
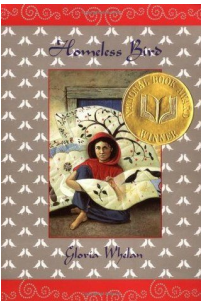


# Raising Civic Voices

Title/Author	Synopsis	Setting	Gr Level	Pg. #
 <p>Boys Without Names by Kashmiria Sheth</p>	<p>For eleven-year-old Gopal and his family, life in their rural Indian village is over: We stay, we starve, his baba has warned. So they must flee to the big city of Mumbai in hopes of finding work and a brighter future. Gopal is eager to help support his struggling family until school starts, so when a stranger approaches him with the promise of a factory job, he jumps at the offer.</p> <p>But Gopal has been deceived. There is no factory but, instead, a small, stuffy sweatshop, where he and five other boys are forced to make beaded frames for no money and little food. The boys are forbidden to talk or even to call one another by their real names. In this atmosphere of distrust and isolation, locked in a rundown building in an unknown part of the city, Gopal despairs of ever seeing his family again.</p> <p>Then, late one night when Gopal decides to share kahanis, or stories, he realizes that storytelling might be the boys' key to holding on to their sense of self and their hope for any kind of future. If he can make them feel more like brothers than enemies, their lives will be more bearable in the shop—and they might even find a way to escape.</p>	<p>India Contemporary</p>	<p>4 and up</p>	<p>316</p>
 <p>The Bitter Side of Sweet by Tara Sullivan</p>	<p>Two young boys must escape a life of slavery in modern-day Ivory Coast</p> <p>Fifteen-year-old Amadou counts the things that matter. For two years what has mattered are the number of cacao pods he and his younger brother, Seydou, can chop down in a day. This number is very important. The higher the number the safer they are because the bosses won't beat them. The higher the number the closer they are to paying off their debt and returning home to Baba and Auntie. Maybe. The problem is Amadou doesn't know how much he and Seydou owe, and the bosses won't tell him. The boys only wanted to make some money during the dry season to help their impoverished family. Instead they were tricked into forced labor on a plantation in the Ivory Coast; they spend day after day living on little food and harvesting beans in the hot sun—dangerous,</p>	<p>Ivory Coast Contemporary</p>	<p>6 and up</p>	<p>336</p>

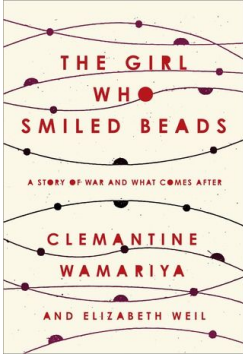
	<p>backbreaking work. With no hope of escape, all they can do is try their best to stay alive—until Khadija comes into their lives.</p> <p>She’s the first girl who’s ever come to camp, and she’s a wild thing. She fights bravely every day, attempting escape again and again, reminding Amadou what it means to be free. But finally, the bosses break her, and what happens next to the brother he has always tried to protect almost breaks Amadou. The old impulse to run is suddenly awakened. The three band together as family and try just once more to escape.</p>			
 <p>A Thirst for Home: A Story of Water Across the World by Christine Ieronimo</p>	<p>Alemitu lives with her mother in a poor village in Ethiopia, where she must walk miles for water and hunger roars in her belly. Even though life is difficult, she dreams of someday knowing more about the world. When her mother has no choice but to leave her at an orphanage to give her a chance at a better life, an American family adopts Alemitu. She becomes Eva in her new home in America, and although her life there is better in so many ways, she’ll never forget her homeland and the mother who gave up so much for her. Told through the lens that water connects all people everywhere, this eye-opening, emotional story will get readers thinking about the world beyond their own.</p>	Ethiopia Contemporary	PB	32
 <p>Golden Boy by Tara Sullivan</p>	<p>Thirteen-year-old Habo has always been different— light eyes, yellow hair and white skin. Not the good brown skin his family has and not the white skin of tourists. Habo is strange and alone. His father, unable to accept Habo, abandons the family; his mother can scarcely look at him. His brothers are cruel and the other children never invite him to play. Only his sister Asu loves him well. But even Asu can’t take the sting away when the family is forced from their small Tanzanian village, and Habo knows he is to blame.</p> <p>Seeking refuge in Mwanza, Habo and his family journey across the Serengeti. His aunt is glad to open her home until she sees Habo for the first time, and then she is only afraid. Suddenly, Habo has a new word for himself: Albino. But they hunt Albinos in Mwanza because Albino body parts are thought to bring good luck. And soon Habo is being hunted by a fearsome man with a machete.</p> <p>To survive, Habo must not only run but find</p>	Tanzania	6 and up	384

