



Inclusive Literature Lists

The Billings Public Library supports and values and celebrates diversity and inclusion. We strive to curate a collection of resources that represents all demographics in our community's tapestry. We believe an inclusive and welcoming community is a stronger community.

This list of inclusive and diverse literature that the youth of our community can see themselves in as well as use as a conduit to build compassion for others is brought to you on behalf of collaboration between the Human Relations Commission of the City of Billings, the Billings Public Library, and a children's literature assistant professor from Montana State University Billings.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive. We welcome your feedback, suggestions, and any recommendations for this list. We will take these into consideration as we continue to develop these lists.

Inclusive Literature: January 2023



Nita's Day

By [MacMillan, Kathy](#)

Illustrator [Brezzi, Sara](#)

2020-05 - Familius

9781641701488 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Sign language makes it easy to communicate with your child, and Nita makes it fun. The second book in the Little Hands Signing series (which introduced the bestselling *Nita's First Signs*), *Nita's Day* teaches ten new and essential ASL signs for every parent and child to know: *wake up, change, clothes, eat, potty, go, play, bath, book, and bed*. A simple story about [...More](#)



Guadalupe: First Words/Primeras Palabras: A Bilingual Picture Book

By [Rodriguez, Patty](#)

Author [Stein, Ariana](#)

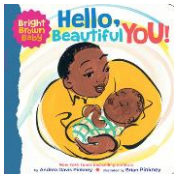
Illustrator [Reyes, Citlali](#)

2015-08 - Lil' Libros

9780986109904 [Check Our Catalog](#) SPA

A Lil' Libros Bilingual Picture Book

Inspired by Our Lady of Guadalupe, this book will introduce children to her story through pictures and their first English and Spanish words. Travel back to the 15th century when the Virgin of Guadalupe once appeared before Juan Diego. Your child will learn first words such as *sandalias* (sandals), *luz* (light), and *jardin* [...More](#)



Hello, Beautiful You! (a Bright Brown Baby Board Book)

By [Pinkney, Andrea](#)

Illustrator [Pinkney, Brian](#)

2022-09 - Cartwheel Books

9781338672411 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Let your little ones know how truly beautiful they are with this this precious board book -- the fourth title in our growing BRIGHT BROWN BABY series -- from *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning duo Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney!

Brown baby, born bright.

Greet the world. Spread your light.

Get ready for sweet togetherness as you snuggle up [...More](#)



Meeka Loves Nature: Insects: Bilingual Inuktitut and English Edition

By [Christopher, Danny](#)

Illustrator [Hinch, Ali](#)

2022-08 - Inhabit Education Books Inc.

9781774502723 [Check Our Catalog](#)

There are so many insects to discover in the North Join the little entomologist as she explores the tundra to find all sorts of bugs, from polaris bees to Arctic blue butterflies and everything in between. What flying, buzzing, crawling creatures will she discover next?

[...More](#)



Meeka Loves Nature: Plants: Bilingual Inuktitut and English Edition

By [Christopher, Danny](#)

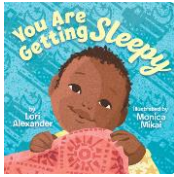
Illustrator [Hinch, Ali](#)

2022-08 - Inhabit Education Books Inc.

9781774502730 [Check Our Catalog](#)

There are so many plants to discover in the North! Join Meeka as she explores the tundra to find all sorts of plants, from Arctic cotton to purple saxifrage and everything in between. What blooming, growing greenery will she discover next?

[...More](#)



You Are Getting Sleepy

By [Alexander, Lori](#)

Illustrator [Mikai, Monica](#)

2022-09 - Cartwheel Books

9781338814064 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Lull your little one to sleep with this adorable bedtime board book, about a wide-awake baby who does not want to go to sleep!

Tick-tock, peek at the clock.

It's time to sleep, sweet baby.

First a bath to soak...relax.

Are you getting sleepy?

A calming bedtime tune for all those wide-awake babies, this board book is about to become a favorite step of [...More](#)



Dream! ¡Sueña! with the Latinitas: Celebrating 40 Big Dreamers

By [Menéndez, Juliet](#)

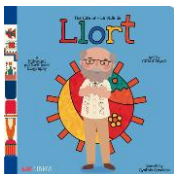
Illustrator [Menéndez, Juliet](#)

2022-09 - Godwin Books

9781250840448 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Meet the Latinitas, whose big dreams paved the way for your little feet! With gorgeous, hand-painted illustrations, Juliet Menéndez shines a spotlight on the power of childhood dreams.

Conoce a las Latinitas cuyos grandes sueños abrieron el camino para tus propios pasitos! Con hermosas ilustraciones, hechas a mano, Juliet Menéndez pone en relieve el poder que tienen los sueños de la [...More](#)



The Life of / La Vida de Lloré

By [Gonzalez, Cynthia](#)

Illustrator [Reyes, Citlali](#)

2022-10 - Lil' Libros

9781948066259 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Introduce your little ones to Francisco Lloré, a world-renowned artist from El Salvador!

Fernando Lloré is a major point of reference for the art and iconography of El Salvador.

Llort escaped the political instability of his capital in favor of the peaceful mountains of La Palma, a small town in the northern region of El Salvador. Here, Llort would awaken an artisan [...More](#)



I Love My Beautiful Hair

By [Wentt, Elissa](#)

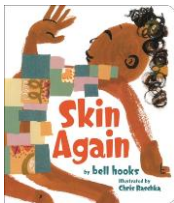
Illustrator [Wentt, Elissa](#)

2022-06 - Cartwheel Books

9781338763157 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A celebration of family tradition and natural hair, in this adorable rhyming board book!

