

Your resource for happenings at the Ventura County Library

Ventura  
County

# READER

Explore, Discover, & Connect



## IN THIS ISSUE

VCLF: Rising from the Ashes - 3

In-Person Storytimes + STEAM  
Kits - 6

Heritage Month Reads - 8-12

Curated Reads - 13-18

Fox Craft - 19



# LIBRARY UPDATE

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When people think of their public library, the first thing they think of is often books. But libraries today provide access to information in many ways. At all times, but especially during times of crisis such as the pandemic and wildfire emergencies, access to vital information can be critical for underserved communities. Our Ventura County Library System plays a part in building information access equity across the county.

For example, libraries that are part of the Ventura County Library System loan free Computer Kits that contain Chromebooks and WiFi hotspots to older adults and people with disabilities so they can connect with services and information online and participate in public affairs and help shape decisions. Over 330 Computer Kits were checked out within the first three months of this program that was launched in mid-July 2021. Library branches also have computer labs and free WiFi access available to the public. And the Ventura County Mobile Library distributed pandemic information to underserved communities at many sites throughout the county last year. Librarians field inquiries in-person, on the phone and online, helping people find information and connect them to services of all kinds throughout the community. An extra effort has been made to hire bilingual library staff members to translate information into Spanish when needed. And we are actively working on seeking federal E-rate and grant funds to support the digital infrastructure of our library facilities and improve and expand internet services to connect more people with information. And yes, we continue to prioritize and offer a robust collection of print and electronic library books and materials full of information and freely available to all.

The Ventura County Library System strives to continue to play a role in building information access equity across the county in 2022 and will work with many community partners to do so. We are interested in hearing from you or your organization if you'd like to collaborate with the public library to build information access equity in Ventura County.

Best wishes in 2022.





# VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

# RISING FROM THE ASHES

## Visions to See & Stories to Tell

### Sponsors

It is only through the continued support of our many community partners that the Ventura County Library Foundation can raise funds to expand and enhance the work of Ventura County Libraries.

Your generous donation will enable us to fund important literacy programs, the Mobile Library, broader access to the internet and computers to close the digital divide, homework tutoring, STEAM initiatives, and much more.

Follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram or visit our website to sign up for VCLF updates at [www.vclibraryfoundation.org](http://www.vclibraryfoundation.org).

We are deeply appreciative of our Sponsors to date.

### Home Tours

We are excited to announce, the long-awaited tour is happening on Saturday, April 30, 2022! The strength and resilience of Ventura will be on display as we tour some of the beautifully rebuilt homes. The 2017 Thomas Fire caused devastation, but not defeat. Tickets are \$40 each and benefit our libraries.

The homes' distinctive and unique architecture captures the views from these hills while new landscaping embraces fire mitigation measures. Modern, Spanish Revival and Craftsman-style homes will be on display along with décor from some of the area's finest interior designers.

This unique opportunity to tour newly rebuilt homes in the Ondulando, Clearpoint, and Skyline areas of Ventura promises to be a delightful afternoon that will showcase resilience, creativity and beauty of the Ventura hillside residences. The event will include local musicians, refreshments, and contact information for a variety of professional contractors, craftsmen, builders, etc. This is a never before opportunity to tour spectacular homes.

For event information or questions, please contact [events@vclibraryfoundation.org](mailto:events@vclibraryfoundation.org).

**Limited Tickets Go On Sale – \$40 each**  
**March 1, 2022 [www.vclibraryfoundation.org](http://www.vclibraryfoundation.org)**

#### Estate Sponsors

Anonymous | Bruce Labins Architect & Associates and Ramsey / Moran Construction Inc. | Fence Factory | Passion Flowers

#### Manor Sponsors

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Southern California California Designers Choice | E J Harrison & Sons | EMCOR Services Mesa Energy Systems | The Fred Evans Team | Farmers Insurance Matthew Shrope Agency Montecito Bank & Trust

#### Villa Sponsors

Ann Hewitt & Richard Hauge | Anonymous | Allen Construction | Chicago Title | David Jaffe & Lisa West | Pacific Stoneworks | Santa Barbara Screen and Shade | Stephen Bradvica, CPA



# READ Adult Literacy

## NEW YEAR, NEW TEAM!

VCL's READ Adult Literacy program is welcoming 2022 with a team of new tutors who are ready to partner with adults wanting to improve reading and writing skills. READ's dedicated staff will work to connect you to the right resource that's perfect for your needs. If you, or someone in your community, wants to practice reading and writing, call (805) 677-7160 and share your literacy goals. Tutoring is free, fun, and totally online.

Did you know that you can finish high school for free through VCL's Career Online High School (COHS)? COHS offers adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online. A limited number of scholarships are available to qualified adults looking to advance their careers, prepare for workforce entry, or continue their education — apply online today: [vencolibrary.org/adults/career-online-high-school](https://vencolibrary.org/adults/career-online-high-school).

READ is welcoming a new manager in 2022. Antonio Apodaca is now heading the program as Education, Outreach, and Literacy Manager. He is taking over for Carol Chapman, who retired after 17 years of providing excellent educational services to the community. Antonio looks forward to continuing to share the love of reading—contact him anytime by email [Antonio.Apodaca@ventura.org](mailto:Antonio.Apodaca@ventura.org) or phone (805) 218-3821.







START A NEW YEAR INTENTION

# TELL STORIES TOGETHER AS A FAMILY

- READ OUT LOUD
- MAKE UP YOUR OWN STORIES
- TELL THE ORAL STORIES OF YOUR ANCESTORS
- MAKE IT A HABIT
- SET A DAY OF THE WEEK AND A TIME
- TELL STORIES WHEREVER YOU ARE

Need some inspiration?

Try some of these titles:

- *Octopus Stew* by Eric Velasquez
- *A Year Full of Stories* by Angela McAllister
- *The Idea Jar* by Adam Lehrhaupt
- *No Boring Stories* by Julie Falatko
- *Big Talk: Poems for Four Voices* by Paul Fleischman
- *Best Shorts: Favorite Stories for Sharing* (multiple authors)
- *When I Was Your Age: Original Stories About Growing Up* (multiple authors)



# WINTER EVENTS



Ventura County Library is proud to be the second library in California to join PBS's Wimee's Words [pbs.org/show/wimees-words](https://pbs.org/show/wimees-words).

Ventura County Library youth librarians will join the show on Facebook each Thursday morning to give book talks [facebook.com/WIMEETHEROBOT](https://facebook.com/WIMEETHEROBOT).

Wimee is a fun lovable robot that inspires kids to learn through creativity. Join Wimee and friends for wacky wordplay, silly songs, and playful conversation in an interactive show that YOU help bring to life!

## FREE STEAM KITS

Pick up three of them this season February - April!

Every month a new kit will be available at your local branch.



# Outdoor & Virtual Storytime

Check our website for dates and times.

Past episodes available on







# VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY 2022 READING CHALLENGE

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE

### January 1st - March 3rd, 2022

Read books, earn activity badges, and win prizes!

Kids from across the county are encouraged to read books and log reading minutes.

After logging 500 minutes, readers may collect one free book to add to their home libraries.

Good luck, and happy reading!

**[VENCOLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG](https://vencolibrary.beanstack.org)**



This program is free and open to the public.

