

Suggested Reading List

“Books are sometimes windows, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created or recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror. Literature transforms human experience and reflects it back to us, and in that reflection we can see our own lives and experiences as part of a larger human experience. Reading, then, becomes a means of self-affirmation, and readers often seek their mirrors in books.” —Rudine Sims Bishop

Our friends at Charis Books and More have created this book list for readers of all ages to enhance our understanding of the past and the significance of the Juneteenth celebration.

Adult Non-fiction

- [Ar'n't I a Woman?: Female Slaves in the Plantation South](#) by Deborah Gray White
- [Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave & Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl](#) by Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs
- [Kindred: A Graphic Novel Adaptation](#) by Octavia E. Butler
- [She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman](#) by Erica Armstrong Dunbar
- [Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"](#) by Zora Neale Hurston, Alice Walker
- [Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route](#) by Saidiya Hartman
- [Remembering Slavery: African Americans Talk about Their Personal Experiences of Slavery and Emancipation](#) by Ira Berlin, Marc Favreau, Steven F. Miller
- [The Underground Railroad Records: Narrating the Hardships, Hairbreadth Escapes, and Death Struggles of Slaves in Their Efforts for Freedom](#) by William Still, Ta-Nehisi Coates
- [From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the Twenty-First Century](#) by William A. Darity, A. Kirsten Mullen
- [The Price for Their Pound of Flesh: The Value of the Enslaved, from Womb to Grave, in the Building of a Nation](#) by Daina Ramey Berry
- [Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America](#) by Ibram X. Kendi
- [Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow](#) by Henry Louis Gates

Juneteenth Celebration

- [Finding Your Roots: The Official Companion to the PBS Series](#) by Henry Louis Gates
- [Black Reconstruction in America 1860-1880](#) by David Levering Lewis
- [The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism](#) by Edward E. Baptist
- [Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America](#) by W. Caleb McDaniel
- [Freedom Road](#) by Howard Fast, Eric Foner, W. E. B. DuBois

Young Adult & Middle Grade

- [Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning](#) by Jason Reynolds, Ibram X. Kendi
- [We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide](#) by Carol Anderson, Tonya Bolden
- [Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow](#) by Henry Louis Gates Jr., Tonya Bolden
- [BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom](#) by Carole Boston Weatherford
- [A Child's Introduction to African American History: The Experiences, People, and Events That Shaped Our Country](#) by Jabari Asim
- [Biddy Mason Speaks Up](#) by Arisa White, Laura Atkins
- [Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass, a Monumental American Man](#) by Tonya Bolden

Children's

- [Juneteenth for Mazie](#) by Floyd Cooper
- [All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom](#) by Angela Johnson
- [A Day at the Museum](#) by Christine Platt
- [The Undeclared](#) by Kwame Alexander
- [Overground Railroad](#) by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- [Lift Every Voice and Sing](#) by James Weldon Johnson
- [Remember: The Journey to School Integration](#) by Toni Morrison
- [Freedom Bird: A Tale of Hope and Courage](#) by Jerdine Nolen
- [Like a Bird: The Art of the American Slave Song](#) by Cynthia Grady
- [Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life](#) by Ashley Bryan
- [The Bell Rang](#) by James E. Ransome
- [Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom](#) by Carole Boston Weatherford
- [The Story of Harriet Tubman: A Biography Book for New Readers](#) by Christine Platt