

# editor's shelf

by Kathryn Mora

The purpose of Editor's Shelf is to highlight the following: new editions of important previously published works; reissues of significant works that had been out of print; U.S. editions of works published elsewhere in English; additional volumes in a publisher's series that *Multicultural Review* has reviewed; translations; previously published works that have been reissued in a new form, such as audiocassettes, audio CDs, floppy disks, CD-ROM, or DVD; and online reference sources. Paperback reprints are not included unless the reprint contains at least some new material. The initial releases in a publisher's series and works that have undergone major changes in the course of their republication in new edition or new media will receive full-fledged reviews in *MCR*. The Publisher Directory contains addresses and phone numbers of publishers whose works appear in Editor's Shelf.

## NEW EDITIONS

Beidler, Peter and Barton, Gay. *A Reader's Guide to the Novels of Louise Erdrich*. Columbia: Univ. of Missouri Press, 2006. 436 pp. Revised and expanded ed. ISBN 0-8262-1670-6, \$54.95 (cl); 0-8262-1671-4, \$24.95 (pb).

This revised and expanded edition of a 1999 publication is an excellent reference guide for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. It will help the reader follow the complex interconnection of Erdrich's novels. Included here is updated information on her four new novels since the publication of the first edition. The updates include easy-to-use genealogical charts for the various families, a map and geographical details about the settings for the novels, a detailed composite dictionary of characters, and a glossary of all the Ojibwe words, phrases, and sentences used in Erdrich's works.

A preface, an introduction, a bibliography, and an index are provided in this volume.

Collins, Catherine Fisher, ed. *African American Women's Health and Social Issues*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 220 pp. Second ed. ISBN 0-275-98082-0, \$59.95.

This updated edition, first published in 1996, is a collection of essays by more than two dozen experts on the subject of health and social issues of African-American women. The new volume shows that, unfortunately, little has improved in the past ten years for African-American women in the areas of health and socioeconomic status. This excellent resource addresses the unique is-

suues faced by black women and provides encouragement and valuable information about how to get help.

Included are a foreword, a preface, an introduction, and an index.

Martínez, Oscar J. *Troublesome Border*. Tucson: Univ. of Arizona Press, 2006. 192 pp. Revised ed. ISBN 0-8165-2557-9, \$17.95 (pb).

The updated and revised edition of a title first published in 1988 explores the dramatic developments that have taken place over the last two decades. Martínez includes new information on migration and drugs, the rise of violence due to the illegal drug trade, the devastating effects of the U.S. Border Patrol, and the equally devastating impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Maps and tables, a preface, notes, a bibliography, and an index are included.

Norgren, Jill and Nanda, Serena. *American Cultural Pluralism and the Law*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 288 pp. Third ed. ISBN 0-275-98692-6, \$97.95 (cl); 0-275-98699-3, \$29.95 (pb).

The new edition of this reference handbook will appeal to the general reader and graduate students interested in multicultural studies, law, political science, and interdisciplinary studies. The volume's main purpose is to examine the role of the law within a culturally pluralistic society, defined as a society that accepts many minority groups and cultural traditions. The authors, professors at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, have updated their examination of the intersection of American cultural pluralism and the law to take into account recent events such as the 9/11 attacks and political conflicts over immigration. They document and analyze legal challenges to the existing social order raised by previously ignored groups, as well as the backlash against affirmative action. Included groups are Native Americans and Hawaiians, homeless and disabled persons, immigrants, and Rastafarians. The book also addresses the impact of post-9/11 security measures on Arab and Muslim individuals and communities, and challenges to the legal system from women, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) persons, Japanese and African Americans, Latinos, Mormons, and the Amish. Norgren and Nanda offer both new chapters and updated information in older chapters.

Included are black-and-white photos, a preface, an introduction, a selected bibliography, and an index.

## REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT WORKS

Baker, William J. *Jesse Owens: An American Life*. Champaign: Univ. of Illinois Press, 2006, 1986. 290 pp. Series: Sport and Society. ISBN 0-252-07369-X, \$24.95 (pb).

Originally published by Collier Macmillan in 1986, this well-researched work, written by a emeritus professor of history at the University of Maine, is an honest and open account of the life of the legendary Olympic champion. Rather than glossing over the surface of this complex individual who became an American icon, Baker provides an in-depth examination of the man, his successes, and his failures.

The volume contains a preface, a prologue, notes, and an index.

Buchanan, William J. *Running Toward the Light: The George Mendoza Story*. Albuquerque: Univ. of New Mexico Press, 2006, 1994. 170 pp. ISBN 0-8263-3751-1, \$18.95 (pb).

First self-published in 1994, Mendoza's inspiring story is based on a daily diary he kept for a short time after he became blind, and from notations of events he jotted down shortly after those events occurred. However, most of the book comes from interviews with Mendoza, his family, close friends, and others who knew him professionally and personally. Mendoza refused to consider himself handicapped and has spent his life motivating and helping others.

Included in this volume are a preface, a foreword, and an afterword.

Chughtai, Ismat. *The Crooked Line*. New York: Feminist Press of the City Univ. of New York, 2006, 1995. 396 pp. Trans. from Urdu with an afterword by Tahira Naqvi. ISBN 1-55861-517-2, \$50.00 (cl); 1-55861-518-0, \$16.95 (pb).

This epic masterpiece on twentieth-century social revolution by a Muslim Indian writer was originally published in India in 1995, revised in 1998 and 2000 by Kali for Women, and reissued in 2003 by Women Unlimited, which became Kali for Women's publishing partner in India. This semi-autobiographical story is about a young, independent middle-class Muslim woman who lived in a time of political and social upheaval and rebelled against her traditional Indian upbringing.

Included are translation notes, kinship titles, a glossary, and an afterword.

Lifton, Betty Jean. *Twice Born: Memoirs of an Adopted Daughter*. New York: Other Press, 2006, 1975. 270 pp. ISBN 1-59051-244-8, \$15.95 (pb).