Visit [vencolibrary.org](https://vencolibrary.org)  
for more program dates & times

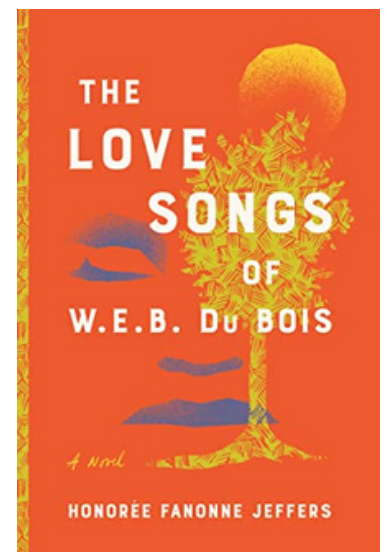
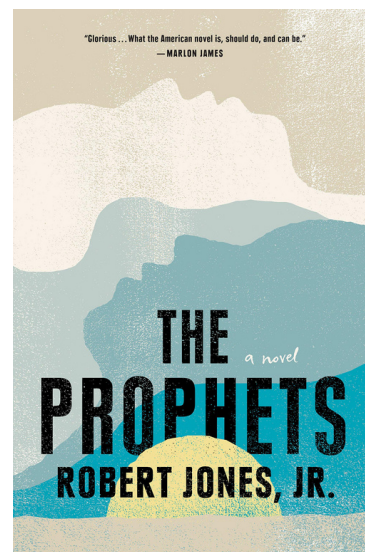
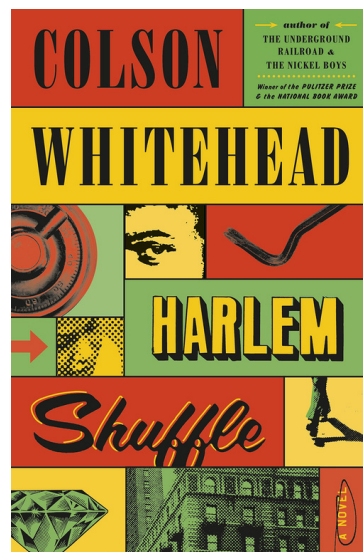
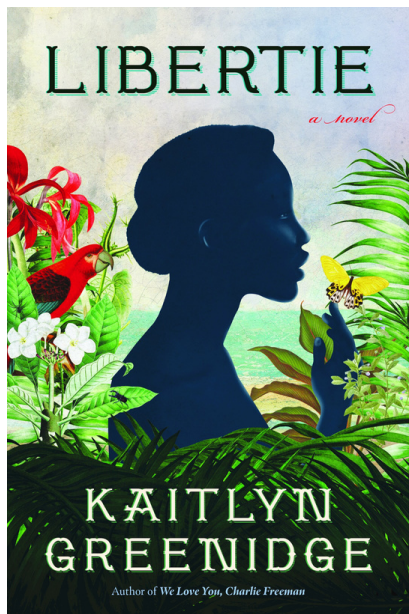


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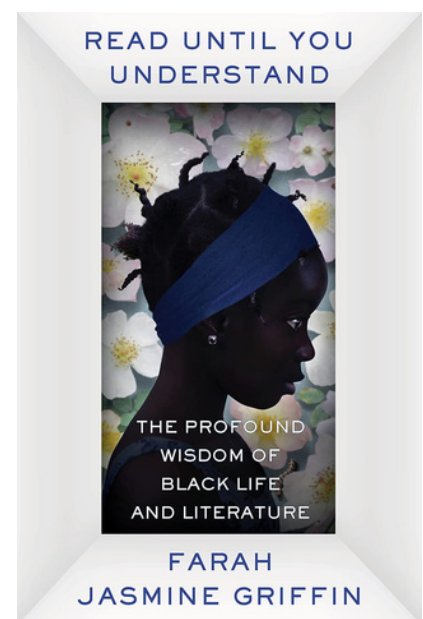
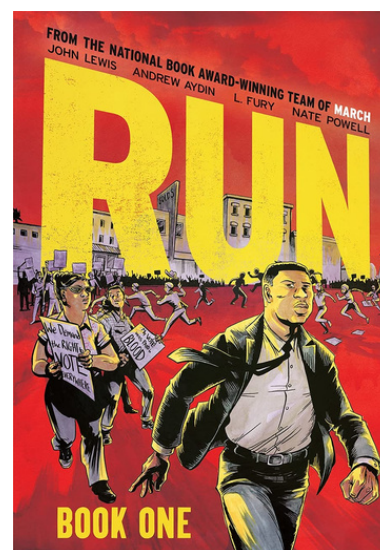
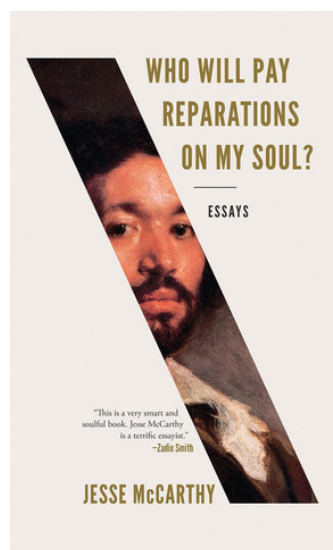
February 2022

From 1619 to the present, these books relate stories of everyone from ordinary people to pioneers in their fields, and cover abolition to civil rights to Black Lives Matter.

## ADULT FICTION



## ADULT NONFICTION



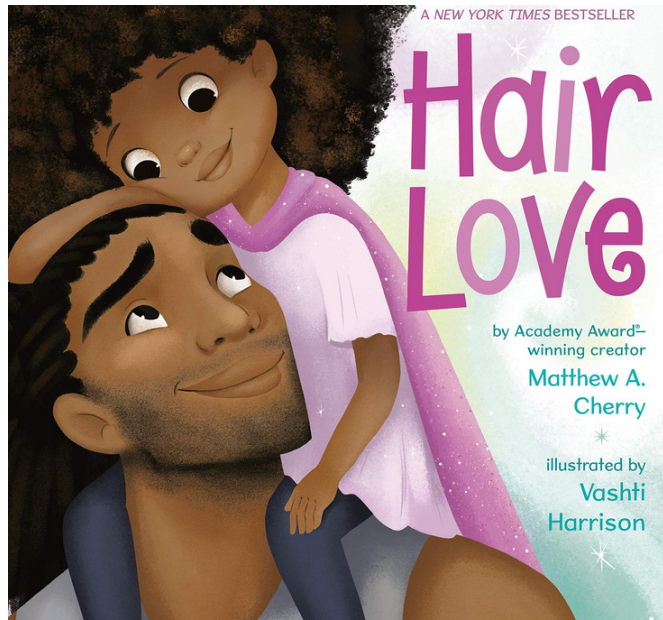


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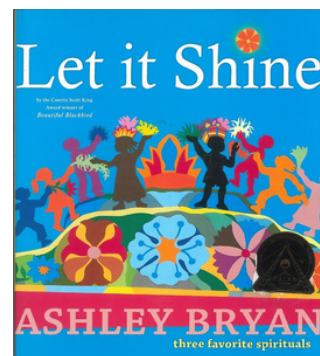
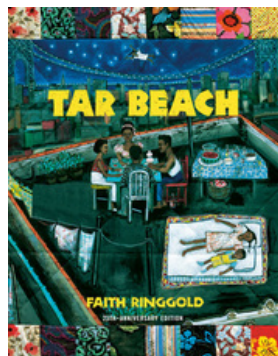
YOUTH TITLES

