

African American History Month - Biography and Nonfiction

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*92 CAR

Rustad, Martha. George Washington Carver. Mankato, MN: Pebble Books, [2002].

*92 DOU

Schaefer, Lola M. Frederick Douglass. Mankato, Minn: Peeble Bks, [2002].

Note: A simple biography of the man who, after escaping slavery, became an orator, writer, and leader in the anti-slavery movement in the nineteenth century.

*92 KIN

Schaefer, Lola M. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mankato, Minn: Pebble Books/Capstone Press, [1999].

Note: Photographs and simple text provide an introduction to the life of Dr. Martin Luther King.

*92 MAR

Frost, Helen. Thurgood Marshall. Mankato, MN: Pebble Bks, [2003].

Note: An introduction to the life and accomplishments of the African American civil rights attorney who became a prominent Supreme Court Justice.

*92 PAR

Schaefer, Lola M. Rosa Parks. Mankato, MN: Pebble Books, [2002].

Note: A brief biography of the Alabama black woman whose refusal to give up her seat on a bus helped establish the civil rights movement.

*92 ROB

Klingel, Cynthia Fitterer and Noyed, Robert B. Jackie Robinson. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2002].

323.1 MCW

McWhorter, Diane. A dream of freedom: The Civil Rights Movement form 1954 to 1968. New York: Scholastic, [2004].

Note: Explores the sacrifices and triumphs of African American in their pursuit of social and political equality, and examines the often violent resistance they met from white Americans.

323.1 MIL

Miller, Jake. The 1963 March on Washington : speeches and songs for civil rights. New York: PowerKids Press, [2004].

323.1 WEL

Welch, Catherine A. Children of the civil rights era. Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books, [2001].

Note: Recounts the courageous involvement of many young people who marched, protested, were arrested, and risked their lives to end racial discrimination in the South during the 1950s and 1960s.

344.73 LIN

Thomas, Joyce Carol. Linda Brown, you are not alone: The Brown v. Board of Education decision. Jump At The Sun, [2003].

Note: Commemorating the 50th anniversary of this significant Supreme Court decision, this collection of stories, poems, and reflections from authors who lived during the era, including Jerry Spinelli and Quincy Troupe, provides an intimate look at that period of history and the impact it has had on lives throughout the decades.

344.73 MIL

Miller, Jake. *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka : challenging school segregation in the Supreme Court*. New York: PowerKids Press, [2004].

379.2 MIL

Miller, Jake. *The Little Rock Nine : young champions for school integration*. New York: PowerKids Press, [2004].

394.2 RAU

Rau, Dana Meachen. *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*. New York: Children's Press, [2001].

398.2 HAM

Hamilton, Virginia. *Bruh Rabbit and the tar baby girl*. New York: The Blue Sky Press, [2003].

Note: In this retelling, using Gullah speech, of a familiar story the wily Brer Rabbit outwits Brer Fox who has set out to trap him.

639.2 MCK

McKissack, Pat and McKissack, Fredrick. *Black hands, white sails : the story of African-American whalers*. New York: Scholastic, [1999].

Note: A history of African-American whalers between 1730 and 1880, describing their contributions to the whaling industry and their role in the abolitionist movement.

796.323 DIX

Dixon, Tamecka. *You can be a woman basketball player*. Marina del Rey, CA: Cascade Pass, [1999].

Note: Discusses the life and basketball career of Tamecka Dixon, a player for the Los Angeles Sparks in the WNBA, and describes what it is like to be a woman basketball player.

796.332 BAR

Barber, Tiki. *By my brother's side*. New York, N.Y: Simon & Schuster, [2004].

Note: Introduces twin brothers Tiki and Ronde Barber, who worked hard to overcome obstacles and became National Football League stars, one as runningback for the New York Giants, the other as cornerback for the Tampa Bay Bucs.

796.357 BUR

Burgan, Michael. *The Negro leagues*. Minneapolis, Minn: Compass Point Books, [2008].