Little EJ is so excited to join her mom and grandmommy for her first-ever trip to the hair salon. She wants to find a special hair style. But with so many options... how can she choose? Readers will love "trying on" hair styles alongside EJ, as she imagines herself in a variety of styles. [...More](#)



Skin Again

By [Hooks, Bell](#)

Illustrator [Raschka, Chris](#)

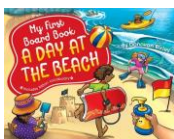
2022-08 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316412933 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From legendary author and critic bell hooks and multi-Caldecott Medalist Chris Raschka comes a way to talk about race and identity that will appeal to parents of the youngest readers--in board book edition.

The skin I'm in is just a covering. It cannot tell my story. If you want to know who I am, you have got to come inside and open your heart way wide.

Race matters, [...More](#)



My First Board Book: A Day at the Beach

By [Bixley, Donovan](#)

2022-04 - Hachette Aotearoa New Zealand

9781869713652 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Name all the things you can see down by the sea in English and te reo Maori with this vibrant board book from award-winning illustrator Donovan Bixley. What can you see on a day at the beach? A sandcastle (pa kirikiri), some waves (ngaru), or a lifeguard (kaikauhauora)? A DAY AT THE BEACH is a fun and engaging seaside excursion that is perfect for Kiwi kids

"Early concept boardbooks and [...More](#)



Whoever You Are: A Baby Book on Love & Gender

By [Wai Lin, Josephine](#)

Illustrator [Lopez, Sandy](#)

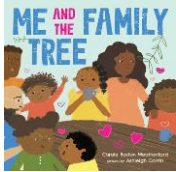
2022-09 - Collective Book Studio

9781951412944 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Quiet **and** loud, soft **and** strong. You being you, there's no way to be wrong...

Every day, parents come home from the hospital with a brand-new human being. What if we made vows to our babies to love them no matter what? What if the world didn't rush in to judge our little ones and instead made them feel truly seen and supported.

With bright, vibrant illustrations [...More](#)



Me and the Family Tree

By [Weatherford, Carole](#)

Illustrator [Corrin, Ashleigh](#)

2022-10 - Sourcebooks Jabberwocky

9781728242491 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A celebration of family roots from award-winning children's author Carole Boston Weatherford!

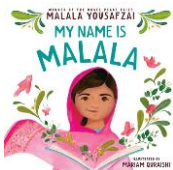
I've got my brother's ears

And my sister's big bright eyes.

I've got my grandpa's hands

Though mine are a smaller size.

As a young girl reflects on the characteristics she shares with her family, she also notices and [...More](#)



My Name Is Malala

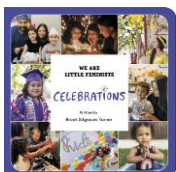
By [Yousafzai, Malala](#)

2022-10 - LB Kids

9780316340274 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In her first board book, Nobel Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai introduces herself and her story to inspire the next generation of readers and leaders.

With simple text alongside irresistible art, Nobel Prize laureate and education activist Malala Yousafzai's first board book offers parents and educators a way to show that extraordinary figures are real people who are both relatable and [...More](#)



We Are Little Feminists: Celebrations

By [Turner, Brook Sitgraves](#)

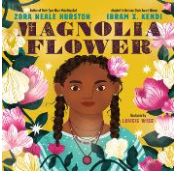
2022-10 - Little Feminist Press

9781734182484 [Check Our Catalog](#)

No holiday is complete without CELEBRATIONS! This unique board book helps families and educators discuss belief systems, ceremonies, and holidays to spread love and understanding for all faiths.

Complete with family discussion questions and a glossary detailing each celebration, faith, and practice. Created with 0-5-year-olds in mind.

See families and communities [...More](#)



Magnolia Flower

By [Hurston, Zora Neale](#)

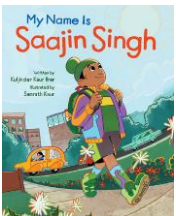
Author [Kendi, Ibram X.](#)

Illustrator [Wise, Loveis](#)

2022-09 - Amistad Books for Young Readers

9780063098312 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From beloved African American folklorist Zora Neale Hurston comes a moving adaptation by National Book Award winner and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *How to Be an Antiracist* and *Antiracist Baby*, Ibram X. Kendi. *Magnolia Flower* follows a young Afro Indigenous girl who longs for freedom and is gorgeously illustrated by Loveis Wise (The [...More](#)



My Name Is Saajin Singh

By [Brar, Kuljinder Kaur](#)

Illustrator [Kaur, Samrath](#)

2022-08 - Annick Press

9781773217055 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A debut picture book that explores the importance of pronouncing names properly and celebrates cultural identity.

Saajin loves his name--he loves it so much that he sees it spelled out in the world around him in his snacks, in the sky and sometimes he even sings it aloud. On his first day of school, Saajin is excited to meet his new classmates, but things [...More](#)



Off the Wall

By [Taylor, Theodore](#)

2022-10 - Roaring Brook Press

9781626722941 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Theodore Taylor III comes a vibrant ode to street art, a picture book about a child discovering all of the beauty--and art--her new neighborhood has to offer.

Shapes moving in every direction,

letters weaving in and out,

bright colors jumping off of the wall.