February 2022

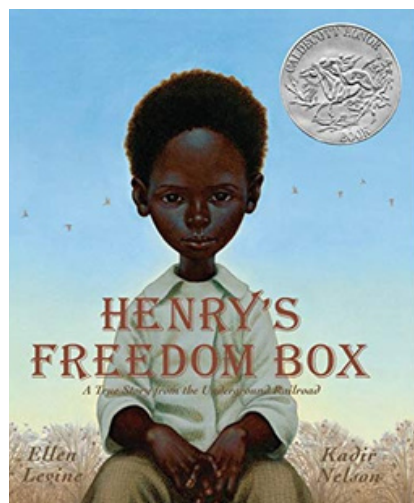
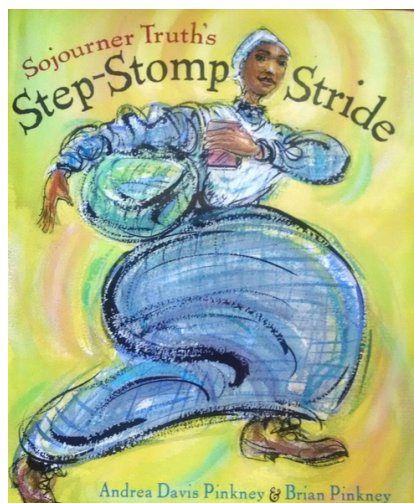
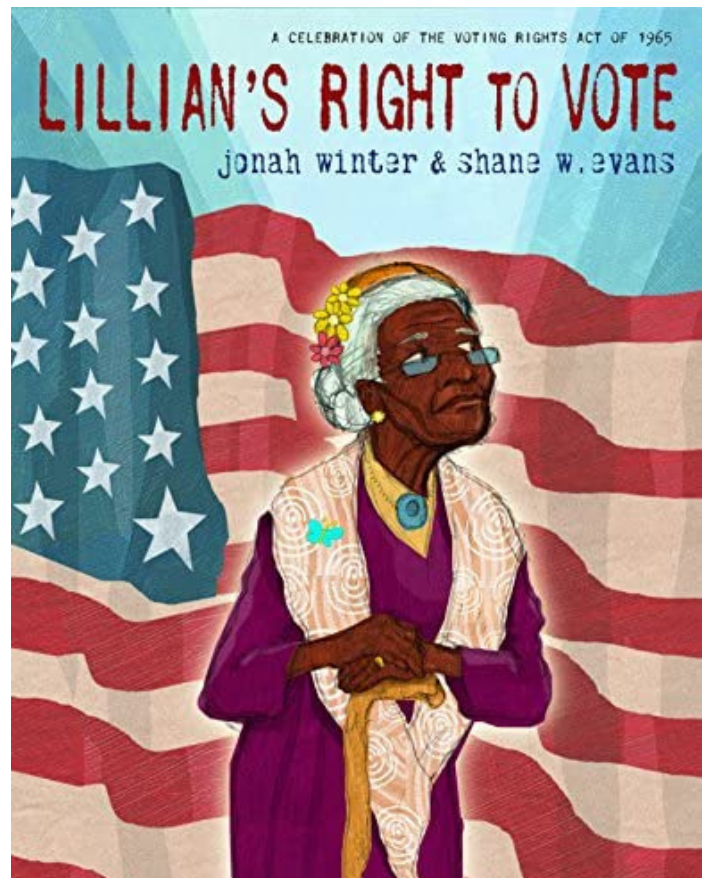
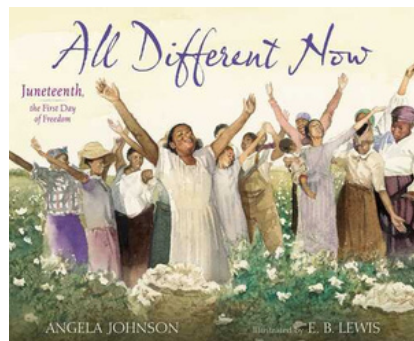
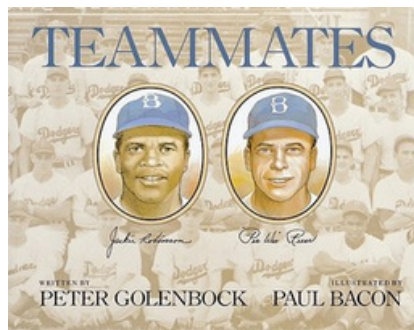
## PICTURE BOOKS



## LAST STOP ON MARKET STREET



## CHILDREN'S NONFICTION



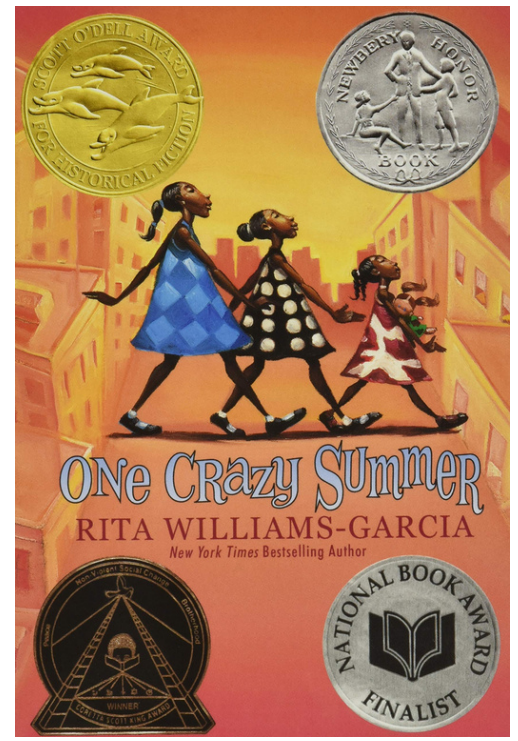
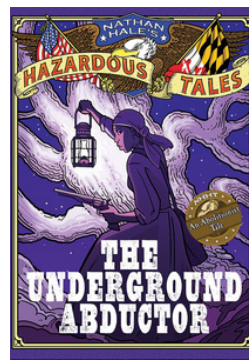
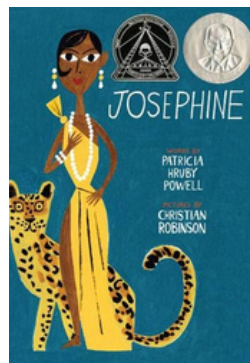
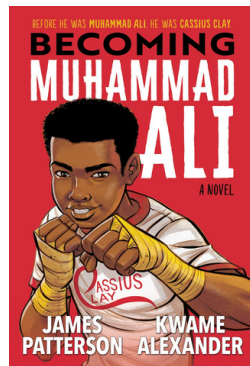
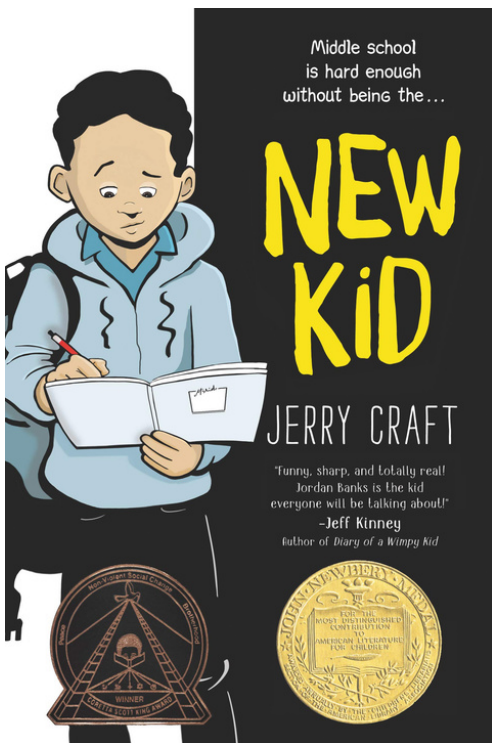


