**FEBRUARY 2020**

**CHILDREN’S MUSEUM HOUSTON**

**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

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*Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong’o (2019). This picture book focuses on self-esteem and learning that true beauty comes from within. Sulwe has skin the color of midnight, darker than anyone in her family or her school. Read how the night sky opens her eyes!  
*Skwe;* Ages: 4-8  
*Coretta Scott King Award Nominee (2020)*

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**Baby Says (Board Book)** by John Steptoe (2018) This board book features spare text and lively illustrations to tell the story of two brothers at opposite ends of a room. Steptoe shares the story of a baby who desperately wants to get his older brother’s attention.  
*Ages: 2-4*

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**We Came To America** by Faith Ringgold (2016) From the author of Coretta Scott King and Caldecott Honor winner for *Tar Beach*, comes this timely and beautiful look at America’s rich history of immigration and diversity. Each group brought their art, music, determination, stories and culture to the United States.  
*Ages: 5+

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“A warm overview of the life of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah, born in Ghana... demonstrating ‘that being disabled does not mean being unable.’” (Publishers Weekly) He currently works on behalf of the disabled.  
*Ages: 4+

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**Child of the Civil Rights Movement** by Paula Young Shelton (2009) Paula grew up in the deeply segregated South. She watched and listened to the struggles, eventually joining her family in the historic march from Selma to Montgomery.  
*Ages: 4+

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**The Other Side** by Jacqueline Woodson (2001) Clover’s mom says it isn’t safe to cross the fence that separates the African-American side of town from the white side where Anna lives. But the two girls strike up a friendship, and get around the grown-ups’ rules by sitting on top of the fence together.  
*Ages: 5+

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**Sing to the Moon** by Nansubuga Nagadya Isdahl (2018) “Set in Uganda, this gentle bedtime story is rich in the country’s culture and universal nostalgia as it celebrates a boy’s great love for his grandfather.” – Kirkus Reviews.  
*Ages: 4-8*

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**A Chair For My Mother** by Vera B. Williams (1982) After their home is destroyed by a fire, Rosa, her mother and grandmother save their coins to buy a really comfortable chair for all to enjoy.  
**Caldecott Honor Book**  
*Ages: 4+

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**Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters** by Andrea Davis Pinkney (2000) Pinkney celebrates the incredible stories of courage in the face of oppression, along with the challenges and triumphs of the battle for civil rights in this moving book about 10 bold women.  
*Ages: 9+

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**I Can Be Anything!  Don’t Tell Me I Can’t** by Diane Dillon (2018). Sassy and bold little Zoe embraces our world and all its possibilities for her. When a voice of doubt attempts to undermine her confidence, she responds: “I can be anything I want to be!”  
*Ages: 3+

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**SOURCES:**  
[www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com) (for pictures and descriptions) and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) (for book synopsis.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Ages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dancing In the Wings</td>
<td>Debbie Allen</td>
<td>Sassy worries that her too-large feet and too-long legs will keep her from her dream of becoming a star ballerina. So, she dances in the wings, watching from behind the curtain, and waiting for the day it will be her turn to make her mark on the world.</td>
<td>4+</td>
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<tr>
<td>March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World</td>
<td>Christine King Farris</td>
<td>Dr. King’s sister remembers the 1963 March on Washington in this tribute to him, the march and the “I Have a Dream” speech that has had such an impact in changing the nation.</td>
<td>8+</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Am Loved</td>
<td>Nikki Giovanni</td>
<td>Newbery Award honoree and illustrator Ashley Bryan selected a dozen of Giovanni’s poems that celebrate how important it is for a child to feel loved. Bryan’s illustrations use bold color, shape and movement to celebrate the poems.</td>
<td>3+</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Am Enough</td>
<td>Grace Byers</td>
<td>This lyrical ode celebrates knowing who you are, respecting others, and being kind to one another. “We are all here for a purpose. We are more than enough. We just need to believe it.”</td>
<td>4+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronzeville Boys and Girls</td>
<td>Gwendolyn Brooks</td>
<td>Brooks explores the lives and dreams of the children who live together in an urban neighborhood. Her poems remind readers that childhood is universal in his richness of emotions and new experiences.</td>
<td>4+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fly High!: The Story of Bessie Coleman</td>
<td>Louise Borden</td>
<td>When Bessie Coleman was a child, she wanted to be in school, not working in the cotton fields of Texas. She wanted to be somebody! She did everything she could to learn under the most challenging of circumstances and became the first African-American woman to earn a pilot's license.</td>
<td>9+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mae Among the Stars</td>
<td>Roda Ahmed</td>
<td>As a child, Mae dreamed of dancing in space. “She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars, floating, gliding, and discovering.” Her intelligence and determination paved the way for her to be NASA’s first African American woman in space.</td>
<td>4+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freight Train (Board Book)</td>
<td>Donald Crews</td>
<td>“Red caboose at the back, orange tank car, green cattle car, purple box car, black tender and a black steam engine . . . freight train.” Crews evokes the rolling wheels of that childhood favorite of his – a train.</td>
<td>2+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Libba: The Magnificent Musical Life of Elizabeth Cotton</td>
<td>Laura Veirs</td>
<td>Elizabeth Cotton was a little girl when she picked up a guitar for the first time. Gifted, determined and daring, she became one of the most celebrated African American folk musicians and songwriters of all time.</td>
<td>5+</td>
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<tr>
<td>This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration</td>
<td>Jacqueline Woodson</td>
<td>The story of one family’s journey north during the Great Migration starts with a little girl in South Carolina who finds a rope under a tree one summer. For three generations, that rope passed down, used for everything from jump rope games to tying suitcases onto a car for the big move north to New York City.</td>
<td>5+</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Your Hands</td>
<td>Carole Boston Weatherford</td>
<td>This poem from a Black mother to her firstborn son resonates as a prayer of love and reassurance. She expresses the many hopes and dreams she has for her child in this powerful picture book featuring the art of Brian Pinkney.</td>
<td>4+</td>
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