

WING LUKE MUSEUM

Early Reader/Picture Books

Fall/Winter 2021

Resources for your future field trip!

In addition to our virtual and in-person field trip experiences, our team has created a list of resources you can share with your students that can help prepare them for their upcoming field trip!

ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Asian Americans have been a part of American History for hundreds of years. From early Chinese Americans searching for Gum Saan (gold mountain) in the midst of the California gold rush to the Filipino/a/x American labor organizers who helped welcome a new wave of worker's rights, Asian Americans have been pioneers in countless industries, movements, and communities. Here are a few stories you can share with your students to set the stage for the many different stories they might encounter in our tours and exhibits.

I AM AN AMERICAN THE WONG KIM ARK STORY BY MARTHA BROCKENBROUGH, GRACE LIN



When American-born Wong Kim Ark returns home to San Francisco after a visit to China, he's stopped and told he cannot enter: he isn't American. What happens next would forever change the national conversation on who is and isn't American. After being imprisoned on a ship for months, Wong Kim Ark takes his case to the Supreme Court and argues any person born in America is an American citizen. *I am an American: The Wong Kim Ark Story* is an important picture book that introduces young readers to the young man who challenged the Supreme Court for his right to be an American citizen and won, confirming birthright citizenship for all Americans.

ISBN-10: 031642692X

FISH FOR JIMMY BY KATIE YAMASAKI



With the family forced to leave their home and go to an internment camp, Jimmy loses his appetite. Older brother Taro takes matters into his own hands and, night after night, sneaks out of the camp and catches fresh fish for Jimmy to help make him strong again. This affecting tale of courage and love is an adaptation of the author's true family story, and includes a letter to readers with more information about the historical background and inspiration.

ISBN-10: 0823423751



LAKAS AND THE MAKIBAKA HOTEL BY ANTHONY D ROBLES AND CARL ANGEL

In *Lakas and the Makibaka Hotel* / *Si Lakas at ang Makibaka Hotel* poet and activist Anthony Robles narrates the story of a group of Filipino and Filipino-American tenants on the verge of being evicted from their residential hotel, the Makibaka; and how they are coaxed by young Lakas—with just the right amount of ingenuity—into joining forces and resisting eviction from their about-to-be-sold-to-developers hotel. The bilingual English/Tagalog story was inspired by real-life events involving the tenants of the Trinity Plaza Apartments in San Francisco, and it brings forth the true meaning of Makibaka: the spirit of struggle which lives in the heart of Filipinos everywhere.

ISBN-10: 0892394110



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING BY KAO KALIA YANG

Drawn from author Kao Kalia Yang's childhood experiences as a Hmong refugee, this moving picture book portrays a family with a great deal of love and little money. Weaving together Kalia's story with that of her beloved grandmother, the book moves from the jungles of Laos to the family's early years in the United States, providing an introduction to Laos American experiences and histories that can be digested by an audience of any age.

ISBN-10: 1541561910

LOOKING FOR MORE?

- **Digital Library of Japanese American Incarceration** includes a wide collection of resources that can be checked out and read digitally. Free Account Required. <https://archive.org/details/digital-library-of-japanese-american-incarceration>
- **Wing Luke Museum Bookshop** offers a digital bookstore that features an array of curated lists aimed at diverse audiences while supporting the museum. <https://bookshop.org/shop/winglukemuseum>
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BUILDING CULTURAL EMPATHY

Introducing students to stories and voices from a wide array of communities and authors can be an important first step in building cross-community empathy that can have positive impacts for years to come. From learning to love ourselves and what makes us unique to embracing the ways that people of all backgrounds stand up for themselves and their communities, these books provide an opportunity to begin conversations around love and empathy that can help prepare young students for our field trip experiences.