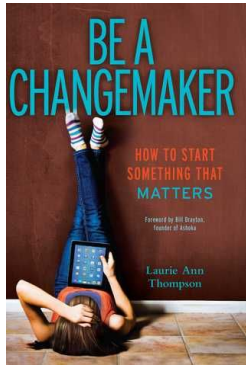
	a way to love and accept himself.			
 <p>Blue Gold by Elizabeth Stewart</p>	<p>The human price of technology is explored from the perspectives of three teen girls in this character-driven, realistic fiction novel. Set in the present, the story is told from three viewpoints. Fiona, a middle-class Canadian teen, is concerned with her popularity and self-image, especially as it relates to communication and technology devices. A split-second bad decision haunts her virtually, and she learns a big lesson in digital responsibility. Half a world away, Sylvie is a Congolese refugee living in Tanzania, where maintaining basic needs is a daily battle. Coltan, a mineral used in the technology that helps power cell phones and computers, is a resource that her people have killed and died for, and Sylvie is desperate to save her family in the wake of her father's death. In China, Laiping works long hours in a factory assembling cell phones, enduring conditions that have caused her fellow employees to develop serious medical conditions and in extreme cases take their own lives. The writing strikes a good balance between character development and action and uses a straightforward tone to deliver the story. Sylvie's daily life is dangerous, and her past includes scenes of extreme violence, though the revelation of these elements isn't glorified and the inclusion of these details gives her viewpoint authenticity and necessary background information for readers to understand what motivates the characters in her story line. A lengthy afterword gives readers statistics on the topics covered in the text and offers the author a chance to explain her inspiration for writing this story as well as her stance on the issues.</p>	<p>Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>Contemporary</p>	9 and up	304
 <p>Homeless Bird by Gloria Whelan</p>	<p>Like many girls her age in the India of her time period, thirteen-year-old Koly is getting married. Full of hope and courage, she leaves home forever. But Koly's story takes a terrible turn when in the wake of the ceremony, she discovers she's been horribly misled about exactly what she is marrying into. Her future, it would seem, is lost. Yet this rare young woman, bewildered and brave, sets out to forge her own exceptional future.</p>	India	5 and up	192

 <p>Now is the Time for Running by Michael Williams</p> <p><a href="#">Teacher Guide</a></p>	<p>Just down the road from their families, Deo and his friends play soccer in the dusty fields of Zimbabwe, cheered on by Deo's older brother, Innocent. It is a day like any other . . . until the soldiers arrive and Deo and Innocent are forced to run for their lives, fleeing the wreckage of their village for the distant promise of safe haven. Along the way, they face the prejudice and poverty that await refugees everywhere, and must rely on the kindness of people they meet to make it through. But when tragedy strikes, Deo's love of soccer is all he has left. Can he use that gift to find hope once more?</p> <p>Relevant, timely, and accessibly written, <i>Now Is the Time For Running</i> is a staggering story of survival that follows Deo and his mentally handicapped older brother on a transformative journey that will stick with readers long after the last page.</p>	Zimbabwe	7 and up	240
 <p>Journey to Jo'burg by Beverley Naidoo</p>	<p>Mma lives and works in Johannesburg, far from the village thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother, Tiro, call home. When their baby sister suddenly becomes very sick, Naledi and Tiro know, deep down, that only one person can save her. Bravely, alone, they set off on a journey to find Mma and bring her back. It isn't until they reach the city that they come to understand the dangers of their country, and the painful struggle for freedom and dignity that is taking place all around them.</p>	South Africa	4 and up	80
 <p>Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909 by Michelle Markel</p> <p><a href="#">Teacher Guide</a></p>	<p>Story of immigrant Clara Lemlich who fought back against the poor treatment of her fellow factory workers and led the largest walkout of women workers in the country.</p>	1909, New York	1st and up (picture book)	32