It was like a language [...More](#)



Something Great

By [Bradley, Jeanette](#)

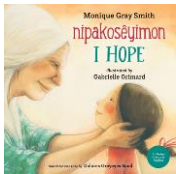
2022-10 - Levine Querido

9781646141715 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Voila! Quinn spent the morning in their workshop, and they emerged with Something Great! But. What is it?

No one seemed to understand that Something Great isn't supposed to be anything. It was just. itself. Something Great.

Then, the new kid asks to play with Quinn and Something Great. They discover that Something Great can be an elevator, a bug catcher, or a stick lifter. It could even [...More](#)



I Hope / Nipakosêyimon

By [Gray Smith, Monique](#)

Illustrator [Grimard, Gabrielle](#)

Translator [Sand, Dolores Greyeyes](#)

2022-09 - Orca Book Publishers

9781459833258 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Poignant words from award-winning Indigenous author Monique Gray Smith about all the hopes adults have for the young people in their lives.

The hopes we have for the children in our lives are endless. We want our young people to thrive and experience all that life has to offer, but we also feel protective of them. Using simple but powerful statements, Monique Gray Smith [...More](#)



Still This Love Goes on

By [Sainte-Marie, Buffy](#)

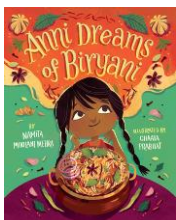
Illustrator [Flett, Julie](#)

2022-09 - Greystone Kids

9781771648073 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A love letter to Indigenous communities everywhere, this picture book gorgeously illustrated by Julie Flett celebrates seasons, nature, and community.

Based on Academy Award-winning Cree icon Buffy Sainte-Marie's song of the same name, *Still This Love Goes On* is a stunning celebration of Indigenous experience. Breathtaking illustrations from celebrated [...More](#)



Anni Dreams of Biryani

By [Moolani Mehra, Namita](#)

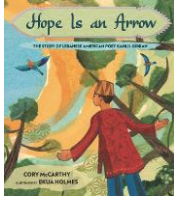
Illustrator [Prabhat, Chaaya](#)

2022-09 - Two Lions

9781542030410 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The café across the street from Anni's home in Little India makes the best biryani in the world. Fluffy and fragrant, spicy and succulent--Anni could eat it every day. In fact, Anni loves that biryani so much that she's determined to uncover the secret to the recipe.

She has so many questions for Uncle, the grumpy chef and owner of the café. But he isn't providing any easy clues. So, with [...More](#)



Hope Is an Arrow: The Story of Lebanese-American Poet Khalil Gibran

By [McCarthy, Cory](#)

Illustrator [Holmes, Ekua](#)

2022-07 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536200324 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A lyrical biography of Kahlil Gibran by award-winning writer Cory McCarthy, with glorious illustrations by Caldecott Honoree and two-time Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award winner Ekua Holmes.

Before Kahlil Gibran became the world's third-best-selling poet of all time, he was Gibran Khalil Gibran, an immigrant child from Lebanon with a secret hope to bring people together despite [...More](#)



Something about Grandma

By [de Regil, Tania](#)

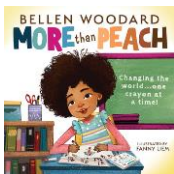
Illustrator [de Regil, Tania](#)

2022-08 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536201949 [Check Our Catalog](#)

On a first solo visit to her grandmother's home outside Mexico City, a young girl discovers what makes Grandma so special in this enchanting and personal picture book.

At Grandma's house, where Julia is staying without her parents for the first time, the breeze is sweet like jasmine. Mornings begin with sugared bread, and the most magnificent hot chocolate cures all homesickness. [...More](#)



More Than Peach

By [Woodard, Bellen](#)

Illustrator [Liem, Fanny](#)

2022-07 - Scholastic Inc.

9781338809275 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Penned by the very first Crayon Activist, Bellen Woodard, this picture book will tug at readers' heartstrings and inspire them to make a difference!

When Bellen Woodard's classmates referred to the skin-color" crayon, in a school and classroom she had always loved, she knew just how important it was that everyone understood that "skin can be any number of beautiful colors." This [...More](#)



Sitti's Bird: A Gaza Story

By [Mattar, Malak](#)

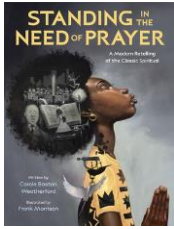
2022-08 - Crocodile Books

9781623718251 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A sensitive and heart warming story of how a little girl in Gaza finds strength and hope through her painting. *Sitti's Bird* is a unique children's picture book, written

and illustrated by Palestinian artist, Malak Mattar, reflecting her experiences of childhood in Palestine.

Malak is a little girl who lives in Gaza with her parents. She goes to school, plays in the ocean, and [...More](#)



Standing in the Need of Prayer: A Modern Retelling of the Classic Spiritual

By [Weatherford, Carole Boston](#)

Illustrator [Morrison, Frank](#)

2022-09 - Crown Books for Young Readers

9780593306352 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From an award-winning author and critically acclaimed artist comes a stunning and deeply moving picture book based on the popular spiritual Standing in the Need of Prayer. The classic lyrics have been reworked to chronicle the milestones, struggles, tragedies, and triumphs of African American history. A perfect gift or timeless keepsake!

