

Bexley City School District

Heritage Month Resources

Edition VII: Arab American Heritage Month (April 2024)



The purpose of this document is to:

- Build cultural competency within the Bexley community
- Provide resources to teachers and administrators to celebrate the Arab American heritage, culture, and contributions of Arab Americans and Arabic-speaking Americans
- Support all teachers and administrators with incorporating resources at the classroom and school building-level during Arab American Heritage Month

Curated by the Culture Climate Committee Team

Please note: BCSD board policies must be followed accordingly. Any topic that is likely to arouse both support and opposition is considered controversial. Therefore, careful analysis must be given prior to the use of these resources to determine the appropriateness of the content. All such discussions must be held within an environment that protects open-mindedness and scholarly inquiry. For more information regarding the Bexley Board Policy INB "Teaching About Controversial Issues" please click [HERE](#). The views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in any text, website, or media in this document belong solely to the organizations, and do not necessarily reflect the views of BCSD.



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Teaching Arab American Heritage Month (K -12)

The Arab America Foundation formally recognizes the achievements of Arab Americans through the celebration of *National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM)*. Across the country, cultural institutions, school districts, municipalities, state legislatures, public servants, and nonprofit organizations issue proclamations and engage in special events that celebrate this community's rich heritage and numerous contributions to society.

According to ArabAmerica.com, It was first celebrated in the 1990s, primarily in school districts. Since then, it has grown to be recognized increasingly by states, cities, and school districts across the country. In 2017, Arab America, a media and educational resource organization dedicated to portraying the Arab community in the United States began an initiative to designate the month as a national holiday.

Arab America and the Arab America Foundation launched the National Arab American Heritage Month initiative in 2017, with just a handful of states recognizing the initiative. Each year, a grassroots network of over 250 Arab American volunteers in 26 states gathers hundreds of proclamations from their states, counties, municipalities, and local school districts.

On April 19, 2021, Joe Biden, became the first sitting US president to recognize Arab Americans in celebrating their heritage and their contributions to America's rich diversity which was published as a White House Letter. On March 31, 2023, President Biden officially proclaimed April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month.

Many Arab Americans are second, third, and fourth generation immigrants. Some are descendants of the first immigrants who arrived in the New York and New Jersey areas in the second half of the 19th Century. Arab Americans can trace their ancestry to the countries from which they or their ancestors migrated to the United States. These countries include Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The largest group, comprising nearly one third of the Arab American population, are Lebanese Americans. The Census Bureau reported in 2010 that there were 1.8 million Arab Americans in the United States, with the largest percentage residing in Dearborn, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit.

Sourced from: <https://www.thereisadayforthat.com/holidays/usa/nationalarab-american-heritage-month>

- [Arab American Heritage Month 2024](#) (History.com)
- [National Arab American Heritage Month 2024](#) (Arab American Foundation.org)
- [National Arab American Demographics](#) (Arab American Institute)
- [Arab Americans History, Culture & Contributions](#) (*Arab American National Museum*)
- [Educational Resources & Content](#) (ArabAmerica.com)
- [Middle East in Focus](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [Arab American Heritage Month Resource Guide](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [The Story of Arab Americans' Beginning in America-And the Quest for Fair Representation](#) (State.gov)
- [2022 Arab American Heritage Month Educator's Kit](#) (with 7 modules & questions)
- [2022 Arab American Heritage Month Presentation Kit](#)
- [Supporting Arab American Students in the Classroom](#) (Learning for Justice)

Monthly Events and Activities: April Events

- [Arab America Foundation Announces Events Commemorating National Arab American Heritage Month--April 2024](#) (Fox News)
- [CELEBRATE NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN CLEVELAND](#) (This Is Cleveland.com)
- [AABAR-Ohio's Annual Banquet](#) (Eventbrite)

Daily Announcements

April 1 - On this day in 2022, President Joe Biden issued a statement in recognition of the day as Arab American Heritage Month. The proclamation included in part the following: “By advancing innovation, leading businesses, serving in our military, teaching in our schools, and representing communities in elected office, Arab Americans make us stronger and help us form a more diverse and vibrant America”.

April 2 - Arab Americans live in all 50 states, but up to 94% live in metropolitan areas. New York, Detroit, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Washington D.C. are the top five metropolitan areas with Arab American populations, though there are also large numbers of Arab Americans in Florida, Texas, New Jersey, *Ohio*, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

April 3 - There are several wellknown celebrities who have Arab lineage. Singer and former ‘The Voice’ judge, Shakira, comes from Arab lineage. Also, a famous singer and dancer known for being a judge on American Idol, Paula Abdul, is of Syrian heritage.

April 4 - The Arab World includes 22 countries stretching from North Africa in the west to the Arabian Gulf in the east. Arabs are ethnically, religiously and politically diverse but descend from a common linguistic and cultural heritage. Not all Arabs are Muslim. Not all Muslims are Arab.

April 5 - The United States is home to over 3.5 million Arab Americans. The cities with largest Arab American populations are Los Angeles, Detroit, New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C.

April 6 - Donna Shalala was the first Lebanese American to hold a cabinet position when she became the Secretary of Health and Human Services from 1993-2001. She is the longest holder of the position and ensured over 3 million children received health care and raised the childhood immunization rates to the highest in history. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor in 2008.

April 7 - Tony Shalhoub is a Lebanese American actor. He is famously known for his starring role on the television series Monk. Tony has played featured roles in many movies including Spy Kids, voiced Luigi in Cars and Cars II, and Splinter in Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows.

April 8 - The Arab American community is religiously diverse. Almost every major religion is

represented in the Arab American community. Christians: Maronite Catholic, Melkite Catholic, Syrian Catholic, Chaldean Catholic, Roman Catholic, Antiochian Orthodox, Syrian Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox, Protestant Muslims: Sunni, Shia and Druze.

April 9 - A common misconception is that all Arab Americans are Muslim. Approximately 25 percent practice Islam, and an estimated 63 to 77 percent are Christian, according to the Arab American Institute. Today also marks the end of Ramadan or Eid al-Fitr. A time of official receptions and private visits, when friends greet one another, presents are given, new clothes are worn, and the graves of relatives are visited.

April 10 - In the U.S., “Arab” and “Middle Eastern,” may be used as identifiers for Arab people but linguistic and geographical factors mean that these terms are not fully interchangeable. According to the Arab American National Museum (AANM), the Middle East includes non-Arabic nations such as Iran, Israel, and Turkey. Similarly, not all Arabic nations are located in what is considered the Middle East—including Egypt, Algeria, and Morocco.

April 11 - Arabic is considered the fourth most common language, outside of English and Spanish that is spoken in the U.S. There are an estimated 1,260,000 speakers of Arabic with the greatest concentrations in Michigan and Tennessee.