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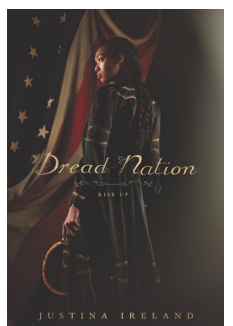
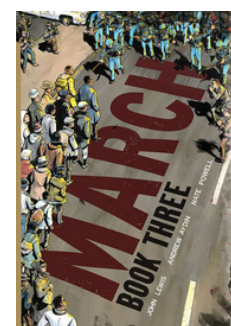
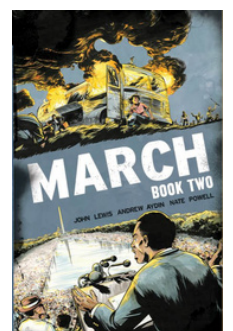
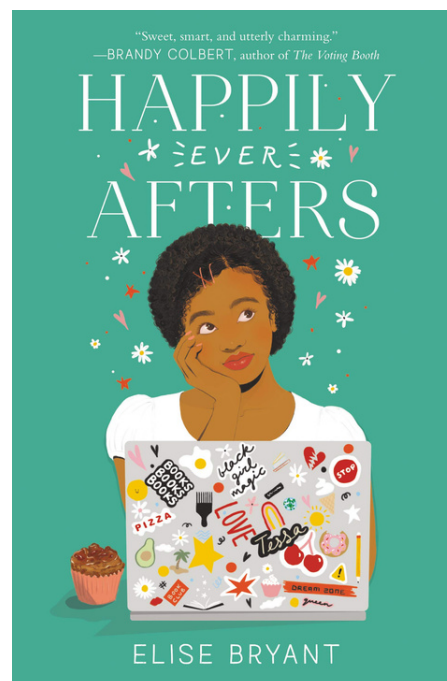
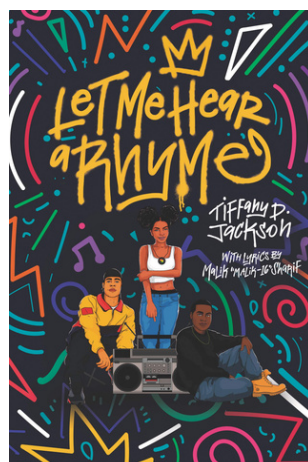
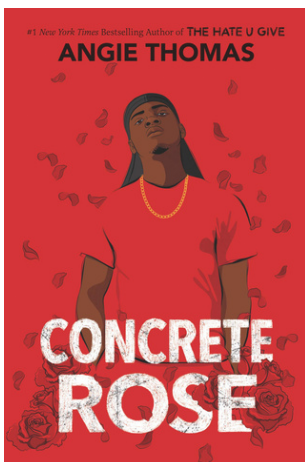
YOUTH TITLES

February 2022

## CHILDREN'S GRAPHIC NOVELS



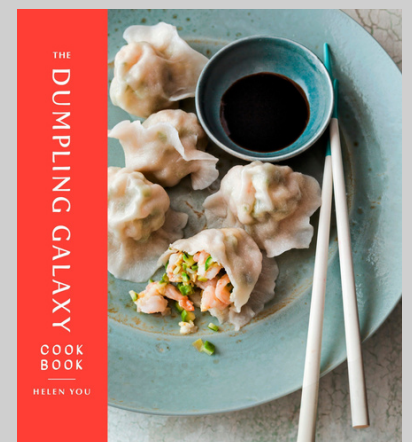
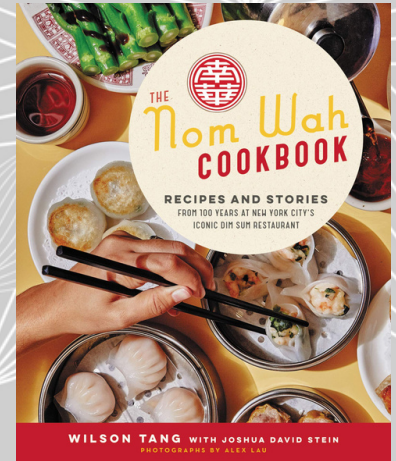
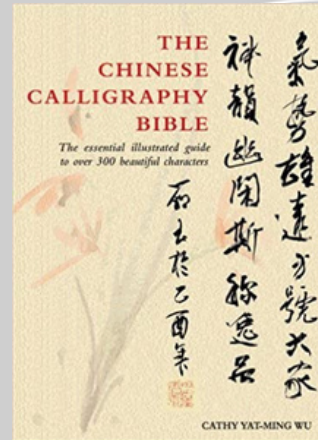
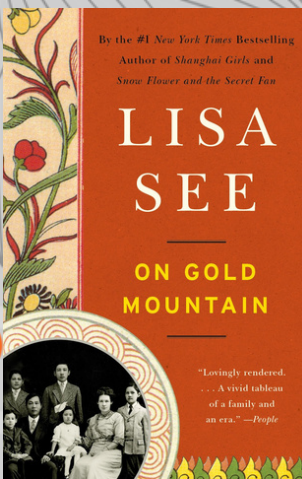
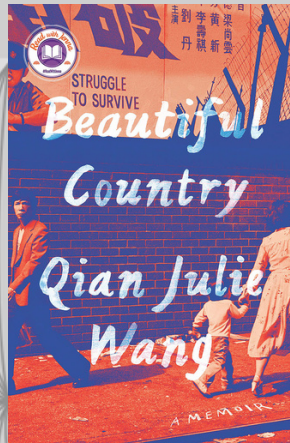
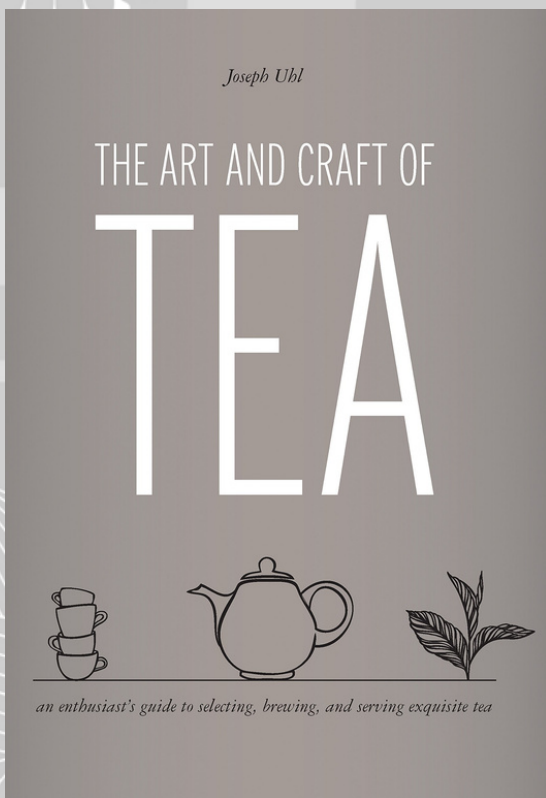
## TEEN GRAPHIC NOVELS





# LUNAR NEW YEAR

Feb. 1, 2022, Year of the Tiger



## Lunar New Year (Feb. 1, 2022, Year of the Tiger)

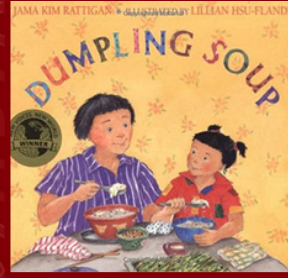
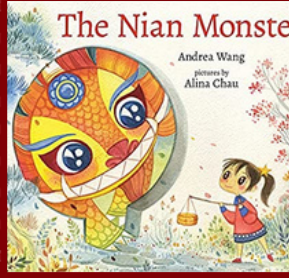
While the Lunar New Year is celebrated across Asia, in America it is most associated with China. These titles about Chinese-Americans and Chinese-American culture, include memoirs, a cookbook with recipes traditional to the New Year, and guides to tea, calligraphy and more.