 <p><b>MALALA</b> A BRAVE GIRL FROM PAKISTAN</p> <p><b>IQBAL</b> A BRAVE BOY FROM PAKISTAN</p> <p>Malala, a Brave Girl from Pakistan; Iqbal, a Brave Boy from Pakistan by Jeanette Winter</p>	<p>Jeanette Winter presents the inspirational stories of Malala and Iqbal, two children from Pakistan who were not afraid and spoke out for human rights. In 1995, Iqbal took on the cause of child labor and in 2012, Malala, the future Nobel Peace Prize winner, defended girls' right to education. Both were shot, but the outcome for both was very different.</p>	<p>Contemporary Pakistan</p>	<p>2nd and up (picture book)</p>	<p>32</p>
<p><b>Title/Author</b></p>	<p><b>Synopsis</b></p>	<p><b>Setting</b></p>	<p><b>Gr Level</b></p>	<p><b>Pg. #</b></p>
 <p><b>SIT-IN</b> HOW FOUR FRIENDS STOOD UP BY SITTING DOWN</p> <p>by ANDREA DAVIS PINKNEY ILLUSTRATED BY BRIAN PINKNEY</p> <p>Sit In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down by Andrea Davis Pinkney</p> <p><a href="#">Educator's Guide</a></p>	<p>Through effectively chosen words, Andrea Pinkney brings understanding and meaning to what four black college students accomplished on February 1, 1960, by sitting down at a Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, NC. Her repeated phrase, "Their order was simple. A doughnut and coffee with cream on the side," along with other food metaphors, effectively emphasizes the men's determination to undo the injustices of segregation in a peaceful protest, which eventually led up to the 1966 Supreme Court ruling against racial discrimination. With swirling swabs of color that masterfully intertwine with sometimes thin, sometimes thick lines, Brian Pinkney cleverly centers the action and brings immediacy to the pages. Both the words and the art offer many opportunities for discussion. The book concludes with a civil rights time line and an update on the aftermath of the lunch-counter struggle.</p>	<p>1960/North Carolina</p>	<p>Gr 3-6</p>	<p>40</p>
 <p><b>SEPARATE IS NEVER EQUAL</b> Sylvia Mendez &amp; Her Family's Fight for Desegregation</p> <p>DUNCAN TONATIUH AWARDED THE PULITZER PRIZE</p> <p>Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez &amp; her family's fight for desegregation By Duncan Tonatiuh</p>	<p>Gr 2-5-When the Mendezes moved to Westminster, CA, in 1944, third-grader Sylvia tried to enter Westminster School. However, the family was repeatedly told, "Your children have to go to the Mexican school." "But why?" asked Mr. Mendez. "That is how it is done." In response, they formed the Parents' Association of Mexican-American Children, distributed petitions, and eventually filed a successful lawsuit that was supported by organizations ranging from the Japanese American Citizens League to the American Jewish Congress. Younger children will be outraged by the injustice of the Mendez family story but pleased by its successful resolution. Older children will understand the importance of the 1947 ruling that desegregated California schools, paving the way for Brown v. Board of Education seven years later. Back matter includes a detailed author's note and photographs. The excellent bibliography cites primary sources, including court transcripts and the author's interview with Sylvia Mendez, who did attend Westminster School and grew up to earn the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Tonatiuh's illustrations tell a modern</p>	<p>1944 California</p>	<p>Gr 2-5</p>	<p>40</p>

	<p>story with figures reminiscent of the pictorial writing of the Mixtec, an indigenous people from Mexico. Here, the author deliberately connects his heritage with the prejudices of mid-20th century America. One jarring illustration of three brown children barred from a pool filled with lighter-skinned children behind a sign that reads, "No Dogs or Mexicans Allowed," will remind readers of photographs from the Jim Crow South.</p>			
Title/Author	Synopsis	Setting	Gr Level	Pg. #
 <p>The Girl Who Smiled Beads: A Story of War and What Comes After by Clemantine Wamariya</p>	<p>Clemantine Wamariya was six years old when her mother and father began to speak in whispers, when neighbors began to disappear, and when she heard the loud, ugly sounds her brother said were "thunder." It was 1994, and in 100 days more than 800,000 people would be murdered in Rwanda and millions more displaced. Clemantine and her fifteen-year-old sister, Claire, ran and spent the next six years wandering through seven African countries searching for safety--hiding under beds, foraging for food, surviving and fleeing refugee camps, finding unexpected kindness, witnessing unimaginable cruelty. They did not know whether their parents were alive.</p> <p>At age twelve, Clemantine, along with Claire, was granted asylum in the United States--a chance to build a new life. Chicago was disorienting, filled with neon lights, antiseptic smells, endless concrete. Clemantine spoke five languages but almost no English, and had barely gone to school. Many people wanted to help--a family in the North Shore suburbs invited Clemantine to live with them as their daughter. Others saw her only as broken. They thought she needed, and wanted, to be saved. Meanwhile Claire, who had for so long protected and provided for Clemantine, found herself on a very different path, cleaning hotel rooms to support her three children.</p> <p>Raw, urgent, yet disarmingly beautiful, <i>The Girl Who Smiled Beads</i> captures the true costs and aftershocks of war: what is forever lost, what can be repaired, the fragility and importance of memory, the faith that one can learn, again, to love oneself, even with deep scars.</p>	Rwanda 1994	10 and up	274