In the 1975 memoir first published by McGraw-Hill,

Lifton shared her personal story as an adoptee. As a result of the closed adoption system, she wrote that she felt isolated and lonely. After the first edition was published, she received a flood of letters from other adoptees across the nation telling her that she had told their story, too. The reissued book, a reprint of the memoir, will open the doors for adopted children to share their inner feelings about their adoptions rather than repress and ignore those feelings. In the afterword of the reissued book, the author speaks about how times have changed in some ways regarding adoption. However, she writes, in other ways little has changed.

Today Lifton is a psychotherapist and leading advocate for adoption and author of numerous books on the psychology of the adopted.

Toer, Pramoedya Ananta. *It's Not an All Night Fair*. New York: Penguin, 2006, 1973. 96 pp. Trans. from Indonesian by C. W. Watson. ISBN 0-14-303702-1, \$12.00 (pb).

This volume was first published in 1951 in Indonesia under the title *Bukan Pasar Malam*. The English version was published in the United States in the journal *Indonesian* No. 15 by Cornell University, April 1973 and later by Equinox Publishing in 2001. This is the story of a son returning home to central Java to see his dying father and experience his eventual death. He struggles to understand his aloof, detached father and to find value and meaning in his father's death and in his own life.

This book also contains an introduction, a postscript, and notes.

## NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

Akashic Noir

Pelecanos, George, ed. *D.C. Noir*. New York: Akashic Books, 2006. 308 pp. ISBN 1-888451-90-4, \$14.95 (pb).

This award-winning series of anthologies of original noir short stories set in individual cities debuted in 2004. London, Dublin, San Francisco, Chicago, Baltimore, and Miami are some of the other cities featured. *D.C. Noir* reflects the voice of each writer in the backdrop of crime/noir fiction. Every quadrant of the city and neighborhoods, including the Federal City, Chinatown, Georgetown, Benning Heights, and Chevy Chase, Maryland, are included. The writers range from lifelong Washingtonians to newcomers—Latino, black and white, males and females. Among them are a police officer, an actor, bloggers, journalists, and even someone who is currently serving time in jail. Pelecanos, a Greek American who contributes the lead story, is a screenwriter, independent film producer, award-winning journalist and bestselling author of a mystery series set in Washington D.C., where he lives with his wife and children.

## American Workers

Laughlin, Rosemary. *The Pullman Strike of 1894*. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2006. 144 pp. ISBN 1-931798-89-3, \$26.95.

Designed for ages 11 and up, this series provides an in-depth discussion of each subject's historical importance.

Although the Pullman car was known for its luxury, the African-American workers in the town where the Pullman Company was located lived in poverty. Students will learn how the Pullman Strike of 1894, which began over wages and working conditions, forever changed labor-management relations in the United States. This was the first time that the federal government became involved in an industrial union conflict and sided with management.

Included in the volumes are a time line, sources, a glossary, a bibliography, web sites, and an index.

## Asian Folktales Retold

Kurita, Miwa. *China Tells How the World Began!* Berkeley, Calif.: Stone Bridge/HEIAN, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. by Saoko Mitsukuri. Edited by Miyoko Matsutani. ISBN 0-89346-944-0, \$16.95.

Kurita, Miwa. *Chinese Fables Remembered*. Berkeley, Calif.: Stone Bridge/HEIAN, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. by Saoko Mitsukuri. Edited by Miyoko Matsutani. ISBN 0-89346-945-9, \$16.95.

This new picture book series, designed for young children, was created to capture the spirit of Asian folktales, to help children better understand the modern world, and to connect Asian-American readers with their cultural past. These stories, based on oral folktales passed down for generations, are accompanied by large drawings in delicate, muted shades of purples, blues, greens, yellows and oranges on each page. The tales are intended to be read aloud in order for children to experience "full joy."

The two folktales in *China Tells How the World Began!* warn children about the dangers of being greedy or boastful. A jealous brother grabs too much and pays the price, and a rooster acts too boastful and gets into water above his head. *Chinese Fables Remembered* explains to children how the world began, according to legend, and why the Chinese zodiac has the symbols of the animals.

According to source notes in these two volumes, the folktales have been told by Kurita to folktale researcher Keiko Nomura.

## The Basics

Turner, Colin. *Islam: The Basics*. New York: Routledge, 2006. 248 pp. ISBN 0-415-34106-X, \$17.95 (pb).

Turner offers an introduction to Islam for middle and high school students and the general reader. The book provides an overview of subjects such as the Koran and its teachings, the life of the Prophet Muhammad, women in Islam, Sunnism and Shi'ism, Islam and the modern world, and the history of relationships between Muslims and non-Muslims.

This series includes a glossary of terms, an annotated bibliography, and a chronology of key dates. Well researched and clearly presented, the book is ideal for student reports and research projects.

## Celebrate Holidays

Jeffrey, Laura S. *Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 104 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2492-X, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Kule, Elaine A. *Celebrate Chinese New Year*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 112 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2577-2, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Mattern, Joanne. *Celebrate Cinco de Mayo*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 104 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2579-9, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

This series for ages ten and up offers easy-to-read chapters that portray the featured holiday. In *Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*, the man behind the holiday is featured. Students will be inspired to take action after they read, "Get Active in Your Own Community." Informative sidebars contain biographical information of civil rights activists such as Rosa Parks and Mohandas K. Gandhi. In *Celebrate Cinco de Mayo*, the student will learn the meaning behind Cinco de Mayo and how people celebrate this holiday in Mexico and in the United States, as well as the history of the holiday, its cultural significance, and who celebrates it. *Celebrate Chinese New Year* contains the same type of information for Chinese and Chinese-American celebrations, with an emphasis on celebrating the holiday in the United States.

Included in the volumes are a glossary, chapter notes, full-color and sepia photos, further reading, Internet addresses, and an index.