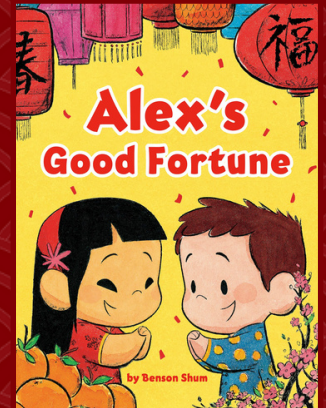
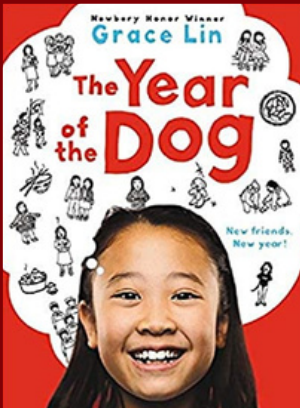
# LUNAR NEW YEAR YOUTH TITLES

February 1, 2022

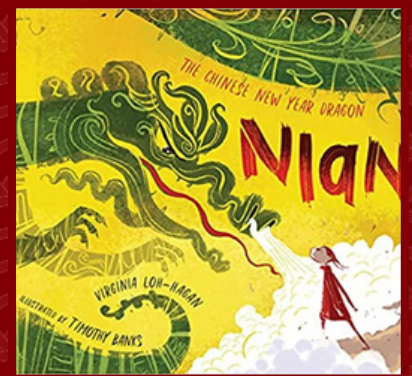
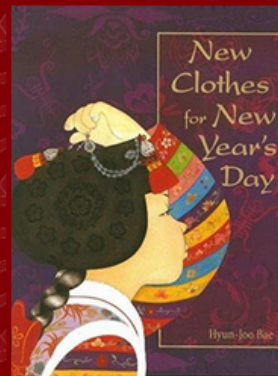
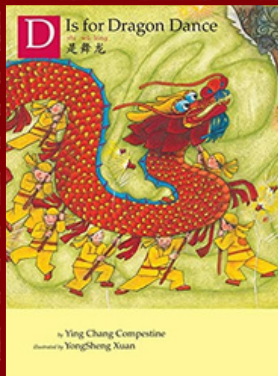
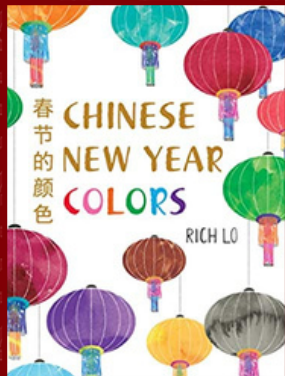
## PICTURE BOOKS



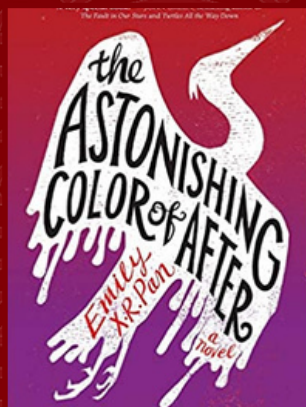
## CHILDREN'S FICTION



## CHILDREN'S NONFICTION

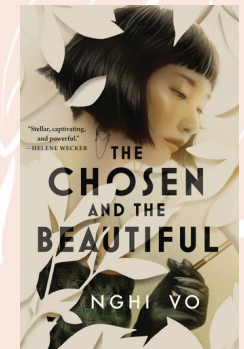
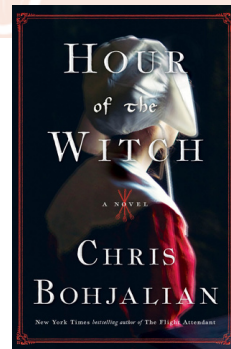
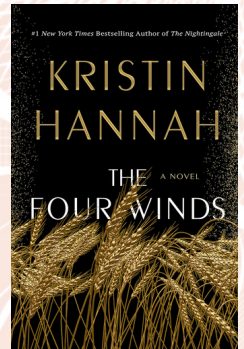
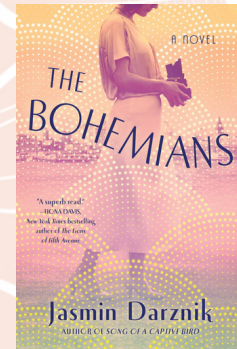
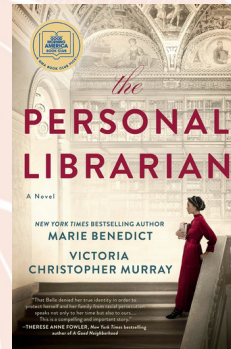


## TEEN FICTION

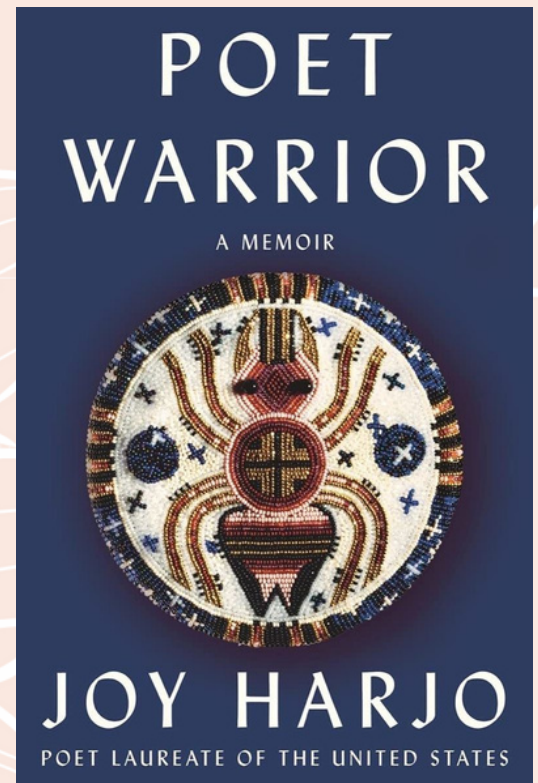
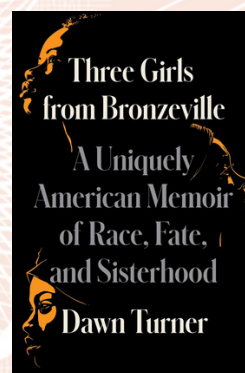
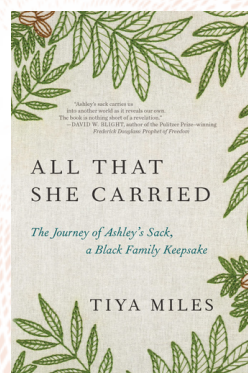
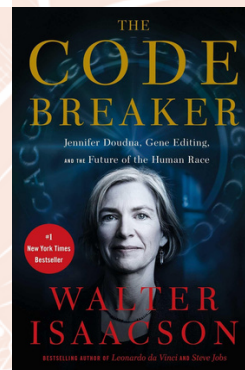
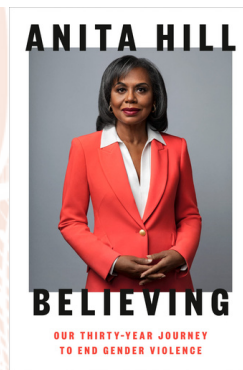
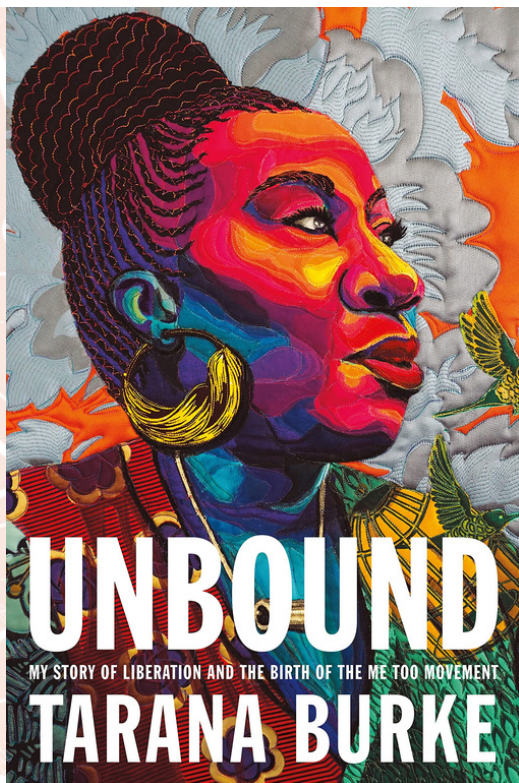




# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Expand your view of what American women have faced - as workers, suffragettes, artists, and warriors for myriad rights - by reading these fiction and nonfiction titles.



