

AFRICAN AMERICAN 975.4 GATES

Colored People: A Memoir
(Gates Jr., Henry Louis)

Prize-winning coming-of-age story recounts Gates' childhood in the mill town of Piedmont, West Virginia during the 1950's and 60's.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 975.5 MACY

Truevine: Two Brothers, a Kidnapping, and a Mother's Quest - A True Story of the Jim Crow South
(Macy, Beth)

The true-story of two African American brothers, kidnapped and displayed as circus freaks, whose mother endured a 28-year struggle to get them back.

This brochure is one in a series of pamphlets that collectively list and briefly describe more than 140 items in this evolving collection.



Donations from Robert C. Hayden inspired the collation of books celebrating African American arts, political activities, historical movements, and significant figures. Hayden was a senior Lecturer at U MASS Boston, Northeastern University, Boston College, and Lesley University, spanning from 1978 to 2006 and is President Emeritus of the local branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), established in 2002.



The collection does not contain fiction or autobiographical titles nor is it exhaustive of the library's existing holdings related to this special collection.

[Oak Bluffs Public Library](#)

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Collection Located on 2nd floor



Special Collection Guide: *African American Non-Fiction*



Sankofa bird
A symbol used by the Akan peoples of Ghana
Looking back, know your history.

The town of Oak Bluffs has a rich history as a time-honored black summer community, supporting African American arts & culture. Continuing to pique the interest of both historians and members of the general public, some materials within this collection describe local historic sites and tours, which juxtapose the contributions of and the injustices suffered by African Americans on the island dating back to the 1700s. The bulk of the collection allows for cultural connections between the island and Black America.

Narrative History

AFRICAN AMERICAN 305.8 COA

Between The World And Me
(Coates, Ta-Nehisi)

In a letter to his adolescent son, Coates tells the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences. *Rolling Stone* notes this is "a bold and personal literary exploration of America's racial history."

AFRICAN AMERICAN 305.89 ALLEN

The Pecan Orchard: Journey of a Sharecropper's Daughter
(Allen, Vonshere Peggy)

The true story of the struggle, survival and ultimate success of a large black family in south Alabama during the middle 20th century, who rose from poverty to own their own property.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 306. 7662 MOO

No Ashes In The Fire: Coming of Age Black & Free in America (Moore, Darnell L.)

Memoir of a black gay man who survived savage bullying and numerous hardships as a teenager in Camden, N.J. to become an award-winning writer, leading Black Lives Matter activist and an advocate for justice and liberation.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 323.09 JOHNSON

Race And Remembrance: A Memoir
(Johnson, Arthur L.)

Remarkable life story of Detroit civil rights leader, chronicles his distinguished career with the Detroit chapter of the NAACP, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, and Wayne State University.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 920 HARLEM

Harlem Renaissance Lives From The African American National Biography
(Gates Jr, Henry Louis & Higginbotham, Evelyn Brooks)

Selects 300 key entries culled from the eight-volume African American National Biography, providing an authoritative who's who of this period.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 920 HAYES

Singing For All People: Roland Hayes - A Biography (Hayden, Robert C.)

Spotlights the life, career and legacy of tenor Roland Hayes, the first African American man to sell out Carnegie Hall and achieve international fame as a concert performer.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 973.04 GATES

In Search of Our Roots: How 19 Extraordinary African Americans Reclaimed Their Past

(Gates Jr., Henry Louis)

Takes nineteen extraordinary African Americans, including Oprah Winfrey, Maya Angelou, Morgan Freeman and Quincy Jones, on a once unimaginable journey, tracing family sagas through U.S. history and back to Africa.

AFRICAN AMERICAN 973.0496 Wil

Black Fortunes: The Story of the First Six African Americans Who Escaped Slavery and Became Millionaires (Willis, Shomari)

Uncovers the stories of former slaves who endured incredible challenges to become self-made entrepreneurs and whose unknown success mirrored that of Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller

AFRICAN AMERICAN 974.7 ABDUL-JABBAR

On The Shoulders Of Giants: My Personal Journey Through the Harlem Renaissance
(Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem)

Traces the star's childhood in Harlem, his professional career, and the pivotal influence of the Harlem Renaissance on black culture in the United States.