Be a Changemaker: How to Start Something That Matters by Laurie Ann Thompson

When Divine Bradley was seventeen, he just wanted a safe place to hang out away from gangs and violence, and Team Revolution was born. At age eleven, Jessica Markowitz learned that girls in Rwanda are often not allowed to attend school, and Richard's Rwanda took shape. During his sophomore year of high school, Zach Steinfeld put his love of baking to good use and started the Baking for Breast Cancer Club.

Gone are the days when kids were supposed to be "seen and not heard." Today, youth everywhere are rising up, building new organizations, and creating the changes they want to see in their communities and around the world. Be a Changemaker gives readers the tools and confidence they need to affect real change. Readers will learn how to:

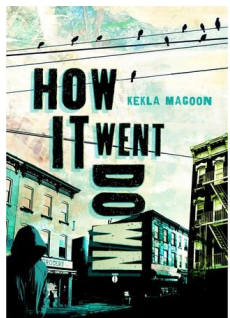
- Research ideas
- Build a strong and passionate team
- Create a business plan
- Enlist a savvy adult
- Plan events
- Work with the media
- And more!

Plus, profiles of youth-led social organizations show readers that it's never too early to become a changemaker.

NF

7 and up

240



How it Went Down by Kekla Magoon

[Teacher's Guide](#)

When sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson dies from two gunshot wounds, his community is thrown into an uproar. Tariq was black. The shooter, Jack Franklin, is white.

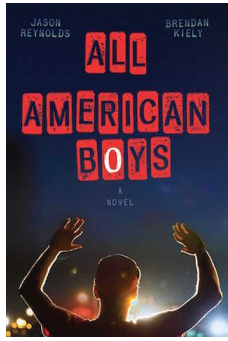
In the aftermath of Tariq's death, everyone has something to say, but no two accounts of the events line up. Day by day, new twists further obscure the truth.

Tariq's friends, family, and community struggle to make sense of the tragedy, and to cope with the hole left behind when a life is cut short. In their own words, they grapple for a way to say with certainty: This is how it went down.

United States Contemporary

9 and up

336



All American Boys  
by Jason  
Reynolds

*Rashad is absent again today.*

That's the sidewalk graffiti that started it all...

Well, no, actually, a lady tripping over Rashad at the store, making him drop a bag of chips, was what started it all. Because it didn't matter what Rashad said next—that it was an accident, that he wasn't stealing—the cop just kept pounding him. Over and over, pummeling him into the pavement. So then Rashad, an ROTC kid with mad art skills, was absent again...and again...stuck in a hospital room. Why? Because it *looked* like he was stealing. And he was a black kid in baggy clothes. So he must have been stealing.

And that's how it started.

And that's what Quinn, a white kid, saw. He saw his best friend's older brother beating the daylights out of a classmate. At first Quinn doesn't tell a soul...He's not even sure he understands it. And does it matter? The whole thing was caught on camera, anyway. But when the school—and nation—start to divide on what happens, blame spreads like wildfire fed by ugly words like “racism” and “police brutality.” Quinn realizes he's *got* to understand it, because, bystander or not, he's a part of history. He just has to figure out what side of history that will be.

Rashad and Quinn—one black, one white, both American—face the unspeakable truth that racism and prejudice didn't die after the civil rights movement. There's a future at stake, a future where no one else will have to be absent because of police brutality. They just have to risk everything to change the world.