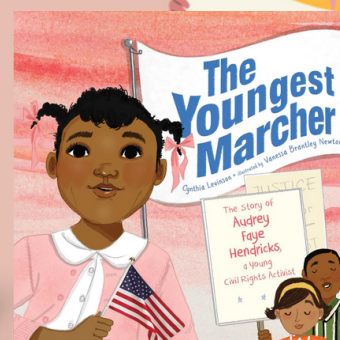
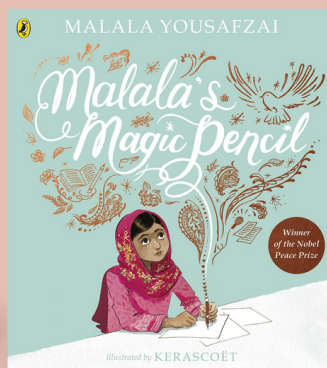


# WOMEN'S HISTORY

## CHILDREN'S PICTURE NONFICTION



## CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK NONFICTION



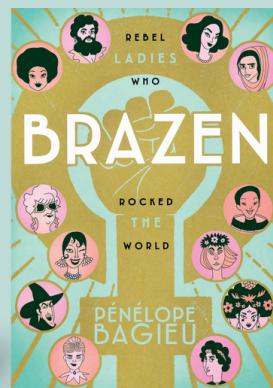
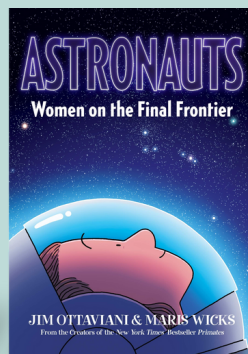
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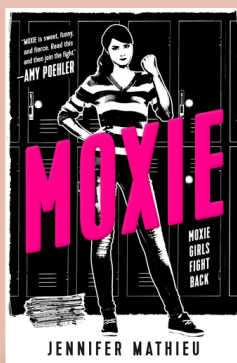


# WOMEN'S HISTORY

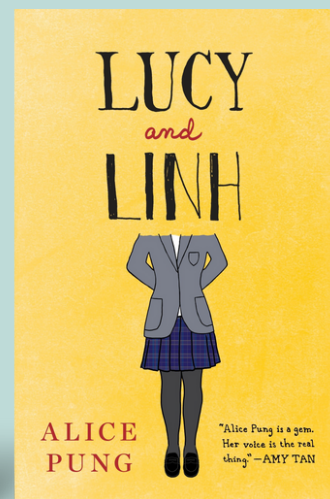
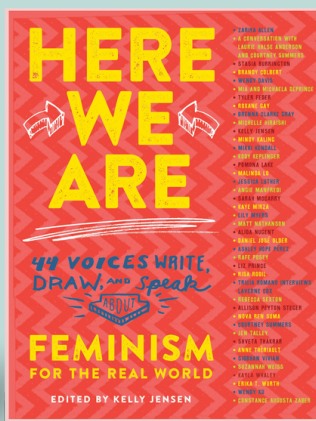
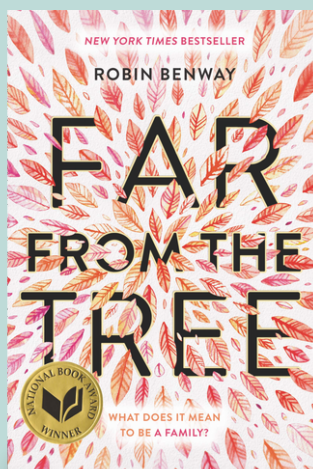
## GRAPHIC NOVELS



## TEEN NONFICTION



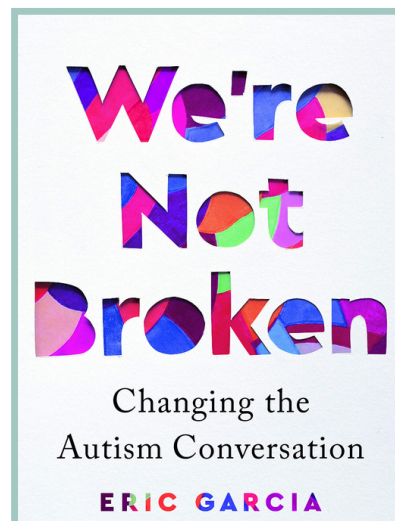
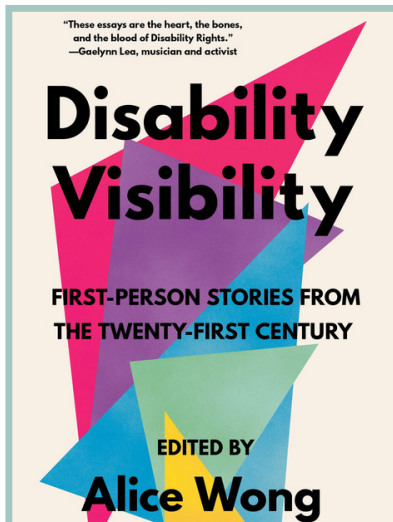
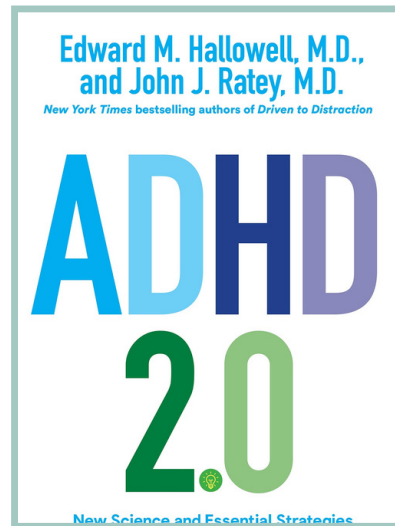
## TEEN FICTION