This inspirational [...More](#)



My Brother Is Away

By [Greenwood, Sara](#)

Illustrator [Uribe, Luisa](#)

2022-10 - Random House Studio

9780593127162 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this moving picture book, a young girl reflects on the emotions and challenges of growing up with a brother who is incarcerated. This touching story is filled with vivid illustrations and is based on the author's childhood experiences.

With her older brother in prison, a young girl copes with the confusing feelings his absence creates. At times she remembers the way her [...More](#)



Making Happy

By [Sheth, Sheetal](#)

Illustrator [Le, Khoa](#)

2022-09 - Barefoot Books

9781646866229 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



The Secret of the Plátano

By [Mack, Luz Maria](#)

Illustrator [Mesa, Stephany](#)

2022-09 - Soaring Kite Books

9781953859235 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Under the full moon, Abuela leads an enchanted dance, bows to the sky and the night winds, and helps her curious grandson discover the rhythm of his heartbeat while listening to the great secret of the plátanos.

At first his tiny ears couldn't hear it, but Abuela shares that she can't teach something that only her heart knows. This loving and tender story of the magical [...More](#)



Brown Is Beautiful

By [Kelkar, Supriya](#)

Illustrator [Sofi, Noor](#)

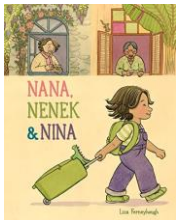
2022-10 - Farrar, Straus and Giroux (Byr)

9780374389529 [Check Our Catalog](#)

For fans of *Hair Love* and *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners*, here is an empowering picture book about recognizing the beauty around you and within you by award-winning author Supriya Kelkar and rising star illustrator Noor Sofi.

Brown is beautiful.

On a hike with her grandparents, a young Indian-American girl makes note of all the things in nature that are brown, [...More](#)



Nana, Nenek & Nina

By [Ferneyhough, Liza](#)

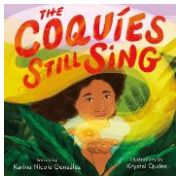
Illustrator [Ferneyhough, Liza](#)

2022-08 - Dial Books

9780593353943 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Nina loves visiting her two faraway grandmas--one in Malaysia and one in England. Spot the similarities and differences between their homes in this cozy and beautifully illustrated picture book!

Nina lives in San Francisco with her parents, and she loves visiting her two grandmas across the world. Follow Nina as her two trips unfold side by side: Young readers will love poring over the [...More](#)



The Coquíes Still Sing

By [Gonzalez, Karina Nicole](#)

Illustrator [Quiles, Krystal](#)

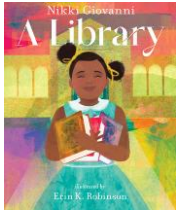
2022-08 - Roaring Brook Press

9781250787187 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A powerful story about home, community, and hope, inspired by the rebuilding of Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria in 2017, written by debut author Karina González and illustrated by Krystal Quiles.

This book is more than beautiful. - Yuyi Morales, Caldecott Honoree and *New York Times* bestselling creator of *Dreamers*

Co-quí, co-quí! The coquí frogs sing [...More](#)



A Library

By [Giovanni, Nikki](#)

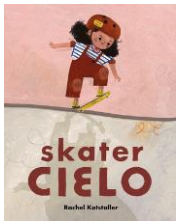
Illustrator [Robinson, Erin K.](#)

2022-09 - Versify

9780358387657 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this lyrical picture book, world-renowned poet, *New York Times* bestselling author, and Coretta Scott King Honor winner Nikki Giovanni and fine artist Erin Robinson craft an ode to the magic of a library as a place not only for knowledge but also for imagination, exploration, and escape.

In what other place can a child sail their dreams and surf the rainbow [...More](#)



Skater Cielo

By [Katstaller, Rachel](#)

Illustrator [Katstaller, Rachel](#)

2022-08 - Orchard Books

9781338751116 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Meet Cielo, a fierce skater who finds that facing your fear of failing gives you the courage to persevere!

Cielo loves to skateboard! But when she messes up on a new ramp she's embarrassed and afraid to fall again in front of so many people. With the help of some new friends, Cielo summons the courage to try again (and again, and again), and learns that falling is not failing--true [...More](#)



Together We Drum, Our Hearts Beat as One

By [Poll, Willie](#)

Illustrator [Bird, Chief Lady](#)

2022-10 - Arsenal Pulp Press

9781551528892 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this beautifully illustrated book, a determined young Anishnaabe girl in search of adventure goes on a transformative journey into a forest on her traditional territory. She is joined by a chorus of women and girls in red dresses, ancestors who tell her they remember what it was like to be carefree and wild, too. Soon, though, the girl is challenged [...More](#)



Song in the City

By [Bernstrom, Daniel](#)

Illustrator [Mohammed, Jenin](#)

2022-09 - Amistad Books for Young Readers

9780063011120 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From Daniel Bernstrom, the acclaimed author of *One Day in the Eucalyptus, Eucalyptus Tree*, comes a charming and irresistibly fun picture book about a

young blind girl and her grandmother who experience the vibrant everyday music of their busy city.