April 12 - The number of Ohioans who claim an Arab ancestry has more than doubled since the Census first measured ethnic origins in 1980, and is among the fastest growing Arab populations in the country. The Census Bureau estimates the statewide Arab American population is close to 84,365 in Ohio.

April 13 - In 1962, Danny Thomas, an American Lebanese actor opened the doors to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. More than a treatment center, St. Jude would become a research center devoted to finding cures for catastrophic childhood diseases. The hospital would become a beacon of hope to families around the world.

April 14 - Middle-Eastern food is varied, but has some staples. Wheat is used in bread, pastries, salads and main dishes. Rice is often cooked with vegetables, lamb, chicken or beef. Lamb and mutton are more common than other meats. Arab recipes use many beans and vegetables, including eggplant, zucchini, cauliflower, spinach, onions, parsley and chickpeas. Hummus is a very popular dish.

April 15 - During the Great Migration (1880-1924) a large number of Arabs migrated to the United States. They came from Greater Syria, which is current day Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine. By 1924, the end of the Great Migration period, there were 200,000 Arabs living in the United States.

April 16 - Arabic is written in the 28-character Arabic alphabet and is one of several languages written from right to left. In Arabic, a character may change depending on its placement in the word or sentence. Arabic letters are connected like script. Fine writing is called calligraphy and is held in high regard and appreciated as an art form in the Arabic culture.

April 17 - The United States has, at different times, classified Arab immigrants as African, Asian, White, European or as belonging to a separate group. Arabs may have white skin and blue eyes,

olive or dark skin and brown eyes. Hair textures differ. Most Arab Americans identify more closely with nationality than with ethnic group.

April 18 - Arab Americans work in all occupations. Collectively, they are more likely to be self employed or to be entrepreneurs or to work in sales. About 60 percent of working Arab Americans are executives, professionals, office and sales staff. As with all people employment choices may be influenced by nationality, religion, education, socioeconomic status and gender.

April 19 - What does the title Umm or Abu mean as part of a name? It is a common way of calling someone using their oldest son's name. Umm means mother of. Abu means father of. "Umm Muhammad" is "mother of Muhammad." This is what friends might call her, as a sign of respect.

April 20 - Some Arab women wear garments that cover their faces or heads as a religious practice, not a cultural practice. It is rooted in Islamic teachings about hijab, or modesty. Covering is not universally observed by Muslim women and varies by region and class. Some Arab governments have, at times, banned or required veiling. In American families, a mother or daughter may cover her head while the other does not.

April 21 - Some Arab men wear a checked garment on their heads called a Keffiyeh (kaf-fi-yeh) and it is traditional, not religious. Wearing the Keffiyeh is similar to an African American wearing traditional African attire, or an Indian wearing a Sari. The Keffiyeh shows identity and pride in one's culture.


April 22 - Arab Americans are among the most educated demographic. More than 40 percent have a four-year degree, and 17 percent have a postgraduate degree, according to the website arabamericanstories.org. Today also marks the beginning of Passover, which celebrates the emancipation of the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery. [Chametz](#) (leaven) is strictly avoided.

April 23 - Only about 12 percent of Muslims worldwide are Arabs. There are more Muslims in Indonesia, for example, than in all Arab countries combined. Large populations of Muslims also live in India, Iran, other parts of East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Islam has a strong Arab flavor, though, as the religion's holiest places are in the Middle East, and the Quran was originally written in Arabic.

April 24 - The Quran is the holy book for Muslims, who believe it contains the word of God revealed to the prophet Muhammad. The Quran has many passages that are similar to those in the Bible, which Muslims also regard as a holy book. The Quran has been translated into many languages, including English, and is available on the Web. The Quran is Associated Press style. Other spellings are Qur'an and Koran.

April 25 - What is the difference between Islam and Muslim? Islam is the religion, and a Muslim is a follower of the religion. It is like the difference between Christianity and Christian. The adjective form is Islamic.

April 26 - Ramadan, is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar and is a month of fasting whose end is marked with the celebration of Eid al-Fitr. During this month of self-discipline and purification, Muslims abstain from food, drink and other behaviors from before sunrise until sundown. At night, however, they may feast. The Islamic calendar is based on the cycles of the



moon and has 354 days, so Ramadan does not always occur at the same time of year according to the 365-day calendar.

April 27 - Who is an imam? He is the leader of prayer at a mosque. He might also be called a sheik. One of an Imam's responsibilities is to give sermons on Friday, the holiest day of the typical Islamic week. In many American mosques, the Imam is also the administrator.

April 28 - What does Allah mean? Allah means God. The same word is used by Arabic-speaking Christians, Muslims and Jews. When translating Arabic expressions, translate all the words, for consistency. The translation of "Allahu Akbar," for example, would be "God is great," not "Allah is great."

April 29 - When is it okay to say Arab, Arabic or Arabian? Arab is a noun for a person, and is used as an adjective, as in "Arab country." Arabic is the name of the language and generally is not used as an adjective. Arabian is an adjective that refers to Saudi Arabia, the Arabian Peninsula, or as in Arabian horse. When ethnicity or nationality are relevant, it is more precise and accurate to specify the country by using Lebanese, Yemeni or whatever is appropriate.

April 30 - Here is a quick history fact. The heart pump was invented by Dr. Michael DeBakey who is now the chancellor of Baylor University's College of Medicine and two Arab-Americans have won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry (Dr. Ahmed H. Zewail in 1999 and Dr. Elias Corey in 1990).

Announcement Slideshow

[Click here for the Slideshow Presentation for Daily Announcements](#)

Announcement Sources:

<https://adc.org/facts-about-arabs-and-the-arab-world/>

<https://www.insightintodiversity.com/national-arab-american-heritage-month/>

When using the classroom resources, it is a teacher's responsibility to ensure direct connections to the learning standards as well as the quality of the lessons. These resources should be used as a starting point and teachers should use their professional expertise to create high quality learning experiences. When discussing any new or sensitive topic, there is the potential for some students to react with stereotypes or in disrespectful ways. It is therefore critical that educators carefully review the lesson/activity and assess students' maturity and readiness to engage prior to exploring the topic and to establish clear parameters with students that will ensure safe and constructive dialogue.

Bulletin Boards

Tip: Click on the picture's link to access printable materials to make bulletin boards for your school or classrooms that are inspired by the ones below.



Note: When creating bulletin boards be conscious of what you *create or make* in the background. All images should be culturally appropriate and represented in primary documents if possible.