811 GRE

Greenfield, Eloise. *Honey, I love*. New York: HarperCollinsPublishers, [2003].

Note: A young girl expresses what she loves about life.

811 HUG

Hughes, Langston. *The dream keeper and other poems*. New York: Knopf, [1993].

Note: A collection of sixty-six poems, selected by the author for young readers, including lyrical poems, songs, and blues, many exploring the black experience.

811 HUG

Hughes, Langston and Rampersad, Arnold. *Langston Hughes*. New York: Sterling Pub, [2006].

811 MED

Medina, Tony. Love to Langston. New York: Lee & Low Books, [2002].

Note: A series of poems written from the point of view of the poet Langston Hughes, offering an overview of key events and themes in his life.

811 SHO

Shore, Diane ZuHone. This is the dream. New York: HarperCollinsPublishers, [2006].

811.08 FAM

Strickland, Dorothy S. Families : poems celebrating the African American experience. Honesdale, Pa: Wordsong/Boyd's Mills Press, [1994].

Note: A collection of poems on Afro-American family life, including "Thursday evening bedtime," "Aunt Sue's stories," and "Families, families.".

92 ALI

Ali, Maryum. I shook up the world : the incredible life of Muhammad Ali. Gareth Stevens, [2004].

Note: Muhammad Ali's daughter describes how her father achieved his dream of becoming a champion boxer, refused to sacrifice his principles during difficult times, and became a positive role model for others.

92 ALI

Shange, Ntozake. Float like a butterfly. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, [2002].

Note: An introduction to the legendary boxer, Muhammad Ali, including his accomplishments as a fighter and his contributions to society.

92 AND

Ryan, Pam Munoz. When Marian sang : the true recital of Marian Anderson. 1st ed. New York: Scholastic Press, [2002].

Note: An introduction to the life of Marian Anderson, extraordinary singer and civil rights activist, who was the first African American to perform at the Metropolitan Opera, whose life and career encouraged social change.

92 ARM

Raum, Elizabeth. Louis Armstrong : jazz legend. Mankato, Minn: Capstone Press, [2007].

92 BAT

Barasch, Lynne. Knockin' on wood. New York: Lee & Low Books, [2004].

Note: Presents a picture book biography of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates, an African American who lost his leg in a factory accident at the age of twelve and went on to become a world-famous tap dancer.

92 BET

Jones, Amy Robin. Mary McLeod Bethune. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2000].

Note: A simple biography of the black educator who was instrumental in creating opportunities for blacks in education and government.

92 BRI

Coles, Robert. The story of Ruby Bridges. New York: Scholastic, [1995].

Note: For months six-year-old Ruby Bridges must confront the hostility of white parents when she becomes the first African American girl to integrate Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans in 1960.

92 BRY

Torres, John Albert. Kobe Bryant. Bear, Del: Mitchell Lane Publ, [2000].

92 BRY

Savage, Jeff. Kobe Bryant : basketball big shot. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, [2001].

Note: Profiles Kobe Bryant, who went straight from high school to the pros, becoming the youngest person ever to play in the NBA.

92 COL

Grimes, Nikki. Talkin' about Bessie : the story of aviator Elizabeth Coleman. Scholastic, [2002].

Note: A biography of Elizabeth Coleman, who battled segregation, poverty, and gender discrimination in order to become the first licensed African-American female pilot.

92 DUB

Troy, Don. W.E.B. DuBois. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [1999].

Note: A brief biography of the African American educator and activist who helped found the NAACP and worked much of his life to gain equitable treatment for his people.

92 GIB

Stauffacher, Sue. Nothing but trouble : the story of Althea Gibson. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, [2007].

92 GIB

Mellage, Nanette VanWright. Coming home : a story of Josh Gibson, baseball's greatest home run hitter. Mahwah, NJ: Troll, [2001].

92 GRI

Schaefer, A. R. Ken Griffey Jr. Mankato, Minn: Capstone High-Interest Bks, [2003].