## Chronologies of the American Mosaic

Kinshasa, Kwando M. *African American Chronology*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 190 pp. ISBN 0-313-33797-7, \$45.00.

White, Phillip M. *American Indian Chronology*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 168 pp. ISBN 0-313-33820-5, \$45.00.

These series titles, designed for high school students and public libraries as supplemental resources, have an easy-to-use format and will prove to be valuable research

tools for students. Each volume contains primary source sidebars, illustrations, a glossary, a bibliography that includes print and electronic sources, and an index.

*African American Chronology* contains events and circumstances experienced by people of African ancestry. Readers learn important historical and biographical information from the fifteenth century to the early twenty-first century. The volume is divided into centuries starting with the fifteenth and sixteenth and ending with the present day. Events chronicled include those in Africa, the Caribbean, and North America. The author is an associate professor of sociology and chair of the African American Studies Department of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, and has written several books about African Americans.

*American Indian Chronology* guides the reader from prehistory to the present. The entries are organized by dates and subdivided into over 35 categories, such as language, agriculture and farming, wars and conflicts, and education. The volume includes updates through 2005, bringing the modern struggles of the American Indians and the lives of prominent figures to the twenty-first century. The author is a reference librarian and bibliographer for American Indian Studies, San Diego State University Library, and has an extensive list of published works on Native Americans.

Included in this series is a preface, a glossary, a bibliography, and an index.

### The American Saga

Byers, Ann. *The History of U.S. Immigration: Coming to America*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2574-8, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Hermann, Spring. *The Struggle for Equality: Women and Minorities in America*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2573-X, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

America has been described as a melting pot. However, this series argues that it is not true. Instead, European, African, Asian, Hispanics, and Middle Eastern immigrants have all kept their individual identities, which is what makes American history a rich tapestry. An overview volume, *The History of U.S. Immigration: Coming to America* illustrates what the immigrants experienced and how they made America stronger. *The Struggle for Equality: Women and Minorities in America* shows, through inspiring stories, how women and people of diverse racial and ethnic heritages have fought for equal rights from the colonial period to the present day.

Included in this series for readers ages ten and up are a time line, chapter notes, a glossary, further reading, Internet addresses, and an index.

### Countries of the World

Gruber, Beth. *Mexico*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2006. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7922-7669-8, \$15.95.

Each volume in this comprehensive series, appropriate for elementary and middle school students, features a major nation and its unique position in the world. The chapters focus on geography, people and culture, history, government and economy, and nature.

The series provides information such as charts, tables, time lines, full-page maps that highlight physical features, vegetation and ecosystems, history, population, and political organization. The photography within each chapter is linked to a location on the main map. Also included are smaller maps that focus on special topics such as migration, rainfall, and changing borders. Special sidebars introduce people, places, and events. There is a glossary and an extensive bibliography that lists books, *National Geographic* magazine articles, and web sites.

Students learn that Mexico has a rich Indian heritage, three centuries of Spanish control, and a border shared with the world's wealthiest country. This book is a must read for any young person interested in Mexico. After a few minutes of glancing at the attractively designed and illustrated volume, those who don't have an intrinsic interest in Mexico will soon be drawn into reading more. Older exchange students heading for Mexico will want to read this volume before leaving. The format is user-friendly and the reader will glide through the fascinating and engagingly written information about Mexico, including weather, nature, history, people and culture, traditions, specific populations, the railway, the government and economy, politics, and immigration.

### Daily Life Through History

Fixico, Donald. *Daily Life of Native Americans in the Twentieth Century*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 260 pp. ISBN 0-313-33357-2, \$49.95.

Kowtko, Stacy. *Nature and the Environment in Pre-Columbian American Life*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 260 pp. ISBN 0-313-33472-2, \$49.95.

This series, for students in middle and high school and general readers, shows what life was really like for ordinary people in cultures throughout history. Each volume includes drawings, patterns, diagrams, sheet music of the songs they sang, how they dressed, what they ate and their recipes, where each person fit into society, what kinds of jobs they held, and the games and sports they played. These two volumes present the indigenous people of North America at both ends of the historical continuum.

In *Daily Life of Native Americans*, scholar Fixico pres-

ents an in-depth discussion of indigenous peoples' lives throughout the twentieth century. He includes education, leisure activities and sports, reservation life, spirituality, rituals and customs, health, medicine and cures, urban life, women's roles and family, bingos, and casinos and gaming. Black-and-white photos, maps, and charts complement the text. A chronology of historic events, sources for further reading, a glossary of terms, a bibliography, and an index are included in this volume.

*Nature and the Environment in Pre-Columbian American Life* focuses on how the Native American people worked in harmony with the environment before the time of the first contact with white people. This volume is an excellent resource for students to research Native Americans before the Europeans arrived in America.

#### Disease Update

Silverstein, Alvin; Silverstein, Virginia; and Nunn, Laura Silverstein. *The Sickle Cell Anemia Update*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 112 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2479-2, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Designed for ages 10 years and up, this new series volume offers easily understood, detailed information about sickle cell anemia through inspiring stories of real people. The volume opens with a large photo of 1990 Grammy Award winner T-Boz, who was diagnosed with sickle cell anemia at eight years of age. She was told she would not live out her dream of singing and dancing. Although T-Boz does have bad days when she feels like someone is stabbing her body over and over again, she refuses to give up and works hard to keep a positive attitude. In 1996, T-Boz became the national spokesperson for the Sickle Cell Disease Association. She educates people and helps raise money for research.

The volume contains a profile of sickle cell anemia, questions and answers, a time line of medical advances on the sickle cell anemia front, informational sidebars, chapter notes, a glossary, further reading, Internet addresses, and an index.

#### Essays on Human Rights

Turner, Bryan S. *Vulnerability and Human Rights*. University Park: Penn State Univ. Press, 2006. 169 pp. ISBN 0-271-02923-4, \$19.95 (pb).