The Arts - Performing

PreK-12

- [Art of the Islamic World: 640 to Now](#) (Khan Academy)
- [Recasting the way Muslims are seen, one actor at a time](#) (Newsela) (6-12)
- [Popular Arab American Entertainers of the 20th Century](#) (Arab America) (6-12)
- [Arab Arts & Music: A glimpse of the traditional arts and music of the Arab world](#) (TOTA)
- [Dance and Theatre](#) (Britannica)

Artist Spotlight Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab actresses and actors.



Mona Zaki



Omar Sharif



Hafia Wehbe



Khaled Nabawy



Fairouz

The Arts - Visual

Pre K-12

- [Beyond Aladdin: Media Literacy and Stereotypes About Arabs and the Arab World](#) (AANM K-5)
- [Arab American Museum for Educators](#) (AANM)
- [National Arab American Heritage Month: 10 Arab American Artists Who've Shaped the Art World](#) (Ask.com 9-12)
- [Celebrating the Recorded Music of the Early Arab American Diaspora](#) (Harvard.edu)
- [Celebrating Arab-American artists' contribution to culture](#) (Arab News)
- [Arab American History and Culture](#) (Smithsonian)
- [Arab American National Museum Core Galleries](#) (Arab American National Museum)
- [Heritage Month: Arab Americans as Visual Artists](#) (Arab America)
- [10 Modern Arab Artists](#) (Arab America)
- [The only Arab American museum in the nation is 'much more than a building](#) (PBS.org)

Artist Spotlight Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab artists.



Reem Acra



Helen Zughaib



Noha Bahr



Tammam Azzam



Wahbi Al-Hariri

Business Resources

Articles

- [Arab-American entrepreneurs share the secrets of their success](#) (Arab News)
- [Top 10 Most Influential Arab Businessmen in the World](#) (Arab America)
- [10 Reasons Arab Americans are Successful in Business](#) (Arab America)
- [20 Under 20 Arab American](#) (Arab America)
- [30 Under 30 Arab American](#) (Arab America)
- [NUSACC SUPPORTS SAUDI WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS](#)
- [Top 100 Executives in the Arab World](#) (Forbes Middle East)
- [Meet the 100 Arab start-ups shaping the Fourth Industrial Revolution](#)
- [100 Most Powerful Businesswomen 2024](#) (Forbes Middle East)
- [emPOWER 10: Celebrating the Most Inspiring and Influential Arab American Women in the Nation](#) (Arab American Business & Professional Association)

Business Spotlight



Private Nathan Badeen



Farouk Shami



Rami Kashou



Dr. Rana el Kaliouby



Rayyanah Barnawi



Steve Jobs



Paul Orfalea



Dr. Kemi DaSilva- Ibru

ELA Resources

Pre K-12

- [Lailah's Lunchbox](#) (Share My Lesson - K2)
- [Student Essay: Ramadan, a month of reflection](#) (Newsela)
- [Yemeni student excels in computer programming while learning English](#) (Newsela)
- [What is Eid and how do Muslims celebrate it? Six questions answered](#) (Newsela)
- [Arab-American Literature: Origins and Developments](#) (American Studies Journal - HS)
- [What is Anti-Immigrant Bias](#) - Mini Lesson (ADL- HS)
- [Heroes and Villains: Recognizing Stereotypes, Developing Media Literacy](#) (NANM Lesson Plan - MS)
- [Celebrating Arab American Heritage through Language and Literature](#) (Boston University)
- [How Teachers Can Support Arab American Students: interview with Sawsan Jaber \(transcript\)](#) (Cult of Pedagogy)
- [Integrating Arab Narratives Across the Curriculum](#) (Cult of Pedagogy)
- [Crossing the Border: Arab-American Literature and the Politics of Exclusion](#) (Department of English, Al Baydha University)
- [Exploring Stereotypes through Literature and Poetry](#) (University of Arizona: College of Social and Behavioral Sciences - MS)

ELA Lesson Plans

Grade 4	<p>LESSON TITLE</p> <p><u>SHARING OUR HOMELAND</u></p>	<p>LEARNING OBJECTIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have students read to find out the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and how it affects Palestinian and Jewish people living in Israel ● how programs like this summer camp are working to foster peace and understanding ● Discover why the book is titled Sharing Our Homeland
Ohio Learning Standards		
<p>Reading: Craft and Structure RL4.5 Reading: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas RL4.7 Reading: Key Ideas and Details RL4.1-4.3 Language: Vocabulary Acquisition & Use L4.4-4.6</p>		

4-7	<p>LESSON TITLE</p> <p><u>WHO IS MALALA YOUSAFZAI?</u></p>	<p>LEARNING OBJECTIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will learn about Malala Yousafzai and why she won the Nobel Peace Prize. ● Students will explore quotes by Malala Yousafzai for their meaning and connection to their own lives. ● Students will reflect on areas of injustice in the world and begin to construct an activism project to address those issues.
Ohio Learning Standards		
<p>Reading: Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inference from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</p>		

7-12	<p style="text-align: center;">LESSON TITLE</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ANTI-MUSLIM BIGOTRY AND BEING AN ALLY</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEARNING OBJECTIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will understand more about some of the recent incidents targeting the Muslim community and those perceived to be Muslim. ● Students will explore myths, stereotypes and misinformation about Muslim people and Islam and dispel them with facts and background information. ● Students will identify ways to be an ally to the Muslim community especially during this difficult time. <p>Compelling Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is anti-Muslim bigotry and what can we do to address it?
Ohio Learning Standards		
<p>Reading Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</p> <p>Speaking and Listening Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</p> <p>Standard 2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively and orally.</p> <p>Language Standard 5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.</p>		

Writer Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab American writers.



Diana Abu Jaber



Ibtisam Barakat



Sara Saedi



Naomi Shihab Nye



Jasmine Warga



Moustafa Bayoumi

Family Consumer Sciences Resources

Articles:

- [Heritage Month: A Tribute to Arab American Food](#) (Arab America)
- [A Family Recipe for Success](#) (Torrence Media)
- [YALLA EAT! INSTAGRAM TAKEOVER CHEF SERIES](#) (Arab American National Museum)
- [10 Arab Chefs from the Arab World](#) (Arab America)
- [Famous Arab Chefs Making It Big On and Off the Screen](#) (Scoop Empire)
- [Creating Your Own Cafe](#) (AANM Lesson Plan)
- [Top 5 Interior Designers Middle East](#) (Brabbu World)
- [Celebrating Arab American Heritage Month](#) (Baker College)
- [Arab American Entrepreneurs Share the Secrets of their Success](#) (Arab News)
- [The Health of Arab Americans in the United States: An Updated Comprehensive Literature Review](#) (Frontiers in Public Health)

Family & Consumer Sciences Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab Americans in this field.