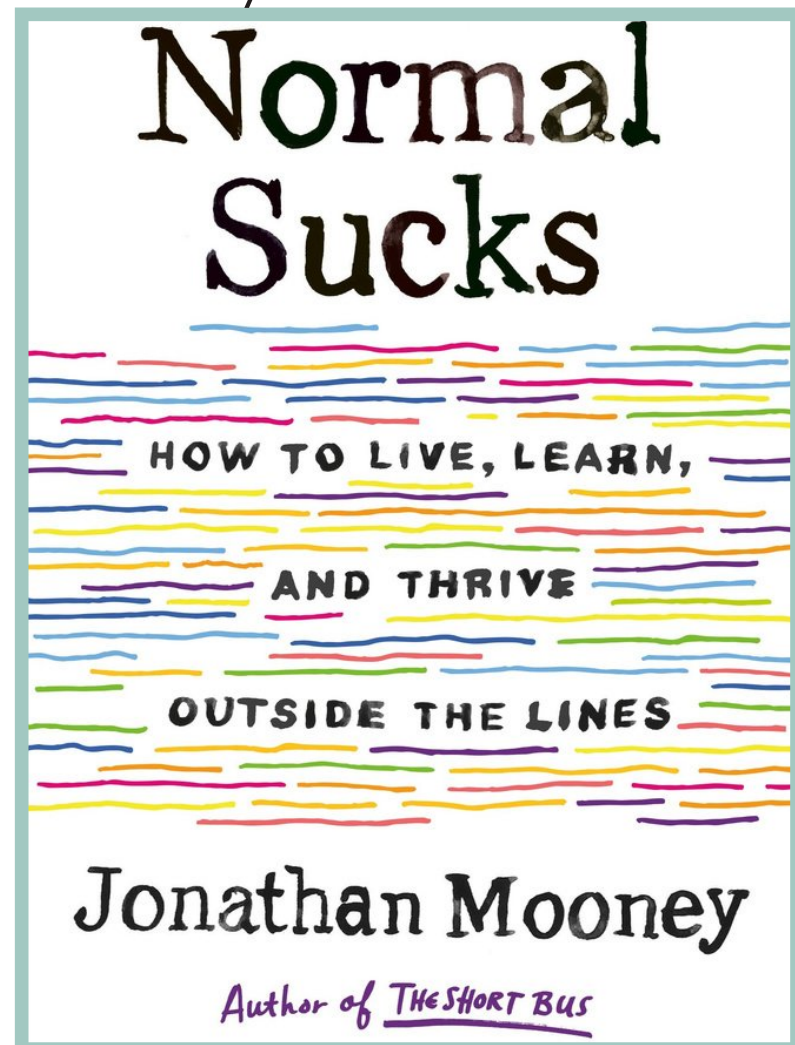


# NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

March 2022



Birth conditions causing delays are considered developmental disabilities. They range from spina bifida, cerebral palsy, autism, ADHD, deafness, and blindness. These books explore some of these conditions, and as Ladau's book says "demystify disability."





# NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

## CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

### Poojo's Got Wheels



written and illustrated by CHARROW



by Marilyn Singer • Illustrated by Leah Nixon

## YOUTH TITLES

### A Friend for Henry

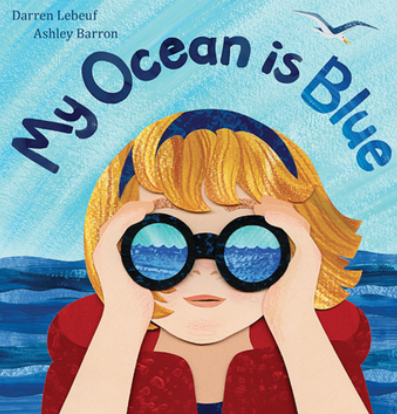


by Jenn Bailey

illustrated by Mika Song

### Can Bears Ski?

Raymond Antrobus Polly Dunbar



Darren Lebeuf  
Ashley Barron

My Ocean is Blue

## CHILDREN'S NONFICTION

### Not So Different

What You  
REALLY  
Want to Ask  
About Having  
a Disability

Go  
Ahead.  
Ask Me

with photographs by  
Matt Carr



### THE GIRL WHO THOUGHT IN PICTURES

The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin



WRITTEN BY  
JULIA FINLEY MOSCA

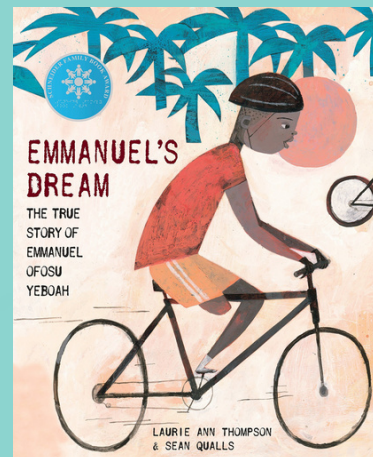
ILLUSTRATED BY  
DANIEL RILEY

BY AARON PHILIP WITH TONYA BOLDEN



THIS KID CAN  
FLY

IT'S ABOUT  
ABILITY  
(NOT DISABILITY)



EMMANUEL'S  
DREAM

THE TRUE  
STORY OF  
EMMANUEL  
OFUSU  
YEDDAH

LAURIE ANN THOMPSON  
& SEAN QUALLS

### ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP

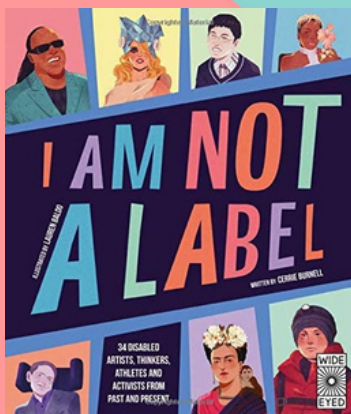
How One Girl's Fight for Americans with  
Disabilities Changed Everything



words by Annette Bay Pimentel

pictures by Nabi H. Ali

foreword by Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins



I AM NOT  
A LABEL

WRITTEN BY  
GEORGE BUNNELL

34 DISABLED  
ARTISTS, THINKERS,  
ATHLETES AND  
ACTIVISTS FROM  
PAST AND PRESENT

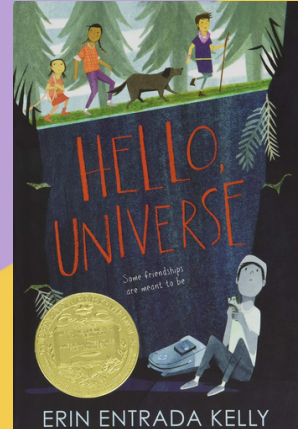
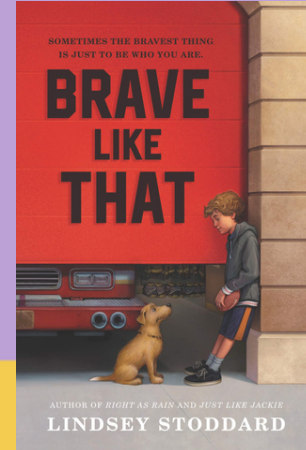
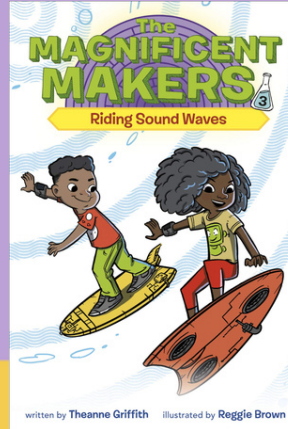
WIDE  
SMILE  
EYES



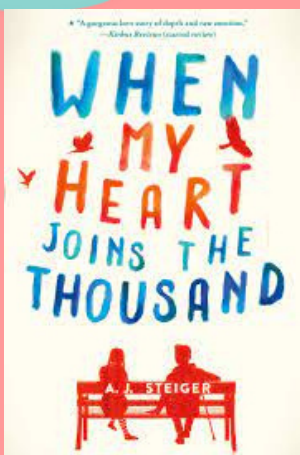
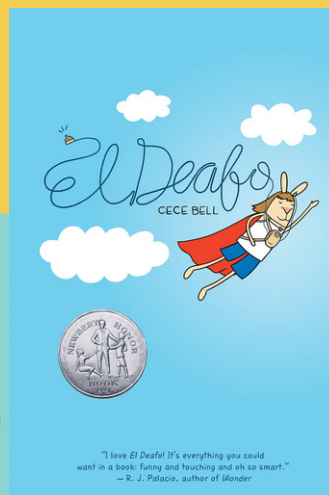
# NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