Leading people in the interdisciplinary field of human rights have authored these series volumes for scholars, policymakers, students, and general readers. The series includes essays by anthropologists, sociologists, philosophers, political scientists, and those working in traditional fields of human rights.

This volume is written by a professor of sociology in the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore. Turner examines the violence caused by the two world wars of the twentieth century, which affected

the lives of ever-greater numbers of civilians, and the costs to noncombatants of the "decentralized and privatized warfare" taking place in many parts of the world today. In addition to the world wars, the book covers conflicts in the developing world that emerged from the Cold War and the terrorist attacks of September 11. Includes references and index.

#### Famous Latinos

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *César Chávez: Fighting for Fairness*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2370-2, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *Diego Rivera: Artist of Mexico*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2641-8, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *Ellen Ochoa: First Latina Astronaut*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2642-6, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *Frida Kahlo: Painting Her Life*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2643-4, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *George Lopez: Comedian and TV Star*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2644-2, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Guzmán, Lila and Guzmán, Rick. *Roberto Clemente: Baseball Hero*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2640-X, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Each book in this new series, designed for ages eight and nine, has a full-color photo of the featured subject on the cover. The easy-to-read chapters portray the life of a famous Latino and have several full-color and sepia photos that enhance and complement the well-written stories. The volumes in this series are inspiring and will leave the young reader feeling up and hopeful.

*George Lopez: Comedian and TV Star* is a welcome addition to this series because not only is he a role model and an inspiration, but he is still living and working. Lopez might have lived in the same or a similar community as some of the young readers. The story is honest about his hard and challenging upbringing and relates how he consciously decided, as a young boy, to survive. The little boy grew up to be a successful stand-up comedian and have his own television show, developed from his stand-up act. Lopez did not lose sight of his goal. Another living role model is astronaut Ellen Ochoa, who

became the first Latina to enter a predominantly white and overwhelmingly male-dominated field. She serves as an inspiration for young women to focus on math and science as a road to success, independence, and the fulfillment of dreams.

Included in this series are a time line, words to know, Internet addresses, and an index.

#### Graphic Library

Burgan, Michael. *Nat Turner's Slave Rebellion*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. by Richard Dominguez, Bob Wialcek, and Charles Barnett III. ISBN 0-7368-5490-8, \$25.26 (list), \$18.95 (school/library).

Engfer, Lee. *Wilma Rudolph: Olympic Track Star*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. by Cynthia Martin and Anne Timmons. ISBN 0-7368-5489-4, \$25.26 (list), \$18.95 (school/library).

Olson, Nathan. *George Washington Carver: Ingenious Inventor*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. by Keith Tucker. ISBN 0-7368-5484-3, \$25.26 (list), \$18.95 (school/library).

This series is designed to motivate below-level readers, ages eight through 14, to read more and to improve reading comprehension. The lively writing style and attractive illustrations bring history to life for struggling readers. According to the experts' guidelines, the sentence structure is short and direct, the vocabulary words are chosen carefully, the photos and text match in order to aid comprehension, the design is clear and uncomplicated, and the information in the volumes is straightforward.

Through the vivid visuals and easy-to-read text, young students will experience the dangers of the day-to-day life of a slave in *Nat Turner's Slave Rebellion*. After reading *Wilma Rudolph: Olympic Track Star*, readers will be inspired to hold on to their dreams. From the moment Rudolph was born, she and her family faced monumental obstacles. Even though she was two months premature and needed extra care, she was not allowed to be cared for in the all-white hospital in Clarksville, Tennessee. Fortunately, there was one black doctor in town, who cared for the baby and her mother. She was sickly as a girl and even contracted polio, which affected one of her legs. However, with her family's support and her strong spirit, Rudolph became an Olympic champion. The volume on Carver describes his birth under slavery in 1864, his fascination with plants, and his contribution to the cultivation and use of the peanut. The book conveys Carver's inspiring life story and the personality traits of inquisitiveness and persistence that make up the scientist's temperament.

Each volume contains a glossary, a bibliography, an index, quotations from primary sources, a section on

further information, and FactHound.com Internet sites. Graphic Mythology

Jeffrey, Gary. *African Myths*. New York: Rosen, 2006. 48 pp. Illus. by Terry Riley. ISBN 1-4042-0798-8, \$29.25.

This book of myths and the series reinforce the idea that Egypt is not a part of Africa. Egyptian myths are included in a separate volume, which features three Egyptian myths. (Other societies that merit single-volume treatment in the series are China, Greece, and Rome. MesoAmerican societies are lumped into one volume.) The three myths in *African Myths* are drawn from three different countries—Nigeria, Ghana, and Zaire (now Congo). The introduction recycles inaccurate terminology (tribe) and the false idea that little is known about ancient African civilizations, but it does provide useful information on the origins and uses of myths. Also, the myths that are included are well told and illustrated with cartoon drawings that portray authentic details. Olorun, in the Yoruba myth of creation, wears a crown from ancient Ife; and Nyame, the sky God of the Asante, dresses like an asantehene (an Ghanaian/Asante king). The addendum includes the names of additional mythical characters from Africa, and the resources recommended for further study match the topic at hand.

—Brenda Randolph  
Africa Access

#### Greenwood Folklore Handbooks

Herrera-Sobek, María. *Chicano Folklore: A Handbook*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 334 pp. ISBN 0-313-33325-4, \$55.00.

Korom, Frank J. *South Asian Folklore: A Handbook*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 224 pp. ISBN 0-313-33193-6, \$49.95.

Written for high school students and general readers, this series describes the folklore of the featured volume. Each is a comprehensive handbook divided into five chapters, including an introduction, definitions and classifications, examples and texts, scholarship and approaches, and contexts.