Denise Hazime



Gregoire Berger



Fatima Ali

Math Resources

Pre K-12

Articles and Resources

- [Top Ten Arab Mathematicians \(Steam Daily\)](#)
- [The Muslim Contribution to Mathematics \(Taylor & Francis Group\)](#)
- [Who Created Algebra \(Encyclopedia Britannica\)](#)
- [Islamic Mathematics: Further Reading Resources \(For Teachers\)](#)

Math Lesson Plans

K-5th Grade	Lesson Title Middle Eastern Money: A Math and Social Studies Lesson	LEARNING OBJECTIVES This lesson is designed to meet particular 5 th grade math and social studies standards through a discussion of Middle Eastern currency. Students use mathematical operations to exchange currencies and then learn about Middle Eastern cultures and forms of government by looking at pictures of banknotes from different countries.
Ohio Learning Standards		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number and Operations in Base Ten <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NBT.5 Fluently multiply multi-digit whole numbers using a standard algorithm. ○ NBT.7 Solve real-world problems by adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals using concrete models or drawings and strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and/or the relationship between addition and subtraction, or multiplication and division; relate the strategy to a written method and explain the reasoning used ● Social Studies World History Strand 		

Interdisciplinary Lesson Plan

9-12th Grade	Lesson Title Reading in the Content Areas: Arabic Origins of Algebra	Lesson Objective: Short interdisciplinary reading exercise, including SAT/ACT format questions and answer key with explanations. Suitable for class warm-up or sub-plan. Great way to foster literacy in a math class while still maintaining math focus.
Ohio Learning Standards		

Reading Standards for Informational Text

Key Ideas and Detail

RI.9-10.1

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

RI.9-10.2 Analyze Informational Text Development

RI.9-10.3

Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.

Craft and Structure

RI.9-10.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).

RI.9-10.5

Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).

RI.9-10.6

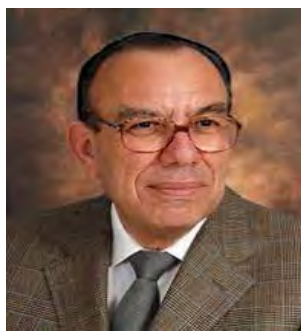
Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose.

Mathematician & Engineer Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to mathematicians and engineers.



Abdul Jerri



Roshdi Rashed



Abu Kamil



Zaha Hadid



Prof. Manahel Thabet

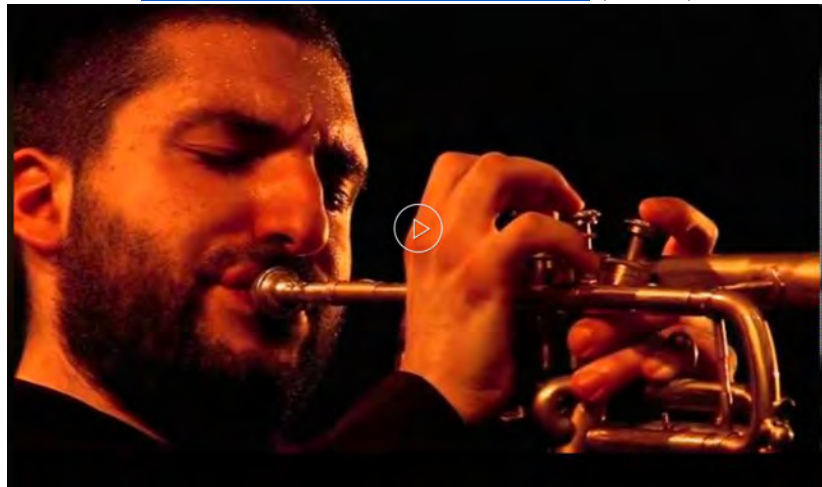


Fawwaz T. Ulaby

Music Resources

K-12

- Articles/Websites:
 - [Arab Music: Introduction](#) (al-bab.com)
 - [Music is Magic in Uniting Arab Americans](#) (Arab America) (9-12)
 - [Music in Arab America](#) (BGSU)
 - [Arab American Music Producers](#) (Arab America)
 - [Greater Syrian Diaspora at 78RPM: Albert Joseph](#) (Arab America)
 - [The Passing of Acclaimed Vocalist Fadwa Abeid: From Performing in the U.S. at an Early Age to an Accomplished Career in the Arab World](#) (Arab America)
 - [Popular Arab American Entertainers of the 20th Century](#) (Arab America)
 - [Is Arab Music the Next Big Thing?](#) (Arab America)
 - [The Arabic Maqam](#) (Maqam World)
 - ["Dearborn Girl" podcasters "reclaim the mic" for community](#) (Newsela)
 - [Contributions From the Arab World](#) (AANM)



Ibrahim Maalouf

Musician Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab American singers and musicians.



DJ Khaled
(Khaled Mohamed Khaled)



French Montana
(Karim Kharbouch)



Shakira



Ariana Grande



RedOne



Paul Anka
(Nadir Khayat)



Andrew Bazzi



G.E. Smith



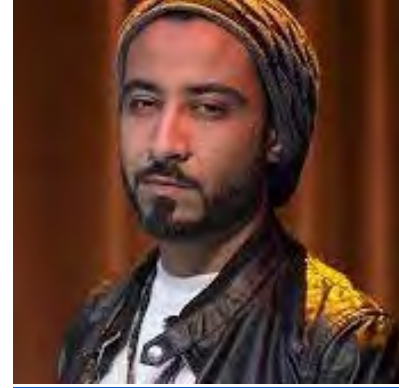
Kareem Salama



Paula Abdul

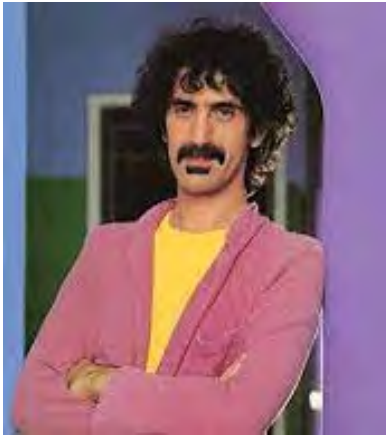


Fredwreck



Qusai Kheder

(Farid Karam Nassar)



Frank Zappa



Danny Thomas



Casey Kasem

(Amos Muzyad Yaqoob Kairouz)

P.E. Resources

Pre K-12

- [Robert Saleh is far more than the first Muslim coach in the NFL](#) (Newsela)
- [In Saudi Arabia, Girls and Women Fight For their Right to Play Basketball](#) (Newsela)
- [Soccer helps young refugees get a shot at a better life](#) (Newsela)
- [Maine high school raises money to buy sport hijabs for its Muslim students](#) (Newsela)
- [IOC Refugee Olympic Team Paris 2024](#) (International Olympic Center)
- [Mohamed Salah, Ahmed Hafnaoui and the 10 Arab sportsmen to watch in 2024](#) (The National News)
- [Countdown to the Olympics: Arab athletes who could shine at Paris 2024](#) (The National News)
- [5 Successful Athletes You Didn't Know are Arab-American](#) (Arab America)
- [IOC allows Paris Olympics participants to wear hijabs at athletes' village](#) (Aljazeera)

Athlete Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous Arab American athletes.