HAIR TWINS

BY RAAKHEE MIRCHANDANI



Every morning Papa combs through his daughter's waves like he does his own—parting it down the middle, using coconut oil to get all the tangles out. Some days he braids her hair in two twists down the side of her face. Other days he weaves it into one long braid hanging down her back, just like a unicorn tail. But her favorite style is when he combs her hair in a tight bun on the top of her head, just like the joora he wears every day under his turban. They call this their hair twin look!

ISBN-10: 0316495301

EYES THAT KISS IN THE CORNERS

BY JOANNA HO



A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea, crinkle into crescent moons, and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future. Drawing from the strength of these powerful women in her life, she recognizes her own beauty and discovers a path to self-love and empowerment. This powerful, poetic picture book will resonate with readers of all ages.

ISBN-10: 0062915622

A PLACE IN THE MIDDLE

BY KUMU HINA HONG KALU, JOE WILSON, DEAN HAMER



This film and book were inspired by the true story of Ho'onani Kamai, a young student at a school designed for preserving the traditions and uplifting the youth of Kanaka Maoli (indigenous Hawai'iian) communities. Ho'onani does not feel either *wahine* (girl) nor *kane* (boy). When Ho'onani finds out that there will be a school performance of a traditional kane hula chant, she wants to be part of it. But will those around her accept her as a leader? With the mentorship and guidance of notable trans hula instructor Kumu Hina, Ho'onani explores her own identities and reclaims Kanaka ideals and identity by embracing her *mahu* feelings and spirit somewhere in the middle.

ISBN-10: 073526449X



HO'ONANI: HULA WARRIOR

BY HEATHER GALE

HOME IS IN BETWEEN

BY MITALI PERKINS



Shanti misses the warm monsoon rains in India. Now in America, she watches fall leaves fly past her feet. Still, her family's apartment feels like a village: Mama cooking luchi, funny stories in Bangla, and Baba's big laugh. But outside, everything is different—trick-or-treating, ballet class, and English books. Back and forth, Shanti trudges between her two worlds. She remembers her village and learns her new town. She watches Bollywood movies at home and Hollywood movies with her friends. She is Indian. She is also American. How should she define home?

ISBN-10: 0374303673

LOOKING FOR MORE?

- **Lee and Low Press** is the largest publisher dedicated to multicultural children's books. Their catalogue boasts a wide range of books written by and for BIPOC communities that can be enjoyed by anyone! <https://www.leeandlow.com/>
- **Mango and Marigold Press** features an impressive catalogue of books written by South Asian American authors and illustrators that aim to ensure that children of color can see themselves as the heroes of their own stories. <https://mangoandmarigoldpress.com/>
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FRIENDS AND FOOD

Delicious food has always been an important part of how communities grow, nourish, and care for themselves. From Grandmas teaching their grandchildren how to make dumplings to families finding creative solutions to the lack of culturally specific ingredients in the US, food is a symbol for the creativity and resiliency of Asian American and Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander communities. Below are a few books you can share with your students to prepare them for our field trip experiences and ensure that no one "yuck's anybody's "yum"!

CORA COOKS PANCIT

BY DORINA K LAZO GILMORE



Cora loves being in the kitchen, but she always gets stuck doing the kid jobs like licking the spoon. One day, however, when her older sisters and brother head out, Cora finally gets the chance to be Mama's assistant chef. And of all the delicious Filipino dishes that dance through Cora's head, she and Mama decide to make pancit, her favorite noodle dish. With Mama's help, Cora does the grown-up jobs like shredding the chicken and soaking the noodles (perhaps Mama won't notice if she takes a nibble of chicken). Cora even gets to stir the noodles in the pot carefully-- while Mama supervises. When dinner is finally served, her siblings find out that Cora did all their grown-up tasks, and Cora waits anxiously to see what everyone thinks of her cooking.

ISBN-10: 188500835X

BEE - BIM - BOP

BY LINDA SUE PARK



Bee-bim bop (the name translates as "mix-mix rice") is a traditional Korean dish of rice topped, and then mixed, with meat and vegetables. In bouncy rhyming text, a hungry child tells about helping her mother make bee-bim bop: shopping, preparing ingredients, setting the table, and finally sitting down with her family to enjoy a favorite meal. The energy and enthusiasm of the young narrator are conveyed in the whimsical illustrations, which bring details from the artist's childhood in Korea to his depiction of a modern Korean American family.