*Chicano Folklore* provides background information on Mexican and Mexican-American history and culture—the contexts in which Chicano folklore has thrived. It also contains numerous examples and text from various folklore genres and discusses the importance of Chicano folklore, literature, and popular culture. In addition, the book reviews scholarship and critical approaches and closes with a bibliography and glossary. This book will help students appreciate America's cultural diversity as they learn about the fascinating traditions of this important ethnic group.

Although *South Asian Folklore* is written for people

with no folklore background, specialists will appreciate the value of this comprehensive study. The author includes general background, the concept and history of folklore, and his personal experience in the region over several decades. In addition, there is a discussion of folklore in contemporary South Asian literature and culture and more.

Included in this series are a preface, a glossary, a bibliography, web resources, and an index.

#### Greenwood Histories of the Modern Nations

Harding, Robert C. *The History of Panama*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 160 pp. ISBN 0-313-33322-X, \$29.95.

Peebles, Patrick. *The History of Sri Lanka*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 216 pp. ISBN 0-313-33205-3, \$29.95.

This series, designed for students in middle school through college and public libraries, will give the reader a better understanding of the world. Each volume offers a well-organized format and clear, concise writing. A chronological narrative examines the political, cultural, philosophical, and religious dimensions of the featured nation's history, past and present.

In *The History of Panama*, Harding gives readers the complete story of the canal along with a general history of the country. He describes how Panama dealt with malaria, the influence of U.S. foreign policy on a nation struggling to establish political sovereignty, and Panamanians' efforts to maintain their rich culture in spite of the invasions and dictators. *The History of Sri Lanka* tells about its long and complex history. This tiny island, located in the Indian Ocean with a diverse population of about 19 million, has had bitter ethnic, religious, and political conflicts. Peebles helps the reader to understand this country through discussions of the first settlers, the civil war, and the present situation. The emphasis is on the twentieth century, and subjects include the economy, religion, culture, and government.

Each volume includes a general series foreword, a unique preface, a list of acronyms, an in-depth time line of historical events, maps, brief biographies of famous people, a glossary, a bibliographical essay with further reading, and an index.

#### Greenwood Milestones in African American History

Zuczek, Richard, ed. *Encyclopedia of the Reconstruction Era*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 2 vols., 900 pp. ISBN 0-313-33073-5, \$199.95.

Middle school and high school libraries are the principal audience for this series of multivolume encyclopedias on the African-American experience.

Through the *Encyclopedia of the Reconstruction Era*

students will become knowledgeable about the era in American history (1862–1877), how the United States worked to bring order to the devastated South, and the myriad social, political economic, physical, and Constitutional changes brought on by secession and the Civil War. The subjects covered in signed articles, ranging in length from several paragraphs to several pages, include the abolition of slavery, the expansion of governmental power and Constitutional jurisdiction, the rise of the Republican Party, the explosion of Northern industry and the national market, and the appearance of a structure and dynamic to support struggles by new social groups for political and civil equality. Many of the entries are biographical, covering notable figures of the time. All entries contain a list of additional readings.

The volume contains a foreword, a preface, an introduction, cross-references to related topics, a chronology, maps, a bibliography and list of online resources, primary documents, illustrations, and a detailed subject index.

#### Groundwork Guides

Laxer, James. *Empire*. Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2006. 144 pp. ISBN 0-88899-706-X, \$15.95.

Siddiqui, Hardon. *Being Muslim*. Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2006. 144 pp. ISBN 0-88899-785-X, \$15.95.

Springer, Jane. *Genocide*. Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2006. 144 pp. ISBN 0-88899-681-0, \$15.95.

Designed for ages 14 and up, this series offers students a concise overview of important topics and issues in their world today.

*Empire* is a study of empires throughout history, ending with the American Empire. A time line helps readers to follow the dense narrative. *Being Muslim* explores controversial topics such as the treatment of women in Islam, terrorism, and current efforts to advance mutual understanding between the Muslim and the Western world. *Genocide* will help students understand that groups of people are being killed just because they exist, and they will learn what can be done to prevent future genocides.

The books include maps, charts, a glossary, essential and further reading, notes, and an index.

#### Hispanic-American Biographies

Garretson, Gregory. *Severo Ochoa*. Chicago: Raintree, 2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1298-1, \$32.86.

Guidici, Cynthia. *Adriana Ocampo*. Chicago: Raintree, 2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1297-3, \$32.86.

Guidici, Cynthia. *Mario Molina*. Chicago: Raintree,

2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1296-5, \$32.86.

Iverson, Teresa. *Ellen Ochoa*. Chicago: Raintree, 2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1299-X, \$32.86.

Kloepfer, Deanne and Abarca, Patricia. *Francisco Dallmeier*. Chicago: Raintree, 2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1300-7, \$32.86.

Randall, Tina. *Luis Walter Alvarez*. Chicago: Raintree, 2006. 64 pp. ISBN 1-4109-1295-7, \$32.86.

Famous Hispanic-American men and women who have made monumental contributions to the world in a variety of areas are the subjects of this series tailored for ages nine through eleven. Those featured include musicians, educators, sports heroes, artists, scientists, and astronauts. Astronaut Ellen Ochoa, a native of Los Angeles, California, is the first Hispanic-American woman astronaut at NASA. *Ellen Ochoa* is the story of her rise to fame and her journey in the first space shuttle that docked with the International Space Station in 1999. Ochoa, a wife and mother of two sons, has had many ground jobs at NASA and helps to choose astronauts for specific space missions. *Adriana Ocampo* relates the life of another famous woman in science and technology, from her girlhood in Houston, Texas, to her current position as a planetary geologist for the European Space Agency. She

also is in training for NASA's shuttle program. In one of the primary-source quotes in this volume, Ocampo says, "As a girl I was more interested in a chemistry set than in dolls. And I was always fascinated by the stars. My mother says I wouldn't go to sleep without going out and seeing the night sky." *Mario Molina* enlightens students about a Mexican scientist whose research earned him the Nobel Prize. He taught people throughout the world about chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which harm the earth's atmosphere. Because of their impact on the ozone layer, CFCs have been banned, and the ozone layer is restoring itself. Today, Molina continues his research in atmospheric chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and through the University of California at San Diego.