Sonny Saad



Justin Meram



Steve Kerr



Brandon Saad



Justin Abdelkader



Sam Khalifa



Bobby Rahal



Oday Aboushi



Doug Flutie



Sarah Attar



Isra Girgrah Wynn



Mahassen Hala Fattouh Paiva



Toni Breidinger



Riyad Mahrez



Sarah Essam



Abdel Nader



Yusra Mardini

Science Resources

Pre K-12

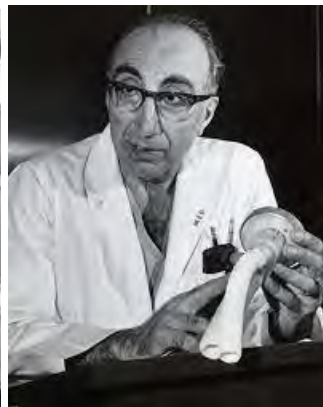
- [10 Most Famous Arab American Scientists](#) (Arab America)
- [Meet Nine People from the Middle East who won a Nobel Prize](#) (Arab America)
- [Arab Inventors Make the U.S. More Innovative](#) (Arab America)
- [6 Groundbreaking Innovations by Arab Americans](#) (History)
- [Research: Arab Inventors Make the U.S. More Innovative](#) (Harvard Business Review)
- [15 Famous Muslim \(Arab & Persian\) Scientists and their Inventions](#) (Famous Scientists)
- [Arab Contributions to Science](#) (Arab America)
- [Arab Women Scientists Advancing Scientific Research Amidst the Pandemic](#) (Unesco)
- [Science in the Middle East](#) (Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies)

Science Spotlight

Tip: Click on the link below the pictures to introduce your students to Arab American scientists, researchers, and professors.



[Elias James Corey](#)



[Michael Ellis DeBakey](#)



[Ahmed Hassan Zewail](#)



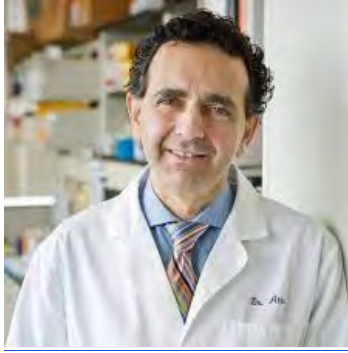
[Huda Yahya Zoghbi](#)



[Omar M. Yaghi](#)



[Farouk El-Baz](#)



Anthony Atala



Mounir Laroussi



Yasmine Belkaid



Adah Almutairi



Oussama Khatib



Elias A. Zerhouni



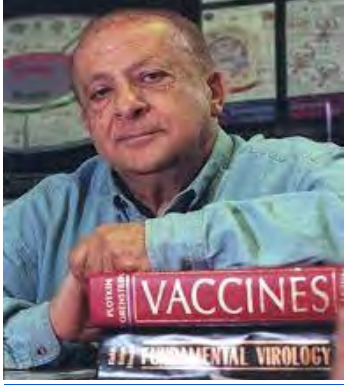
Kamal Benslama



Charles Elachi



Dina Katabi



Hunein (John) Maassab



Hassan Kamel Al-Sabbah



Huda Akil



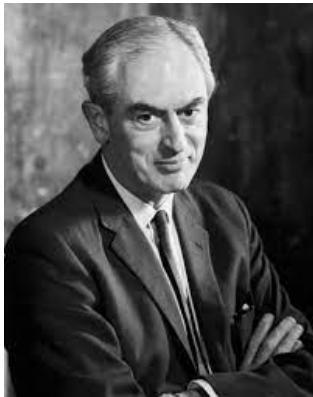
Joanne Chory



Lina J. Karam



Tony Fadell



Peter Medawar



Nujoud Merancy - NASA



Mo Gawdat

Social Studies Resources

K-12

- [Day In The Life of an Arab Youth: Using Stories to Learn About Places Lesson Plan](#) (K-5)
- [Understanding Arab Refugees](#) (3-5)
- [Who Are Arab Americans](#) (Newsela 5-12)
- [Arab American Race & Ethnicity](#) (AANM Lesson Plan 5-12)
- [The Arab Spring](#) (Newsela 6-12)
- [Uruk: The World's First Big City](#) (Newsela 6-12)
- [With no GOP opposition, Tlaib to become Congress' first female Muslim](#) (Newsela 8-12)
- [Arab American Heritage Month Resource Guide](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [National Arab American Heritage Month April 2022 - Educator's Curriculum Kit](#) (Arab America)
- [Arabs in America: Understanding the Arab American Community](#) (Arab America)
- [Sample Timeline](#) (American Muslims A History Revealed)
- [Core Galleries](#) (Arab American National Museum)

Secondary

- [American Dreaming: Arab American Life and How It Connects To Me](#) (AANM Lesson Plan 6-8)
- [Arab Immigration](#) (AANM Lesson Plan)
- [Arab Refugees & Immigration](#) (AANM Lesson Plan)
- [Connected Causes: Civil Rights](#) (AANM Lesson Plan 9-12)
- [From Homeland to Home: Arab American Immigration History](#) (AANM Lesson Plan 9-12)
- [The Power of Representation: Arab and Arab American Stereotypes in the Media](#) (AANM Lesson Plan 9-12)
- [Tweeting The Movements: Civil Rights in the U.S. for Arab Americans & Other Communities](#)
- [Famous writing of a Muslim slave in 1831 in the United States](#) (Newsela)
- [Coming to America](#) (Arab American National Museum)
- [Muslims of early America](#) (Newsela)
- [Muslims Were Banned from the Americas as Early as the 16th Century](#) (Newsela)
- [Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, What's the Difference?!](#) (Teach MidEast)
- [10 Things to Know about Islam](#) (Teach MidEast)
- [Arab Stereotypes and American Educators](#) (Teaching For Change)
- [Islam: Teaching the Basics](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [Islam: A Deeper Look](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [History of the Middle East](#) (Teach Mideast)
- [Arab and Muslim Americans](#) (Teach Mideast)

Social Studies Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to historians and activists.