A young girl, filled with the sounds of her beloved city, shares a song with her grandmother that changes the two [...More](#)



So Not Ghoul

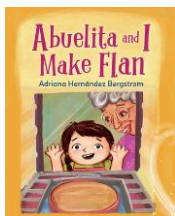
By [Yin, Karen](#)

Illustrator [Lui, Bonnie](#)

2022-08 - Page Street Kids

9781645675570 [Check Our Catalog](#)

On her first day haunting a new school, all Mimi has to wear are old Chinese gowns from her great-great-great-great-ghost-grandmother. She wants to look horrifying and rattle chains with the cool American ghouls at school, but her ghost ancestors insist she dress and behave like a good Chinese ghost. Desperate to fit in and find a middle haunting ground between her cultures, she plans a [...More](#)



Abuelita and I Make Flan

By [Hernández Bergstrom, Adriana](#)

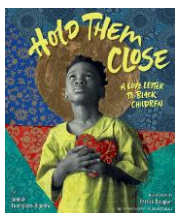
Illustrator [Hernández Bergstrom, Adriana](#)

2022-08 - Charlesbridge Publishing

9781623542658 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Anita loves to bake with her abuela, especially when they are using her grandmother's special recipes for Cuban desserts like flan!

Anita is making flan for Abuelo's birthday, but when she accidentally breaks Abuelita's treasured flan serving plate from Cuba, she struggles with what to do. Anita knows it's right to tell the truth, but what if Abuelita gets upset? Worried that she has [...More](#)



Hold Them Close

By [Thompkins-Bigelow, Jamilah](#)

Illustrator [Dougher, Patrick](#)

2022-10 - HarperCollins

9780063036178 [Check Our Catalog](#)

When happy things come to you, hold them close and never let go.

From celebrated author of *Your Name Is a Song* Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, fine artist Patrick Dougher, and photographer Jamel Shabazz, *Hold Them Close* is a picture book celebration of Black past, present, and future--a joyful love letter to Black children.

As [...More](#)



The Mother of a Movement: Jeanne Manford--Ally, Activist, and Co-Founder of Pflag

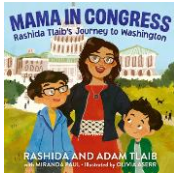
By [Sanders, Rob](#)

Illustrator [Kalda, Sam](#)

2022-09 - Magination Press

9781433840203 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The Mother of a Movement is a true story of parental support and unconditional love. It tells the story of Jeanne Manford, the co-founder of PFLAG. When her son Morty was beaten by New York City officials for handing out pro-gay leaflets, Manford wrote a powerful letter to the *New York Post* to complain about how Morty was treated. In the letter she came out as the mother of a [...More](#)



Mama in Congress: Rashida Tlaib's Journey to Washington

By [Tlaib, Rashida](#)

Author [Paul, Miranda](#)

Illustrator [Aserr, Olivia](#)

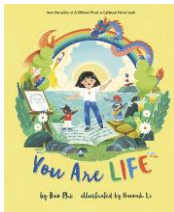
2022-09 - Clarion Books

9780358683438 [Check Our Catalog](#)

An inspiring picture book that tells the story of Rashida Tlaib, one of the first Muslim women elected to Congress, and her family. Perfect for readers of books that celebrate trailblazing women and social activists as well as those looking for an introduction to civic engagement and how government works.

Hey Adam, is the president Mom's boss now?

When Yousif Tlaib [...More](#)



You Are Life

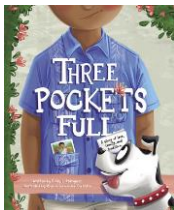
By [Phi, Bao](#)

Illustrator [Li, Hannah](#)

2022-09 - Capstone Editions

9781684464821 [Check Our Catalog](#)

You are . . . You are . . . You are . . . Every child is full to bursting with amazing things! This joyful poem celebrates the wonderful and complex identity of children of immigrants and refugees, embracing all that they are--a dancer, a shining light, a K-pop song--and promising what they will never be: invisible. Award-winning picture book author and poet Bao Phi and illustrator Hannah Li [...More](#)



Three Pockets Full: A Story of Love, Family, and Tradition

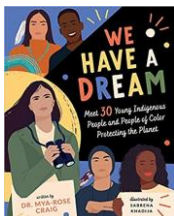
By [Rodriguez, Cindy L.](#)

Illustrator [Corbalan, Begona Fernandez](#)

2022-09 - Cardinal Rule Press

9781735345154 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Beto won't wear a guayabera to the wedding. Nope! Nunca! Not going to happen! Beto tries his best to rid himself of the **traditional Mexican wedding shirt** his Mami gave him. He even gets help from his dog Lupe, but the shirt ends up back on his bed each time with notes from Mami, who becomes increasingly frustrated with Beto. **Mami insists that Beto attend the wedding**, [...More](#)



We Have a Dream: Meet 30 Young Indigenous People and People of Color Protecting the Planet

By [Craig, Mya-Rose](#)

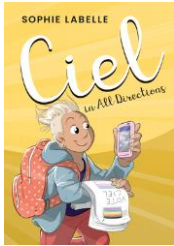
Illustrator [Khadija, Sabrena](#)

2022-04 - Harry N. Abrams
9781419756665 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Thirty young environmental activists share their dreams with voice of a generation Mya-Rose Craig

Indigenous people and people of color are disproportionately affected by climate change. And yet they are underrepresented within the environmental movement. But not anymore.

Written by the extraordinary environmental and campaigner for equal rights Mya-Rose Craig--aka Birdgirl--this [...More](#)

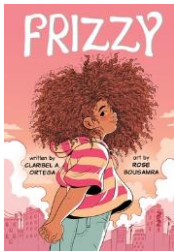


Ciel in All Directions

By [Labelle, Sophie](#)
Translator [Zanin, Andrea](#)
2021-09 - Second Story Press
9781772602036 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Ciel may have settled into high school with their best friend Stephie and new buddy Liam, but life is anything but ordinary for this non-binary trans kid. Between an important science project for school and their ever more popular YouTube channel, Ciel and their friends find themselves involved in a campaign to represent the LGBT Alliance. Life is taking off in all directions.