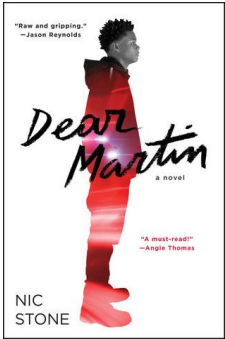

Cuz that's how it can end.

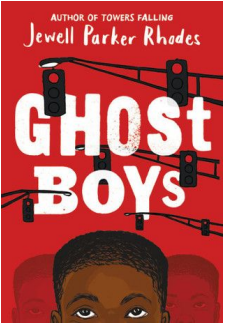
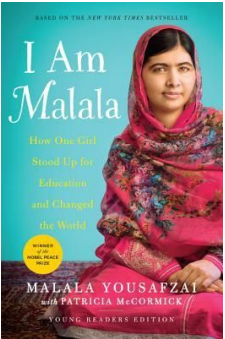
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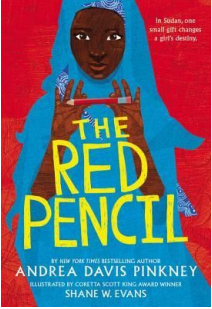
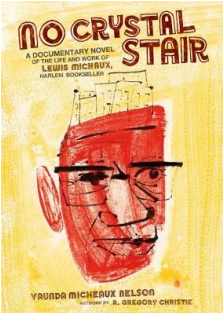
8 and up

316



 <p>Dear Martin by Nic Stone</p>	<p>Raw, captivating, and undeniably real, Nic Stone joins industry giants Jason Reynolds and Walter Dean Myers as she boldly tackles American race relations in this stunning debut.</p> <p>Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set for the Ivy League—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. And despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.</p> <p>Then comes the day Justyce goes driving with his best friend, Manny, windows rolled down, music turned up—way up, sparking the fury of a white off-duty cop beside them. Words fly. Shots are fired. Justyce and Manny are caught in the crosshairs. In the media fallout, it's Justyce who is under attack.</p>	<p>United States Contemporary</p>	<p>9 and up</p>	<p>210</p>
 <p>The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas <a href="#">Discussion Guide</a></p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.</p> <p>Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what <i>really</i> went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.</p> <p>But what Starr does or does not say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.</p>	<p>United States Contemporary</p>	<p>8 and up</p>	<p>444</p>

 <p>Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing.</p> <p>Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened, on a journey towards recognizing how historical racism may have led to the events that ended his life. Jerome also meets Sarah, the daughter of the police officer, who grapples with her father's actions.</p> <p>Once again Jewell Parker Rhodes deftly weaves historical and socio-political layers into a gripping and poignant story about how children and families face the complexities of today's world, and how one boy grows to understand American blackness in the aftermath of his own death.</p>	<p>United States Contemporary</p>	<p>4-8</p>	<p>214</p>
 <p>Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)</p> <p><a href="#">Educator's Guide</a></p>	<p>When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.</p> <p>On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive.</p> <p>Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> <p>I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.</p> <p>I AM MALALA will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire</p>	<p>Pakistan-2012</p>	<p>6 and up</p>	<p>240</p>

	change in the world.			
 <p>The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney</p> <p><a href="#">Educator's Guide</a></p>	<p>Amira longs to go to school and learn but when the militia storms her village her life is turned upside down until she receives a gift of a red pencil.</p>	<p>Contemporary Sudan</p>	<p>4+</p>	<p>308</p>
 <p>No Crystal Stair: A Documentary Novel of the Life and Work of Lewis Michaux, Harlem Bookseller by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson</p> <p><a href="#">Writing Activity</a> <a href="#">Research Project</a></p>	<p>Coretta Scott King award-winning author Vaunda Micheaux Nelson's great uncle was Lewis Micheaux, owner of the famous National Memorial African Bookstore. Located in the heart of Harlem, New York, from 1939 to 1975, Micheaux's bookstore became the epicenter of black literary life and a rallying point for the Black Nationalist movement. Some of its famous and most loyal patrons include Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali, Langston Hughes, and W.E.B. DuBois. In this inspiring work of historical fiction, Nelson tells the true story of a man with a passion for knowledge and of a bookstore whose influence has become legendary</p>	<p>New York-Harlem 1939-1975</p>	<p>7 and up</p>	<p>188</p>