Fatima Al-Fihri



Saad Zaghloul



Qasim Amin



Dena Tkruri



Mona Haydar



Ralph Nadar



Candy Lightner



Ilhan Omar



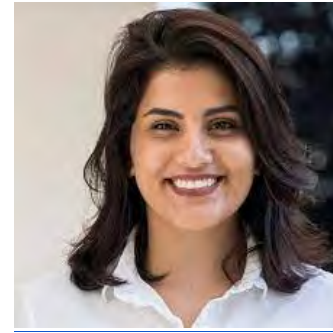
Rashida Tlaib



Donna Shalala



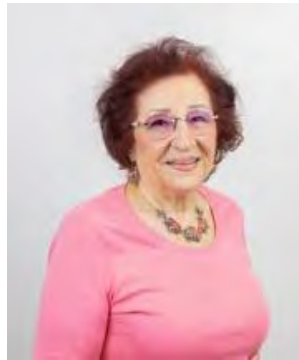
Ray LaHood



Loujain Al Hathloul



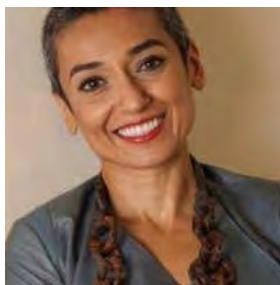
Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha



Najat Kheil



Crown Prince Sheikh Mohamed bin
Zayed Sultan Al-Nahyan



Zainab Salbi



Maysoon Zayid



Rosemary Barkett

World Language

Pre K-12

- [First words in Arabic](#) (posters)
- [Arab America: Preserving the Arabic language and culture](#) (The Arab American News)
- [The History of Arabic language](#) (Verbling)
- [10 Celebrities who Speak Arabic as a Second Language](#) (Studio Arabiya Institute)
- [Arabic Language](#) (Britannica)

- [5 Facts about Arabic Speakers in the U.S.](#) (Pew Research Center)
- [Arabic for America](#) (Language Magazine)
- [World Arabic Language Day 2023](#) (Unesco)

World Language Spotlight

Tip: Click on each picture below to introduce your students to famous multilingual people in history.



Laila Shadid



Meera Santhanam



Safi El-Gamal



Rachid El Daif

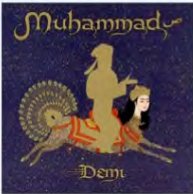

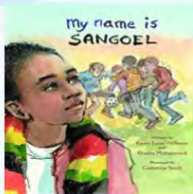
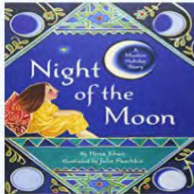




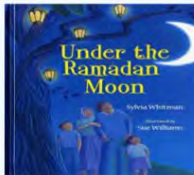

Picture Books with Arab & Arab American Character/Themes

PRE K+ READ ALOUDS

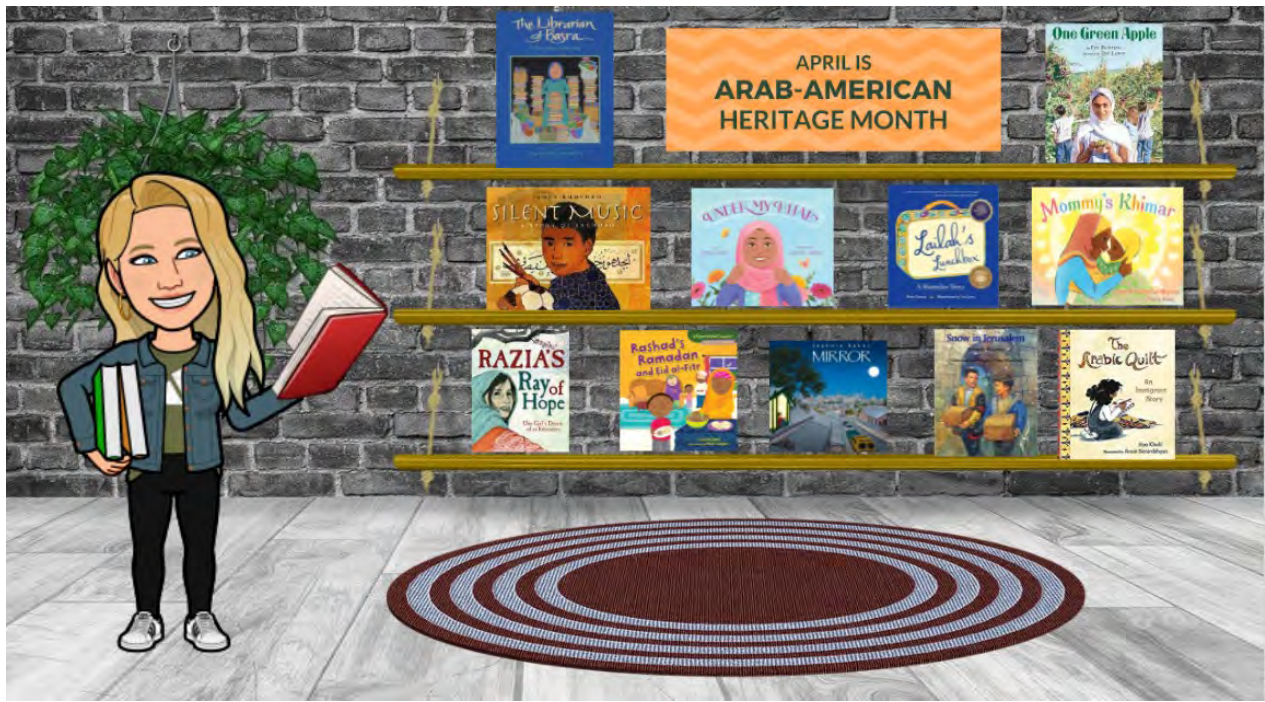
				
<p><i>Big Red Lollipop</i> By Ruksana Khan</p>	<p>Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes by Hena Khan</p>	<p>Deep in the Sahara By Cunnane, Kelly.</p>	<p>Golden domes and silver lanterns : a Muslim book of colors Khan, Hena, author.</p>	<p>The golden sandal : a Middle Eastern Cinderella story Hickox, Rebecca.</p>
				
<p>Jerusalem sky : stars, crosses, and crescents Podwal, Mark H</p>	<p>King for a day Khan, Ruksana</p>	<p>Lailah's lunchbox : a Ramadan story Faruqi, Reem, author</p>	<p>The librarian of Basra : a true story from Iraq Winter, Jeanette.</p>	<p>Mirror / Jeannie Baker = مرآة / جینی بیکر ; Mirror Baker, Jeannie</p>

