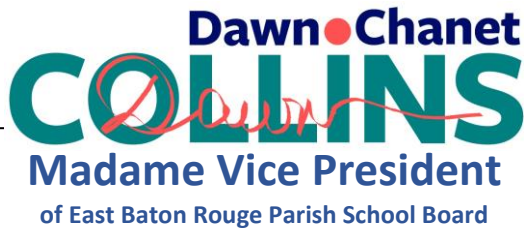


2021 Culture & Diversity Reader



The Culture & Diversity Reader is an invitation to explore the interweaving of our collective culture and gain a greater appreciation of ourselves. Each month offers several selections. Try one or try them all. Add them to your circulation in an existing book club, grab tea or coffee and chat about them with a close friend, or reflect on your own. Open your heart and mind and enjoy the journey of finding common threads in diverse cultures.

MONTH	BOOKS (ADULT READERS)
FEBRUARY	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Black Baton Rouge: Today and Yesterday,”</i> by Dr. Lori Martin and Christopher J. Tyson, JD. *This is a project of MetroMorphosis • <i>Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America,</i> by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain • <i>Some Sing, Some Cry,</i> by Ntozake Shange (fiction) • <i>The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration,</i> by Isabel Wilkerson
MARCH	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anonymous is a Woman: A Global Chronicle of Gender Inequality,</i> by Nina Ansary • <i>Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race,</i> by Margot Lee Shetterly • <i>My Own Words,</i> by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
APRIL	<p>DYNAMICS OF CLASSISM IN AMERICA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Born on Third Base: A One Percenter Makes the Case for Tackling Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home, and Committing to the Common Good,</i> by Chuck Collins • <i>Class and Schools: Using Social, Economic, and Educational Reform to Close the Black-White Achievement Gap,</i> by Richard Rothstein • <i>Reading Classes: On Culture and Classism in America,</i> by Barbara Jensen • <i>Soul on Ice,</i> by Eldridge Clever
MAY	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jews in the South,</i> edited by Leonard Dinnerstein and Mary Dale Palsson • <i>My Life,</i> by Golda Meir • <i>Night, Dawn, Day</i> – a trilogy of books by Elie Wiesel • <i>Thirteen Days in September: The Dramatic Story of the Struggle for Peace,</i> by Lawrence Wright <p>IN RECOGNITION OF TEACHERS’ POWER TO BUILD STRONG MINDS (TEACHER APPRECIATION MONTH):</p> <p><i>Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom,</i> by bell hooks</p> <p><u>Special Note:</u> This book is a personal favorite of mine. Not only is it a master work by one of my favorite authors, it stresses the pivotal role educators play in shaping future community builders. Our students are more than cogs in automated machines of data points and robotic outputs (ie. test scores). This book recommendation is dedicated to all the teachers who recognize the power of their profession and embrace it fully. You help shape the life of every student that occupies a desk in your classroom – even when you feel powerless. Know you are appreciated and move forward with love.</p>

JUNE	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF PRIDE MONTH - DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A Burst of Light and Other Essays</i>, by Audre Lorde • <i>Abandon Me: Memoirs</i>, by Melissa Febos • <i>How Beautiful the Ordinary: Twelve Stories of Identity</i>, edited by Michael Cart • <i>Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More</i>, by Janet Mock
JULY	<p>SPOTLIGHT ON ALICE WALKER AND THE INTER-PLAY OF RACE AND GENDER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Now is the Time to Open Your Heart</i> (fiction) • <i>The Temple of My Familiar</i> (fiction, sequel to <i>The Color Purple</i>) • <i>We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For</i>
AUGUST	<p>LAWS AND POLICIES THAT CREATE SOCIO-ECONOMIC HIERARCHIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America</i>, by Richard Rothstein • <i>Supreme Inequality: The Supreme Court's Fifty-Year Battle for a More Unjust America</i>, by Adam Cohen
SEPTEMBER	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH (SEPT 15TH - OCT 15TH):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Burnt Water"</i> by Carlos Fuentes (fiction) • <i>Once I Was You: A Memoir of Love and Hate in a Torn America</i>, by Maria Hinojosa • <i>"Our America,"</i> by Jose Marti (essay) • <i>Mexican Gothic</i>, by Silvia Moreno-Garcia (fiction)
OCTOBER	<p>DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES ON SELF-AWARENESS AND HEALING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World</i>, by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu (Spiritual, non-religious, South African heritage) • <i>Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World</i>, by Linda Hogan (Spiritual, non-religious, Native American heritage) • <i>Healing for Damaged Emotions</i>, by David A. Seamands (religious, Christian) • <i>Peace is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life</i>, by Thich Nhat Hanh (Spiritual, Buddhist heritage)
NOVEMBER	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Heart Berries: A Memoir</i>, by Terese Marie Mailhot • <i>There There</i>, by Tommy Orange • <i>The Tao of Raven: An Alaska Native Memoir</i>, by Ernestine Hayes
DECEMBER	<p>IN RECOGNITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY (DEC 10TH):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Left to Tell: One Woman's Story of Surviving the Rwandan Genocide</i>, by Immaculee Ilibagiza • <i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i>, by Ishmael Beah • <i>Race and Democracy: The Civil Rights Struggle in Louisiana, 1915-1972</i>, by Adam Fairclough