[...More](#)



Frizzy

By [Ortega, Claribel A.](#)
Illustrator [Bousamra, Rose](#)
2022-10 - First Second
9781250259622 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A middle grade graphic novel about Marlene, a young girl who stops straightening her hair and embraces her natural curls.

Marlene loves three things: books, her cool T• a Ruby and hanging out with her best friend Camila. But according to her mother, Paola, the only thing she needs to focus on is school and growing up. That means straightening her hair every weekend so she could have [...More](#)

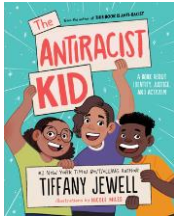


Nikhil Out Loud

By [Pancholy, Maulik](#)
2022-10 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen
9780063091924 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the acclaimed actor and Stonewall Honor-winning author of *The Best at It*, Maulik Pancholy, comes a new middle grade novel about a gay Indian American boy who learns the power of using his voice. For fans of *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* and *Better Nate Than Ever*.

Thirteen-year-old Nikhil Shah is the beloved voice actor for Raj Reddy on the [...More](#)



The Antiracist Kid: A Book about Identity, Justice, and Activism

By [Jewell, Tiffany](#)

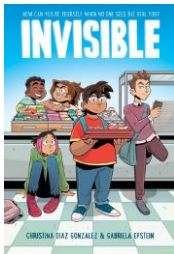
Illustrator [Miles, Nicole](#)

2022-10 - Versify

9780358629399 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *This Book Is Anti-Racist*, Tiffany Jewell, with art by Eisner-nominated illustrator Nicole Miles, *The Antiracist Kid* is the essential illustrated chapter book guide to antiracism for empowering the young readers in your life!

What is racism? What is antiracism? Why are both important to learn [...More](#)



Invisible: A Graphic Novel

By [Gonzalez, Christina Diaz](#)

Illustrator [Epstein, Gabriela](#)

2022-08 - Graphix

9781338194555 [Check Our Catalog](#)

For fans of *Twins* and *Allergic*, a must-have graphic novel about five very different students who are forced together by their school to complete community service... and may just have more in common than they thought.

Can five overlooked kids make one big difference?

There's George: the brain

Sara: the loner

Dayara: the tough kid

Nico: the rich kid

And [...More](#)



Serwa Boateng's Guide to Vampire Hunting

By [Brown, Roseanne](#)

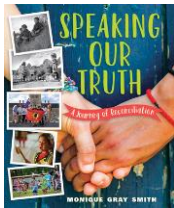
2022-09 - Rick Riordan Presents

9781368066365 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Best-selling author Rick Riordan presents best-selling YA author Roseanne A. Brown's middle grade debut about a pre-teen vampire slayer with a strong helping of Ghanaian folklore.

For most kids, catching fireflies is a fun summer activity. For twelve-year-old Serwa Boateng, it's a matter of life and death.

That's because Serwa knows that some fireflies are really adze, shapeshifting [...More](#)



Speaking Our Truth: A Journey of Reconciliation

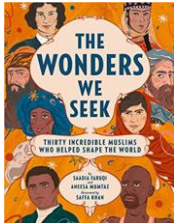
By [Gray Smith, Monique](#)

2017-09 - Orca Book Publishers

9781459815834 [Check Our Catalog](#)

★Smith's book is an effort that returns, offering diverse voices that invite the world into the reconciliation experience. Absolutely necessary."--*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

Canada's relationship with its Indigenous people has suffered as a result of both the residential school system and the lack of understanding of the historical and [...More](#)



The Wonders We Seek: Thirty Incredible Muslims Who Helped Shape the World

By [Faruqi, Saadia](#)

Author [Mumtaz, Aneesa](#)

Illustrator [Khan, Saffa](#)

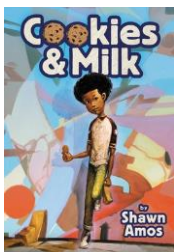
2022-06 - Quill Tree Books

9780062973443 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In this biographical collection, with stunning portraits and illustrations by Saffa Khan, authors Saadia Faruqi and Aneesa Mumtaz highlight some of the talented Muslim physicians, musicians, athletes, poets, and more who helped make the world we know today.

A brilliant surgeon heals patients in the first millennium.

A female king rules the Indian [...More](#)



Cookies & Milk

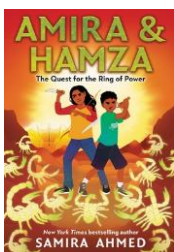
By [Amos, Shawn](#)

2022-05 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780759556775 [Check Our Catalog](#)

It's a summer of family, friendship, and fun fiascos in this semi-autobiographical novel that's as irresistible as a fresh-baked cookie.

Eleven-year-old Ellis Johnson has the summertime blues. He dreamed of spending the summer of 1976 hanging out with friends, listening to music, and playing his harmonica. Instead, he'll be sleeping on a lumpy pullout in Dad's sad little post-divorce [...More](#)



Amira & Hamza: The Quest for the Ring of Power

By [Ahmed, Samira](#)

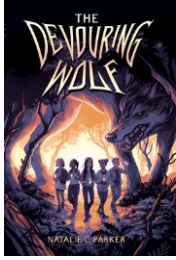
2022-09 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316318617 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Amira and Hamza are back in this epic sequel, which takes readers on a thrilling magical adventure as the siblings face their most terrifying and formidable opponent yet.

