand up, come out, and risk everything.</p>				white