ISBN-10: 0547076711

Bilal Cooks Daal

BILAL COOKS DAAL

BY AISHA SAEED



Six-year-old Bilal is excited to help his dad make his favorite food of all-time: daal! The slow-cooked lentil dish from South Asia requires lots of ingredients and a whole lot of waiting. Bilal wants to introduce his friends to daal. They've never tried it! As the daal goes on, the daal continues to simmer, and more kids join Bilal and his family, waiting to try the tasty dish. And as time passes, Bilal begins to wonder: Will his friends like it as much as he does?

ISBN-10: 1534418105

AUNTIE YANG'S GREAT SOYBEAN PICNIC

BY GINNIE LO



Jin-yi and her little sister love visiting their cousins outside Chicago. At Auntie and Uncle Yang's house, they have dumpling eating contests, go on adventures in the backyard, and pile into the car for Sunday drives. One weekend, while they're riding through the cornfields, Auntie Yang spots something she's never seen before in Illinois. Nestled among the corn is a field of leafy, green plants that look familiar, like one of their favorite foods when they lived in China. Could it be? Maodou soybeans! Excited by their discovery, the two families have their very first soybean picnic. Pretty soon, more than two hundred people are gathering together to play games and eat soybeans.

ISBN-10: 1600604420

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LET'S CELEBRATE!

Holidays and celebrations can be an important part of how families preserve and pass on cultural traditions within the US. There are countless ways that Asian American communities and families share their joy and celebrate their cultural heritage. Here are just a few books you can share with your students to prepare them for our field trip experiences and to learn about the ways that a wide range of families and communities across America celebrate!

DUMPLING SOUP

BY JAMA KIM RATTIGAN



Inspired by the author's own experiences growing up in a mixed-race family, this book explores how mixed families share holidays and traditions within themselves. Main character, Marisa, gets to help her grandma make dumplings this year to celebrate the New Year. But she worries if anyone will eat her funny-looking dumplings. Set in the Hawaiian islands, this story celebrates the joyful mix of food, customs, and languages from many cultures.

ISBN-10: 0316730475

ARCHIE CELEBRATES DIWALI

BY MITALI BANERJEE RUTHS



Archana loves her family's annual Diwali party, and this year she gets to share it with all her friends from school. She helps with the decorations and the food, and is eager for everyone to arrive. But once the party starts a thunderstorm kicks up and drenches the outside decorations and knocks out the power. Archie worries that everything will be ruined. How can there be a festival of lights without any electricity?

ISBN: 9781623541194



NEW YEAR

BY MEI ZIHAN

It's Lunar New Year, a time when families come together for a wonderful feast, and a father longs to be with his daughter—but she lives in another country. As he imagines how his daughter is spending the festivities, he recalls fond memories of time spent with her, feeling a sense of loss and dislocation. While he misses her deeply, he also recognizes her need to move away, grow up, and become herself. New Year is a beautiful and lovingly portrayed portrait of leaving home, finding independence, and loving those who are many miles away. At a time when so many families are unable to gather together, readers will relate to the universal message of missing our loved ones and dreaming of being together again.

ISBN-10: 1771647310



TẾT TOGETHER

BY ALICE TRINH

Tết, the Vietnamese Lunar New Year, is a time of celebration and it involves much preparation. This festive story is a great introduction to the most important Vietnamese cultural holiday. Readers will learn the significance of each tradition during this special time. As families prepare to celebrate Tết, it is also a time of reflection and togetherness. Families come together to help sweep out the old year, hang dazzling decorations, and prepare lavish meals to share. Discover how the anticipation of Tết and the days of festivities that follow, all culminate in the celebration of families and the Vietnamese cultural heritage.

ISBN-10: 1737712601

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