Click on this [LINK](#) for Pre K+ Read Alouds

Elementary+ READ ALOUDS

				
<p><i>Muhammad</i> By Demi</p>	<p>My friend Suhana Abdullah, Shaila,</p>	<p>My Name Is Sangoel by Karen Williams, Khadra Mohammed, et al</p>	<p>The night of the moon Khan, Hena</p>	<p>Sitti's secrets Nye, Naomi Shihab</p>
				
<p>The swirling hijaab Robert, Na'ima bint.; Mistry, Nilesh.; Fawzi, Sajida.</p>	<p>Traveling man : the journey of Ibn Battuta, 1325-1354 Rumford, James, 1948-2001</p>	<p>Under my hijab Khan, Hena, author</p>	<p>Under the Ramadan moon Whitman, Sylvia</p>	<p>The world is not a rectangle : a portrait of architect Zaha Hadid Winter, Jeanette, author</p>

Click on this [LINK](#) for Elementary+ Read Alouds



Click on this [LINK](#) for the digital Read Aloud library

Book Recommendations

As always, preview each text before reading it with your class to be sure that it aligns with your content standards and is appropriate for the intended audience.

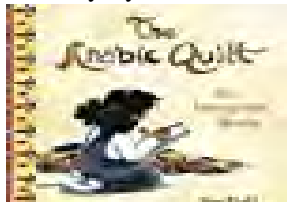
Elementary School

Sources:

- [Delaware County Orange Branch Library - Elementary Book List Suggestions](#)
- [PBS Kids for Parents - Children's Books by Arab American Authors and Illustrators](#)
- [Social Justice Books - Arabs and Arab Americans](#)
- [15 Children's Books to Celebrate National Arab American Heritage Month](#)

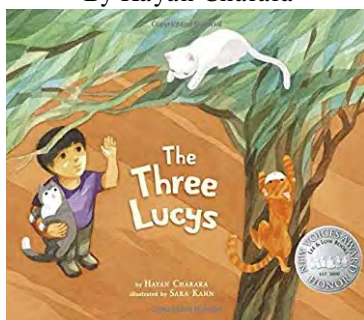
Fiction

The Arabic Quilt: An Immigrant Story
By Aya Khalil



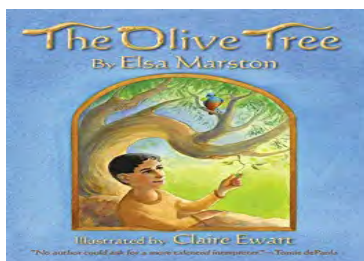
Kanzi's family has moved from Egypt to America, and on her first day in a new school, what she wants more than anything is to fit in. Maybe that's why she forgets to take the kofta sandwich her mother has made for her lunch, but that backfires when Mama shows up at school with the sandwich. Mama wears a hijab and calls her daughter Habibti (dear one). When she leaves, the teasing starts. That night, Kanzi wraps herself in the beautiful Arabic quilt her teita (grandma) in Cairo gave her and writes a poem in Arabic about the quilt. Next day her teacher sees the poem and gets the entire class excited about creating a "quilt" (a paper collage) of student names in Arabic. In the end, Kanzi's most treasured reminder of her old home provides a pathway for acceptance in her new one. This authentic story with beautiful illustrations includes a glossary of Arabic words and a presentation of Arabic letters with their phonetic English equivalents.

The Three Lucys
By Hayan Charara



A young Lebanese boy must learn to cope with loss and hope for a peaceful future after losing one of his beloved cats when his village comes under attack.

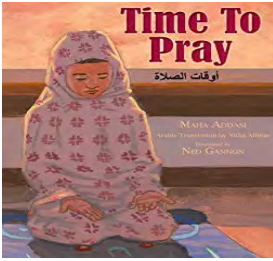
The Olive Tree
By Elsa Marston and Claire Ewert



The house next door to Sameer's had been empty for as long as he could remember. The family had gone away when the war began. But now they were back, and he was ready to have fun with his new playmate. Together they could climb the big olive tree that overlooked both their gardens, and eat the delicious olives it produced. The only problem was that Muna, the little girl next door, didn't want to play and she didn't want to share the olives. She said they belonged to her family alone—that is, until one fateful night when lightning struck the tree.

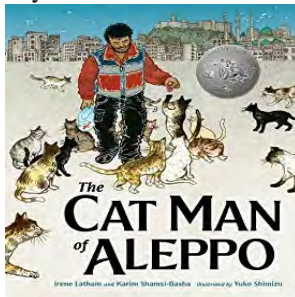
Time to Pray
By Maha Addasi and Ned Gannon

On her first night visiting her grandmother, Yasmin is woken by the muezzin at the nearby mosque calling the faithful to prayer. She watches from her bed as her grandmother prepares to pray. During her stay, Yasmin's grandmother makes her prayer clothes, buys her a prayer rug, and teaches her the five prayers that Muslims perform over the course of a day. When it's time for Yasmin to board a plane and return home, her grandmother gives her a



present. When Yasmin opens the present when she gets home, she discovers a prayer clock in the shape of a mosque, with an alarm that sounds like a muezzin calling the faithful to prayer.

The Cat Man of Aleppo
By Karim Shamsi-Basha



Aleppo's city center no longer echoes with the rich, exciting sounds of copper-pot pounding and traditional sword sharpening. His neighborhood is empty--except for the many cats left behind.

Alaa loves Aleppo, but when war comes his neighbors flee to safety, leaving their many pets behind. Alaa decides to stay--he can make a difference by driving an ambulance, carrying the sick and wounded to safety. One day he hears hungry cats calling out to him on his way home. They are lonely and scared, just like him. He feeds and pets them to let them know they are loved. The next day more cats come, and then even more! There are too many for Alaa to take care of on his own. Alaa has a big heart, but he will need help from others if he wants to keep all of his new friends safe.

Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: a Muslim Book of Colors
By Hena Khan



With breathtaking illustrations and informative text, *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns* magnificently captures the world of Islam, celebrating its beauty and traditions for even the youngest readers. Sure to inspire questions and observations about world religions and cultures, this entrancing volume is equally at home in the classroom as it is being read to a child on a parent's lap.

Big Red Lollipop
By Rukhsana Khan



Rubina has been invited to her first birthday party, and her mother, Ami, insists that she bring her little sister along. Rubina is mortified, but she can't convince Ami that you just don't bring your younger sister to your friend's party. So both girls go, and not only does Sana demand to win every game, but after the party she steals Rubina's prized party favor, a red lollipop. What's a fedup big sister to do?