All human and jinn kind shall bow down to me. Control the Ring, control the worlds.

Amira and Hamza have returned from Qaf, the magical Jinn world, as triumphant heroes--and life has been pleasantly quiet. [...More](#)



The Devouring Wolf

By [Parker, Natalie C.](#)

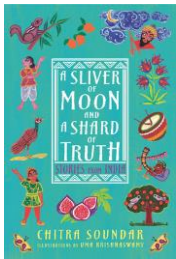
2022-08 - Razorbill

9780593203958 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A queer tale about kid werewolves, big bad mistakes, and terrifying creatures in Natalie C. Parker's exciting middle grade debut.

Little wolf, little wolf, here I come.

They say that the Devouring Wolf isn't real, just an old legend, a giant creature who consumes the magic inside young werewolves. The elders tell the tale to scare young pups into obedience. [...More](#)



A Sliver of Moon and a Shard of Truth: Stories from India

By [Soundar, Chitra](#)

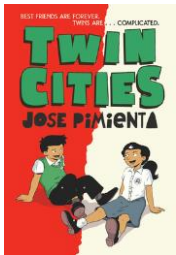
Illustrator [Krishnaswamy, Uma](#)

2022-10 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536225150 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Four wry new trickster tales from the creators of *Mangoes*, *Mischief*, and *Tales of Friendship* draw on Hindu mythology and the rich tradition of Indian folktales.

Clever Prince Veera and his best friend, Suku, are back in a vibrant new collection of stories riddled with surprises. When the prince's great uncle, Raja Apoorva, invites the boys to the summer festival in [...More](#)



Twin Cities: (A Graphic Novel)

By [Pimienta, Jose](#)

2022-07 - Random House Graphic

9780593180648 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Being twins means having a best friend forever . . . But when one twin goes to school in Mexico and the other goes to school across the border in Calexico, can that bond withstand the distance? A contemporary middle grade graphic novel about discovering who you are.

Luis Fernando and Luisa Teresa are twins, and they finally have the chance to stand on their own. Fernando is [...More](#)



Mamo

By [Milledge, Sas](#)

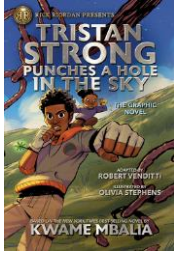
2022-04 - Boom Box

9781684158171 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Family matters aren't just hocus-pocus for this young witch!

Cartoonist Sas Milledge (*The Lost Carnival: A Dick Grayson Graphic Novel*) makes her astonishing debut in her first original graphic novel that answers the question of how we

all reconcile our responsibilities with our dreams for our own future. Orla O'Reilly, the youngest in a long line of hedge witches, is compelled to [...More](#)



Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky, the Graphic Novel

By [Mbalia, Kwame](#)

Author [Venditti, Robert](#)

Illustrator [Olivia Stephens](#)

2022-08 - Rick Riordan Presents

9781368072809 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The best-selling and awarding-winning novel about a Black boy who helps folk heroes and gods through storytelling is now a dynamic graphic novel!

The talented team of Robert Venditti and Olivia Stephens brings to glorious full color the novel that best-selling author Jason Reynolds called A brilliant action adventure rooted in African American lore.

Seventh [...More](#)



Theo Tan and the Fox Spirit

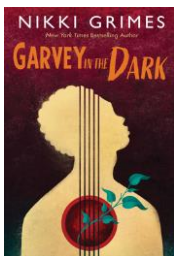
By [Sutanto, Jesse Q.](#)

2022-05 - Feiwel & Friends

9781250794284 [Check Our Catalog](#)

After inheriting a grieving fox spirit, a Chinese American boy must learn to embrace his heritage to solve the mystery of his brother's death in Jesse Q Sutanto's magical, action-packed middle grade fantasy, *Theo Tan and the Fox Spirit*.

Theo Tan doesn't want a spirit companion. He just wants to be a normal American kid, playing video games, going to conventions, and using [...More](#)



Garvey in the Dark

By [Grimes, Nikki](#)

2022-10 - Wordsong

9781635925265 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Capturing the shock and reverberations of the COVID-19 pandemic through the eyes of Garvey, a beloved character, Nikki Grimes's newest novel in verse shows readers how to find hope in difficult times.

Garvey's finally happy--he's feeling close to his father through their shared love of music, bullies are no longer tormenting him, and his best friends Manny and Joe are by his side. But [...More](#)



Children of the Quicksands

By [Traoré, Efua](#)

2022-07 - Chicken House

9781338781922 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A richly imagined magical adventure set in West Africa by a prize-winning new voice in children's writing, *Children of the Quicksands* introduces readers to Yoruba myths and legends while showcasing the wealth of culture, traditions, adventure, joy, pride, and love found in Nigeria.