The other subjects, while not as well known, are equally important in their fields. Venezuelan-born Dallmeier is a zoologist and the director of the Smithsonian's Monitoring and Assessment of Biodiversity Program. Born in Spain in 1905, Ochoa won the 1959 Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for his study of energy and metabolism. Alvarez, who grew up in California, was the 1968 Nobel Prize winner in Physics.

Each book in the series include an introduction, informational sidebars, a time line, suggestions for further reading, addresses where readers can write for further information, and an index.

## VOICE OF YOUTH ADVOCATES



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## Holidays Around the World

Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Diwali*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7922-5922-X, \$15.95.

Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Hanukkah*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7922-5924-4, \$15.95.

Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7922-5926-2, \$15.95.

Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Thanksgiving*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2006. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7922-5928-9, \$15.95.

This new series introduces primary students to different religious and cultural holidays celebrated around the world. The superb photos and lively text will encourage young readers to pick up these volumes. A “consultant input” and a written note are included in each volume.

*Celebrate Thanksgiving* is a full-color journey into the history of Thanksgiving, with celebration and ceremony, warmth and thanks, all rolled into one. The volume even includes a family recipe: cranberry and peach preserves. In *Celebrate Diwali*, young students will become acquainted with a holiday about which most Americans know very little. Diwali is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains throughout the world. It commemorates the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness. *Celebrate Hanukkah* focuses on the Jewish holiday commemorating the triumph of the Maccabees over the Persian rulers more than 2,000 years ago. *Celebrate Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr* describes the annual month-long Muslim fast from sunup to sundown and the joyous celebration of its end.

Included in this series are many large, glossy full-color photos, “Just the Facts,” a time line, further reading and web sites, a glossary, a map, and poems or recipes.

## In the Studio

Brown, Jake. *Kanye West in the Studio*. Phoenix, Ariz.: Colossus Books/Amber Communications, 2006. 143 pp. ISBN 0-9767735-6-2, \$16.95 (pb).

This book series will appeal to young people of high school age through the general reader, especially those interested in the hip-hop genre. Kanye West, a charismatic young man, has won the Grammy Award six times as a record producer or a rapper. He was named to *Time* magazine’s list of most influential people in the world and appeared on the cover of the magazine on August 26, 2006. West’s genius is recognized even though he is only 29 years old.

The volume also includes several black-and-white photos and the Kanye West discography. Author Brown has written numerous books on hip hop, including *The Rise, Fall & Rise of Death Row Records* and *No Holds Barred JAY-Z*.

## Kids Around the World

Godard, Philippe. *We Live in India*. New York: Abrams, 2006. 48 pp. Illus. by Sophie Duffet. ISBN 0-8109-5736-1, \$15.95.

Pilon, Pascal and Thomas, Elisabeth. *We Live in China*. New York: Abrams, 2006. 48 pp. Illus. by Sophie Duffet. ISBN 0-8109-5735-3, \$15.95.

Books in this child-friendly series will teach readers eight to twelve years old about children from other lands. Each volume concentrates on the daily lives of three or four children. The series describes political, social, cultural, and religious history of each featured country.

The preface of *We Live in India* is written in the form of a testimonial as a tribute to the Indian children of Calcutta, who are forced to grow up too fast. Other sections explore the lives of children who are better off and enjoy the comfortable lifestyle typical of middle-class children in the West. The changing roles of boys and girls and the diverse religions and languages of India also receive attention. *We Live in China* introduces the reader to three children who live in different regions of China but all speak a common language. Shuilin lives in Linxia in the central region of China, and Zhang Meihua lives near the capital, Beijing. She is part of the Han ethnic group. Dui, from Tibet, takes a trip across the peaks of the Himalayas.

Each volume contains attractive and colorful illustrations, portraits, photos, maps, and a recipe from the featured country.

## The Mexican American Experience

Tatum, Charles M. *Chicano and Chicana Literature: Otra voz del pueblo*. Tucson: Univ. of Arizona Press, 2006. 232 pp. ISBN 0-8165-2427-0, \$17.95 (pb).

This series is appropriate for students in high school and college and the general reader. The comprehensive volumes contain up-to-date information on their subjects, which include the history, social situation, and cultural production of Mexican Americans. *Chicano and Chicana Literature: Otra voz del pueblo* examines literature as giving voice to the ethnic identity of Mexican Americans. The works of Rudolfo Anaya, Sandra Cisneros, Luis Alberto Urrea, and more are explored. The author gives special attention to the Chicano movement and literary texts written during the 1960s and early 1970s.

The series includes an introduction, a conclusion, illustrations, black-and-white photos, a list of works consulted, and an index.

Multicultural Crafts Kids Can Do!

Robinson, Fay. *Hispanic-American Crafts Kids Can Do!* Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2006. 32 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2459-8, \$22.60 (list), \$16.95 (school/library).

Robinson's volume for primary-grade students showcases Hispanic-American culture in countries throughout Central and South America. Young readers learn about different cultures while making the crafts from each country. They find out how to make a "God's Eye" from the Huichol Indians of Mexico, a carnival head-dress from Brazil, a piñata, part of holidays and birthday parties for many Latin American countries and also in the United States, and many more colorful, easy-to-make craft projects.

Included are an introduction, books and Internet addresses, illustrations, color photos, and an index.

Native America: Yesterday and Today

George-Kanentho, Douglas M. *Iroquois on Fire: A Voice from the Mohawk Nation*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 153 pp. ISBN 0-275-98384-6, \$49.95.

Mann, Barbara Alice, ed. *Daughters of Mother Earth: The Wisdom of Native American Women*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 135 pp. ISBN 0-275-98562-8, \$49.95.