Note: A biography of the All-Star outfielder who, at the age of thirty, became the youngest player in baseball history to hit 400 career home runs, shortly after the Seattle Mariners traded him to the Cincinnati Reds.

92 HEN

Weatherford, Carole Boston. I, Matthew Henson. New York: Walker, [2008].

Note: Presents the life and accomplishments of the African American explorer who together with Robert Peary completed the first successful expedition to the North Pole in 1909.

92 HEN

Gaines, Ann. Matthew Henson and the North Pole expedition. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2000].

Note: A brief biography of the black explorer and seaman who, together with Robert E. Peary, discovered the North Pole in 1909.

92 HOL

Cornelius, Kay. Chamique Holdsclaw. Philadelphia, PA: Chelsea House Publishers, [2001].

Note: Presents a biography of the star player for the Washington Mystics of the Women's National Basketball Association.

92 HUG

Walker, Alice. Langston Hughes, American poet. New York, NY: HarperCollins, [2002].

Note: An illustrated biography of the Harlem poet whose works gave voice to the joy and pain of the black experience in America.

92 JEM

Yannuzzi, Della A. Mae Jemison : a space biography. Springfield, NJ: Enslow Publishers, [1998].

Note: Traces the life of the first African-American woman to go into space, from her childhood in Chicago through her astronaut training and first spaceflight to life after working with NASA.

92 JOH

Buckley, Annie. Robert L. Johnson. Ann Arbor, Mich: Cherry Lake Pub, [2008].

Note: Present the life and accomplishments of the creator of Black Entertainment Television and the first black owner of an NBA franchise.

92 JOP

Sabir, C. Ogbu. Scott Joplin : the king of ragtime. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2000].

Note: Examines the life and accomplishments of the well-known ragtime pianist and composer, who wrote over 500 pieces of music, including a ballet and two operas.

92 JOR

Cooper, Floyd. Jump! : from the life of Michael Jordan. New York: Philomel Books, [2004].

92 KIN

Mis, Melody S. Meet Coretta Scott King. New York: PowerKids Press, [2008].

92 KIN

Raatma, Lucia. Martin Luther King, Jr. Minneapolis: Compass Point Bks, [2002].

92 KIN

Rappaport, Doreen. Martin's big words : the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. New York: Hyperion, [2001].

92 KIN

Farris, Christine King. My brother Martin : memoirs of a childhood with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, [2003].

Note: Looks at the early life of Martin Luther King, Jr., as seen through the eyes of his older sister.

92 LAW

Leach, Deborah J. I see you, I see myself : the young life of Jacob Lawrence. Wash.,DC: Phillips Collection, [2001].

92 LAW

Duggleby, John. Story painter : the life of Jacob Lawrence. San Francisco: Chronicle, [1998].

Note: A biography of the African American artist who grew up in the midst of the Harlem Renaissance and became one of the most renowned painters of the life of his people.

92 LEW

The Reginald F. Lewis story /VHS. Obsidian Home Entertainment, [2004].

92 LOV

Hominick, Judy. Best cowboy in the West : the story of Nat Love. New York: Silver Moon Press, [2001].

92 MAR

Feldman, Ruth Tenzer. Thurgood Marshall. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, [2001].

92 MAR

Feinstein, Stephen. Wynton Marsalis. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Elementary, [2008].

Note: A biography of one of America's greatest trumpet players, Wynton Marsalis.

92 OBA

Feinstein, Stephen. Barack Obama. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, [2008].

Note: An elementary biography of United States senator from Illinois Barack Obama; discusses his childhood, ethnic background, family, and career in politics.

92 OBA

Sapet, Kerrily. Barack Obama. Greensboro, N.C: Morgan Reynolds Pub, [2008].

Note: Profiles the Harvard Law School graduate, legislator, and civil rights lawyer who is known for his work on voting rights and employment discrimination cases and who, in 2007, declared that he would run for president of the United States.