In a remote Nigerian village, thirteen-year-old Simi is desperate to uncover a [...More](#)



Fighting for Yes!: The Story of Disability Rights Activist Judith Heumann

By [Cocca-Leffler, Maryann](#)

Afterword by [Heumann, Judith](#)

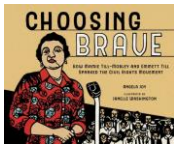
Illustrator [Mildenberger, Vivien](#)

2022-08 - Harry N. Abrams

9781419755606 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A picture book biography celebrating the life and work of disability rights activist and icon Judith Heumann, highlighting one of her landmark achievements--leading the historic 504 Sit-in in 1977

From a very young age, Judy Heumann heard the word *NO*. When she wanted to attend public school, the principal said, "NO." When she wanted her teaching license, the New York Board of [...More](#)



Choosing Brave: The Mamie Till-Mobley Story

By [Joy, Angela](#)

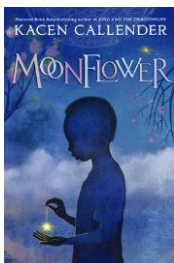
Illustrator [Washington, Janelle](#)

2022-09 - Roaring Brook Press

9781250220950 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A picture book biography of the mother of Emmett Till, and how she channeled grief over her son's death into a call to action for the civil rights movement.

Mamie Till-Mobley is the mother of Emmett Till, the 14-year-old boy who was brutally murdered while visiting the South in 1955. His death became a rallying point for the civil rights movement, but few know that [...More](#)



Moonflower

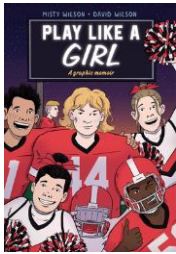
By [Callender, Kacen](#)

2022-09 - Scholastic Press

9781338636598 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Kacen Callender, National Book Award winner of *King and the Dragonflies*, delivers a stunning novel that invites readers into a child's struggles with mental health, and their journey to wholeness.

Moon's depression is overwhelming. Therapy doesn't help, and Moon is afraid that their mom hates them because they're sad. Moon's only escape is traveling to the spirit realms every [...More](#)



Play Like a Girl

By [Wilson, Misty](#)

Illustrator [Wilson, David](#)

2022-09 - Balzer & Bray/Harperteen

9780063064690 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Debut author Misty Wilson chronicles her seventh-grade experience as the only girl on her town's football team in this empowering graphic memoir about teamwork, friendship, crushes, and touchdowns.

Misty never shies away from a challenge, on or off the field. So when the boys tell her she can't play football, there's only one thing to do: join their team [...More](#)



Camp Quiltbag

By [Melleby, Nicole](#)

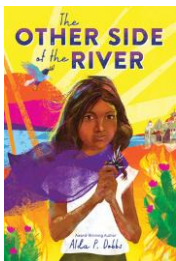
Author [Sass, A. J.](#)

2023-03 - Algonquin Young Readers

9781643752662 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the acclaimed authors of *Hurricane Season* and *Ana on the Edge*, an unforgettable story about the importance of and joy in finding a community, for fans of Alex Gino and Ashley Herring-Blake.

Twelve-year-old Abigail (she/her/hers) is so excited to spend her summer at Camp QUILTBAG, an inclusive retreat for queer and trans kids. She can't wait to find a community [...More](#)



The Other Side of the River

By [Dobbs, Alda P.](#)

2022-09 - Sourcebooks Young Readers

9781728238449 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the award-winning author of *Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna*, Alda P. Dobbs, comes a compelling new novel about building a new life in America. Strong and determined, Petra Luna returns in a story about the immigrant experience that continues to be relevant today.

Petra Luna is in America, having escaped the Mexican Revolution and the terror of the Federales. [...More](#)



Finally Seen

By [Yang, Kelly](#)

2023-02 - Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

9781534488335 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



Unlawful Orders: A Portrait of Dr. James B. Williams, Tuskegee Airman, Surgeon, and Activist (Scholastic Focus)

By [Binns, Barbara](#)

2022-10 - Scholastic Focus

9781338754261 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Barbara Binns presents the inspiring story of one man in his struggle for racial equality in the field of battle and the field of medicine.

The Tuskegee Airmen heroically fought for the right to be officers of the US military so that they might participate in World War II by flying overseas to help defeat fascism. However, after winning that battle, they faced their next great challenge [...More](#)



Troublemakers in Trousers: Women and What They Wore to Get Things Done

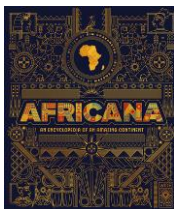
By [Albee, Sarah](#)

Illustrator [Kajfez, Kaja](#)

2022-10 - Charlesbridge Publishing

9781623540951 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



Africana

By [Alabi, Mayowa](#)

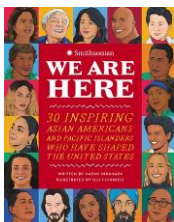
Author [Chakanetsa, Kim](#)

2022-10 - Wide Eyed Editions

9780711269804 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Discover the incredible history and diversity of the African continent in all its splendor with this beautifully illustrated and fact-filled encyclopedia.

Featuring a stunning **copper foil-detailed cover**, this **large-format book** is divided into broad geographical sections that **celebrate and showcase the peoples, landscapes, and wildlife** from different regions of this [...More](#)



We Are Here: 30 Inspiring Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who Have Shaped the United States

By [Hirahara, Naomi](#)

Author [Smithsonian Institution](#)

Illustrator [Ferandez, Illianette](#)

2022-10 - Running Press Kids

9780762479658 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A stunning anthology licensed in partnership with the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, *We Are Here* celebrates 30 of the most inspiring Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in U.S. history.

There are more than 23 million people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent living in the United States. Their stories span across generations, as well as across the [...More](#)