Readers of this series for the college/university level will learn about Native Americans and their issues and gain new perspectives on the history of the Americas' first human inhabitants.

*Iroquois on Fire: A Voice from the Mohawk Nation* explores details of the Iroquois multibillion-dollar land claims against the state of New York. The story is written from an Iroquois perspective by a man who is a member of the Mohawk Nation. George-Kanentho is actively involved in tribal affairs and dedicated to preserving the traditions of his people. He uses aspects of his personal story to highlight issues of public interest, such as the land, family and community, geography, federal interference in tribal affairs, religion, political activism, land use/claims and connections to organized crime.

*Daughters of Mother Earth: The Wisdom of Native American Women* tells about the recovery of women's traditions, an important theme in the collection of essays in this volume. Paula Gunn Allen looks at Indian life through the stitches of Indian clothes and the many steps of powwow fancy dances. Kay McGowan's essay shows how the European culture weakened "woman-

power." Mann, of Seneca descent, examines how communication between Natives east and west of the Mississippi became dysfunctional and how to reestablish good east-west relations.

Each book also includes both a series and a book foreword, a preface, a bibliography, contributor biographies, and an index.

New Beginnings

Skrypuch, Marsha Forchuk. *Aram's Choice*. Markham, Ont.: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2006. 82 pp. Illus. by Muriel Wood. ISBN 1-55041-354-6, \$8.95 (pb).

This historical chapter book series for elementary and middle school students illustrates the lives of immigrant children, throughout Canada's history as well as today. A combination of fact and fiction, *Aram's Choice* is based on the story of Kevork Devorkian, one of a group of Armenian orphans called the "Georgetown Boys" brought to Georgetown, Ontario, in 1923. Readers learn about the Armenian genocide in Turkey and about some of the young survivors and their new life in Canada. Vivid illustrations throughout the story complement a well-written, lively text.

Also included in this series are full-color illustrations, suggested reading, web sites and films, a bibliography, a historical note, and a glossary.

Roosevelt High School

Velásquez, Gloria L. *Tyrone's Betrayal*. Houston, Tex.: Piñata Books, 2006. 136 pp. ISBN 1-55885-465-7, \$9.95 (pb).

The seventh volume in this fiction series depicting a group of Latino and African-American high school students focuses on Tyrone, a Black teen who must deal with his father's alcoholism and the breakup of his parents' marriage. After Tyrone's father leaves, his mother has to work longer hours, and he too feels pressure to help support the family. At the same time, Tyrone's anger at his father causes his schoolwork and family relationships to suffer. He starts hanging out with a rougher crowd and coming home drunk after parties. When he drops out of school to take a full-time job, guidance counselor Sandra Martínez gets involved, and working with Tyrone forces her to confront her own feelings about her alcoholic father. The situation reaches a crisis point when Tyrone's father returns and asks his family to accept him and his struggle for sobriety.

Like the other volumes in this series, which address issues of prejudice, violence, and sexuality, this novel focuses on a problem facing teens of all backgrounds. Occasional chapters from Dr. Martínez's point of view offer information and an adult perspective that make this series especially useful in a counseling setting.

## Signature Lives

Donovan, Sandy. *Madame Chiang Kai-shek: Face of Modern China*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. 112 pp. ISBN 0-7565-1886-5, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Keller, Kristin Thoennes. *Booker T. Washington: Innovative Educator*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. 112 pp. ISBN 0-7565-1881-4, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Rosinsky, Natalie M. *Amy Tan: Author and Storyteller*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. 112 pp. ISBN 0-7565-1876-2, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

This series, written for students in grades five through seven, tells the stories of extraordinary people. The lively, well-told and thoroughly researched stories are based on primary sources.

The young student will learn that Madame Chiang Kai-shek was a powerful figure in Chinese politics. As wife of the Nationalist leader, she helped modernize China. Born Soon Meiling in Shanghai, she was educated at Wellesley College near Boston, Massachusetts. In 1937, she and her husband were named *Time* magazine's "Man and Woman of the Year." She and her husband survived occupation during the Second World War and established a new Nationalist government in Taiwan after the triumph of Mao's Communist Revolution on the Chinese mainland. After her husband's death, she moved to New York City in 1975, where she lived until her death in 2003 at the age of 105. *Booker T. Washington* describes the horrors of slavery and the Civil War that Washington experienced. He did not allow racism toward him to stand in the way of his passion for learning, and he grew up to become a great educator. Washington's philosophy for blacks was for them to become educated rather than pushing for civil rights. Some thought he was too passive and wanted to satisfy the white community. *Amy Tan: Author and Storyteller* introduces the award-winning novelist. Although her books deal with Chinese culture, Rosinsky points out that all people can relate to her universal themes.

Included in each volume are historical photos, illustrations, and artwork; a time line; detailed maps; historical sites; an index; a bibliography; a glossary; and safe Internet sites at [www.FactHound.com](http://www.FactHound.com).

## Snapshots in History

Fitzgerald, Stephen. *The Little Rock Nine: Struggle for Integration*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2006. 96 pp. ISBN 0-7565-2011-8, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Through firsthand accounts, quotes from the players, and informative photos, major events such as Hurricane

Katrina, the Little Rock Nine, and Watergate come to life for late elementary and middle school students.

*The Little Rock Nine* tells of nine courageous black students who were blocked by a crowd of angry white people in 1957. Despite a court order, white leaders and community members did not want these students to attend their all-white school. Young readers will better understand what occurred in Little Rock, Arkansas, that day to students near their own age. Readers will understand the injustice inflicted on these students, whose only intention was to have the opportunity to receive an equal education.

This series includes back-and-white photos, an event time line, historic places, diagrams, safe Internet sites, glossary, source notes, a select bibliography, and an index.

## Women Writers of Color

Kinloch, Valerie. *June Jordan: Her Life and Letters*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 202 pp. ISBN 0-275-98241-6, \$44.95.