92 OBA

Hudson, Amanda. Michelle Obama. Strongsville, OH: Gareth Stevens, [2010].

Note: Although her husband is president of the United States, Michelle Obama is more than just the wife of a powerful man. She is a success in her own right. An accomplished lawyer and public servant, she is a highly educated, independent woman. Now, as first lady, Obama is using her experience and skills in one of the most important roles in the country.

92 ONE

Bernstein, Ross. Shaquille O'Neal. Rev. ed. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, [2009].

Note: Follows the career of Shaquille O'Neal from his time playing basketball in high school and college to his years as a professional basketball player for the Orlando Magic and the Los Angeles Lakers.

92 PAR

Giovanni, Nikki. Rosa. New York: Henry Holt, [2005].

92 PAR

Rappaport, Doreen. Freedom river. New York: Hyperion, [2000].

Note: Describes an incident in the life of John Parker, an ex-slave who became a successful businessman in Ripley, Ohio, and who repeatedly risked his life to help other slaves escape to freedom.

92 PAY

Mandell, Judith. Gary Payton. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Pub, [2001].

92 PRI

McNair, Joseph D. Leontyne Price. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2000].

Note: Presents a biography of the African-American opera singer whose performance of Aida at the Metropolitan Opera in 1961 earned her a forty-two-minute standing ovation.

92 ROB

De Marco, Tony. Jackie Robinson. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2002].

92 ROB

Robinson, Sharon. Promises to keep: how Jackie Robinson changed America. New York: Scholastic, [2004].

Note: A biography of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in the major leagues, as told by his daughter.

92 TUB

Kulling, Monica. Escape North! : the story of Harriet Tubman. New York: Random House, [1999].

Note: Surveys the life of Harriet Tubman, including her childhood in slavery and her later work in helping other slaves escape north to freedom through the Underground Railroad.

92 WAL

Hobkirk, Lori. Madam C.J. Walker. Chanhassen, MN: Child's World, [2000].

Note: A biography of Sarah Breedlove Walker who, though born in poverty, pioneered in hair and beauty care products for black women and became a great financial success.

92 WIN

Ward, Kristin. Learning about assertiveness from the life of Oprah Winfrey. New York: PowerKids Press, [1998].

Note: A brief biography of the successful entertainer, Oprah Winfrey, focusing on the value of assertiveness.

92 WRI

Miller, William. Richard Wright and the library card. New York: Lee & Low, [1997].

Note: Based on a scene from Wright's autobiography, Black boy, in which the seventeen-year-old African-American borrows a white man's library card and devours every book as a ticket to freedom.

920 GRE

Greenfield, Eloise. How they got over : African Americans and the call of the sea. New York: HarperCollins, [2003].

Note: Profiles African American men and women who have had a strong connection with the sea, from slaves whose owners sent them to work on ships to today's fishermen, naval officers, and marine biologists.

920 PIN

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. Let it shine : stories of Black women freedom fighters. San Diego: Harcourt, [2000].

973.04 AFR

African-American Heritage /VHS. Schlessinger Video Prod./Library Video Co, [1997].

973.04 BUR

Burgan, Michael. African Americans. Chanhassen, Minn: Child's World, [2004].

973.2 HAS

Haskins, James. Building a new land : African Americans in Colonial America. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, [2001].

Note: Discusses the changing roles, rights, and contributions of Afro-Americans in the United States during the colonial period from 1607 to 1763. Also includes a chronology of significant events.

973.7 BRO

Brooks, Victor. African Americans in the Civil War. Philadelphia: Chelsea House, [2000].

Note: Relates the experiences of Black soldiers who fought in the Union Army as well as of those who fought with the Confederate forces during the Civil War.

973.7 SIN

Sinnott, Susan. Welcome to Addy's world, 1864. Middleton, WI: Pleasant, [1999].

Note: Describes the conditions of African Americans in the North and the South during and immediately after the Civil War.