## YOUTH TITLES

### CHILDREN'S FICTION



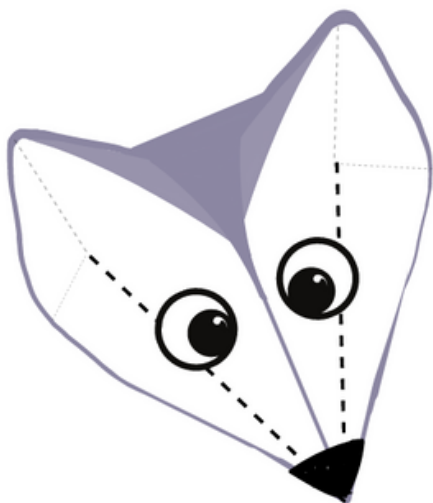
### GRAPHIC NOVELS



### YOUNG ADULT FICTION



# MAKE AN ORIGAMI FOX



Did you know that Ventura County has a native species of fox?! The island fox is an endangered species that lives on the Channel Islands.

## Quick and Cool Facts

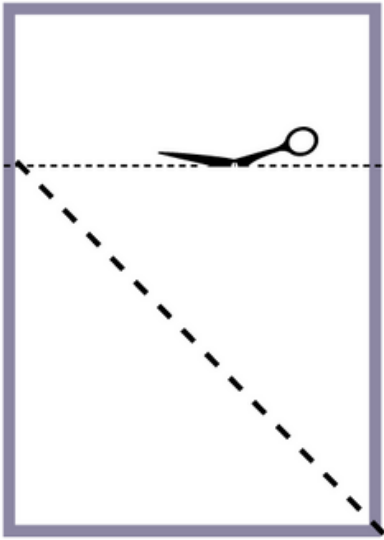
- The island fox is the only carnivore unique to California.
- Although the island fox is one of the smallest canids in the world, it is the largest native terrestrial mammal on the Channel Islands.
- The island fox is one-third smaller than its mainland ancestor, the gray fox. At 12 to 13 inches in height and 4 to 5 pounds, the island fox is about the size of a housecat.
- Some individuals have been known to live up to 15 years.
- Unlike nocturnal gray foxes, which hunt exclusively at night to avoid predators, island foxes have no natural predators, allowing them to be active during daylight hours with peaks in activity occurring at dusk and dawn.
- Visually, island foxes show signs of dominance or submission through facial expressions and body posture.
- They communicate by barking and sometimes growling.
- Their keen sense of smell plays an important role in the marking of territories. Island foxes are known to scent-mark their territories with a few drops of urine and tend to concentrate scats in particular areas, often conspicuously positioned on well-traveled paths.



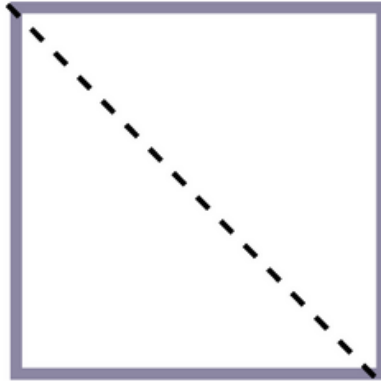


# MAKE AN ORIGAMI FOX

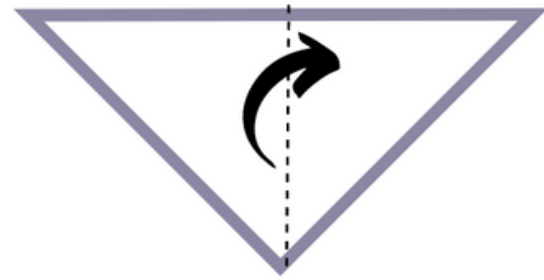
1



2



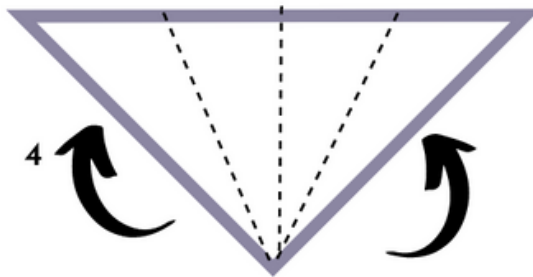
3



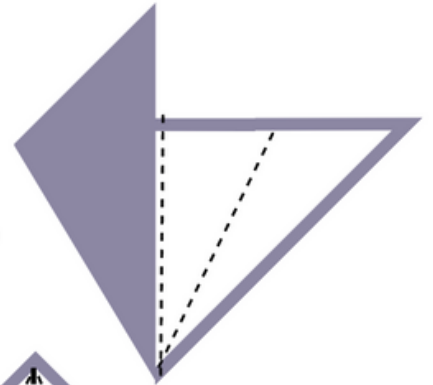
Fold over and crease and open again to lay flat like the beginning of step 3



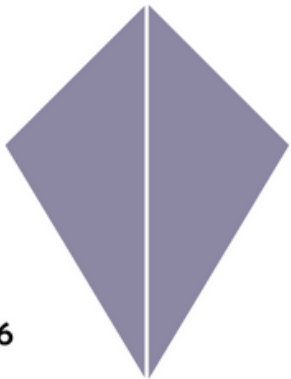
4



5

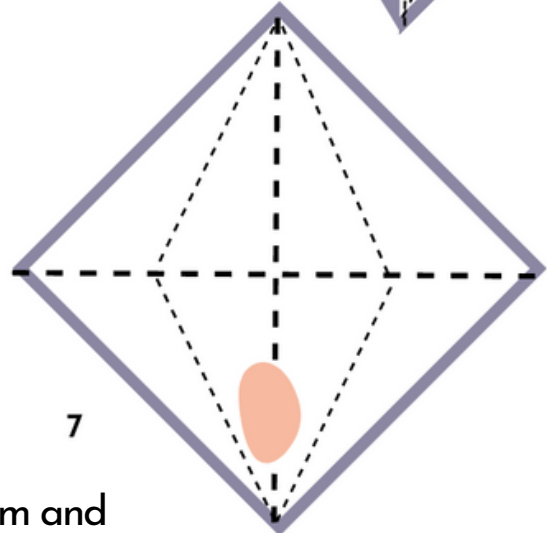


6



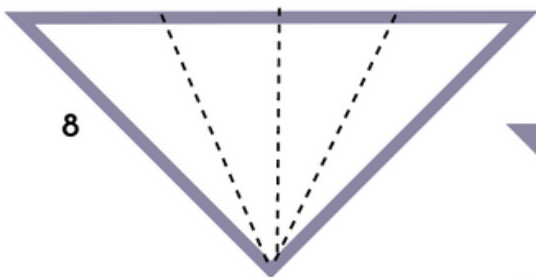
Completely unfold number 6 so it is an open square. Place glue and fold over the paper so it looks like a triangle at the end of step 8

7

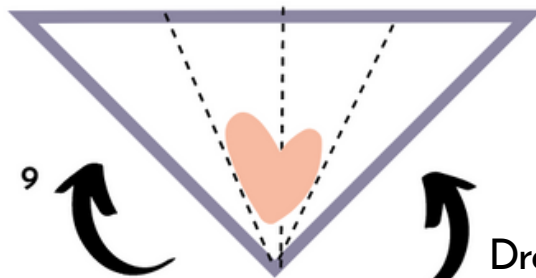


Place glue on the bottom and fold over the top paper that is not glued in the middle and glue to the top. Fold open your ears.

8



9



Draw on your eyes and nose!

10