Lupton, Mary Jane. *Lucille Clifton: Her Life and Letters*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2006. 192 pp. ISBN 0-275-98469-9, \$44.95.

The acclaimed authors featured in this series for high school, college/university students, and general readers write about girls and women of all races and social strata who survive racism, sexism, and physical and psychological abuse. Jordan and Clifton are African-American women who have fought to express what they feel through poetry and essays.

Both Jordan and Clifton were born in New York City in 1936. They refuse to be limited by labels such as black, bisexual, divorced, poor, and female. They serve as role models for young women, especially those who seek to write about their lives. Kinloch, the author of *June Jordan: Her Life and Letters*, co-edited an earlier volume of critical essays on Jordan's work. The author explores Jordan's personal life through letters, interviews with relatives, her poetry, and other writings. Kinloch reveals Jordan's depth and intent as a woman, a writer, a poet, an activist, an educator, and a leader.

*Lucille Clifton: Her Life and Letters* covers the life and work of the chancellor of the American Academy of Poets, her nominations for three Pulitzer Prizes, and her two National Book Awards. In 2000, she won the National Book Award for *Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems 1988-2000*. Her themes include the body, family, community, politics, womanhood, and the spirit.

Each volume in the series includes a general series foreword, notes, a selected bibliography, and an index.

## World Leaders

Duberstein, John. *A Velvet Revolution: Vaclav Havel*

and the Fall of Communism. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2006. 160 pp. ISBN 1-931798-85-0, \$26.95.

Miller, Calvin Craig. *Che Guevara: In Search of Revolution*. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2006. 192 pp. ISBN 1-931798-93-1, \$16.95.

This new series will encourage middle-school-age readers to learn about the intricacies of politics and history through the well-written and thoroughly researched lives of world leaders. *A Velvet Revolution: Vaclav Havel and the Fall of Communism* introduces Havel as a child and explores how his bourgeois upbringing shaped his later life as a playwright, an intellectual, and a dissident in Communist-controlled Czechoslovakia. His plays, written in the form of absurdist drama, were protests against totalitarianism; in 1971, the Communist regime banned them. Readers will be fascinated by the playwright who became president of the Republic of Czechoslovakia in 1989. *Che Guevara: In Search of Revolution* presents the son of an aristocratic Argentinian family who became a legendary figure throughout the world and an adversary of the United States because of his clandestine actions on behalf of communist revolutions in Latin America. He was a major player in the Cuban Revolution that triumphed in 1959 but died while trying to replicate his success in the mountains and jungles of Bolivia. The dramatic and controversial life of Guevara is retold in this lively, well-researched biography.

Each volume contains black-and-white and full-color photos, maps, a time line, sources, a bibliography, web sites, and an index.

#### NEW EDITIONS IN OTHER MEDIA

Friedman, Thomas L. *From Beirut to Jerusalem*. New York: Harper Audio, 2006. 3 CDs. 3 hours. Abridged ed. Read by the author. ISBN 0-06-128425-4, \$22.95.

Friedman, the former UPI Beirut correspondent, *New York Times* Beirut bureau chief, and winner of a Pulitzer Prize in 1983 for his coverage of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and in 1984 for his reporting from Jerusalem, explains the complex structure of the Middle East. This abridged audiobook tells the story of people in Beirut and Jerusalem who are going through a similar identity crisis. Both are caught in a struggle of new ideas, relationships, and nations and are trying to build for the future while ancient memories, passions, and feuds drag them into the past. Friedman explains why religious conviction is stronger in the Middle East than in the West and why peace is difficult to attain. Students, historians, and general readers will gain a stronger understanding of this complex conflict after their exposure to this book, here read by Friedman himself.

Jones, Edward P. *All Aunt Hagar's Children*. New York: Harper Audio, 2006. 13 CDs. 15 hours. Performed by Peter Francis James. ISBN 0-06-085290-9, \$44.95.

The *New York Times* bestselling author and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, to name only a few of his awards, offers a collection of 14 stories set in his native Washington, D.C. Jones's masterful writing brings to life a myriad of believable and diverse characters. Some are transplants from the old ways of the South to the challenges of urban life. Jones describes their disappointments in the stories "In the Blink of God's Eye" and "Tapestry." The voice of this unabridged reading, Peter Francis James, has starred in the television special *The Rosa Parks Story* as well as the regular prime-time series *Oz* and *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Stoenescu, Stefan and Stanescu, Gabriel, eds. *Tim-pul-Rana Sangeranda: Poeti Romani in Lumea Noua*. Bucharest: Criterion Publishing, 2006. 474 pp. ISBN 973-87700-1-7, \$30.00.

This timely Romanian-language anthology, prefaced by Stoenescu, focuses on the writings, with bibliographical/critical sources, of 36 Romanian poets (30 in the United States, six in Canada) who settled in North America in the 1950s to the 1980s, when Romania was under communist rule, and in the 1990s post-communist period. All of the poets (16 women, 20 men, including nine published posthumously) graduated from Romanian universities before immigrating. They range in age from their thirties to their eighties, but the majority are in their fifties and sixties. Many lost their professional careers in their new homes, but all published poetry both before and after immigration (some with English translations).

The poems selected for this volume preserve the richness, freshness, and purity of the Romanian language, expressed via different genres and by addressing numerous topics: Romanian ethnic pride and religious belief, nostalgic feelings for native places, parents and friends left behind, personal experiences, aspirations, dreams, philosophical reflections, and varied perceptions of America. Some express sadness and disappointments in adjusting to the new country's realities. The poets are not arranged alphabetically; their place in the book is based on their importance in the Romanian canon, with established poets leading off and emerging poets following, regardless of past or present political orientation. This volume is useful to public, special, and academic libraries with Romanian collections.

—Vladimir F. Wertsman  
Rego Park, N.Y.