My Name is Bilal
By Asma Mobin-Uddin

My Name Is Bilal

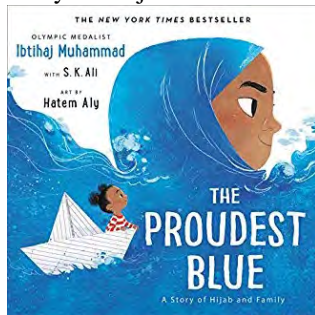
By Asma Mobin-Uddin • Illustrated by Barbara Kiwak



A young boy wrestles with his Muslim identity until a compassionate teacher helps him to understand more about his heritage.

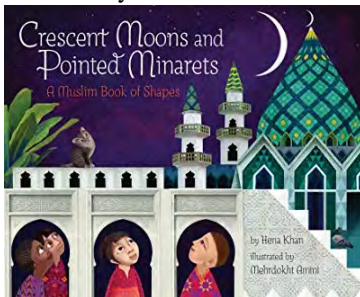
After a family move, Bilal and his sister Ayesha attend a new school where they find out that they may be the only Muslim students there. Bilal sees his sister bullied on their first day, so he worries about being teased himself, thinking it might be best if his classmates didn't know that he is Muslim. Maybe if he tells kids his name is Bill, rather than Bilal, then they will leave him alone. But when Bilal's teacher Mr. Ali, who is also Muslim, sees how Bilal is struggling. He gives Bilal a book about the first person to give the call to prayer during the time of the Prophet Muhammad. That person was another Bilal: Bilal Ibn Rabah. What Bilal learns from the book forms the compelling story of a young boy grappling with his identity.

The Proudest Blue
By Ibtihaj Muhammad




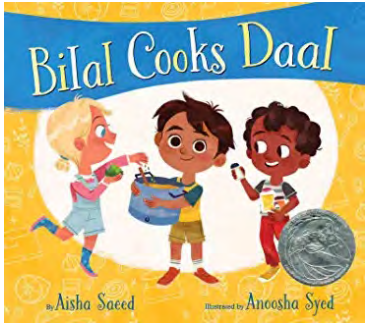

With her new backpack and light-up shoes, Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's the start of a brand new year and, best of all, it's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab--a hijab of beautiful blue fabric, like the ocean waving to the sky. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful, and in the face of hurtful, confusing words, Faizah will find new ways to be strong.

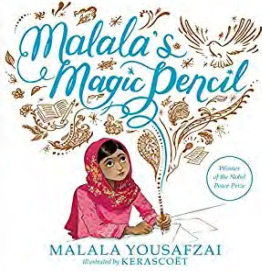
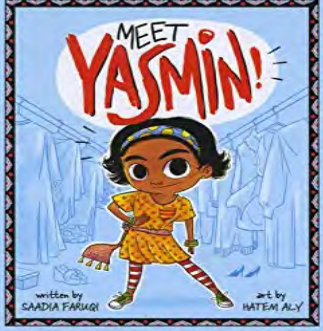
Crescent Moons and Minarets:
A Muslim Book of Shapes
By Hena Khan



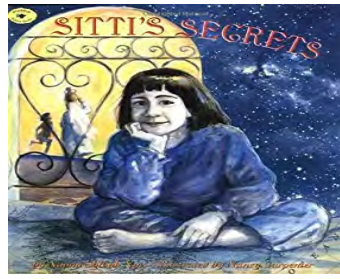
Toddler book of shapes and Islamic traditions: From a crescent moon to a square garden to an octagonal fountain, this breathtaking picture book celebrates the shapes-and traditions-of the Muslim world.

Toddler book by author Hena Khan: Sure to inspire questions and observations about world religions and cultures, *Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets* is equally at home in a classroom reading circle and on a parent's lap being read to a child.

<p>Under My Hijab By Hena Khan</p> 	<p>Grandma wears it clasped under her chin. Aunty pins hers up with a beautiful brooch. Jenna puts it under a sun hat when she hikes. Zara styles hers to match her outfit. As a young girl observes six very different women in her life who each wear the hijab in a unique way, she also dreams of the rich possibilities of her own future, and how she will express her own personality through her hijab. Written in sprightly rhyme and illustrated by a talented newcomer, <i>Under My Hijab</i> honors the diverse lives of contemporary Muslim women and girls, their love for each other, and their pride in their culture and faith.</p>
<p>Bilal Cooks Daal By Aisha Saeed</p> 	<p>Six-year-old Bilal introduces his friends to his favorite dish—daal!—in this charming picture book that showcases the value of patience, teamwork, community, and sharing.</p> <p>Six-year-old Bilal is excited to help his dad make his favorite food of alltime: 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 day 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?</p>
<p>Halal Hot Dogs By Susannah Azia</p> 	<p>Musa has the perfect idea for his special Jummah treat, but things don't go according to plan. Will Musa be able to get a yummy Jummah treat for his family?</p> <p>Every Friday after Jummah prayer at the masjid, Musa's family has a special Jummah treat. They take turns picking out what the treat will be, but recently the choices have been . . . interesting. Week one, Mama made molokhia. It's perfect for sharing, but gives us molokhia teeth for days! Week two, Baba burned the kufte kebabs on the grill. Week three, Seedi made his favorite riz b'haleeb-creamy rice pudding with pistachio sprinkled on top with an unexpected ingredient. Last week, Maryam brought jellybeans. . . Finally, it's Musa's turn to pick, and he picks his favorite halal hot dogs! But actually getting to eat this deliciousness turns into a journey riddled with obstacles. Will he ever get his favorite tasty treat?</p>
<p>Malala's Magic Pencil By Malala Yousafzai</p>	<p>As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy, to erase the smell of garbage from her city, to sleep an extra hour in the morning. But as she grew older, Malala saw that there were more important things to wish for. She saw a world that needed fixing. And even if she never found a magic pencil, Malala realized that she could still work hard every day to make her wishes come true.</p>

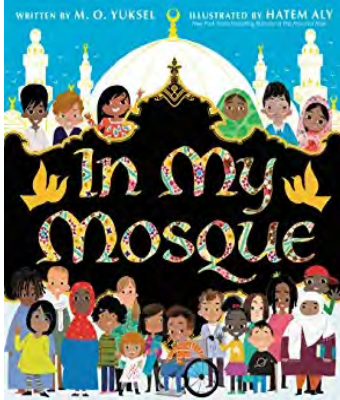
	
<p>Meet Yasmin By Saadia Faruqi</p> 	<p>Meet Yasmin! Yasmin is a spirited second-grader who's always on the lookout for those "aha" moments to help her solve life's little problems. Taking inspiration from her surroundings and her big imagination, she boldly faces any situation, assuming her imagination doesn't get too big, of course! A creative thinker and curious explorer, Yasmin and her multi-generational Pakistani American family will delight and inspire readers.</p>
<p>Amira's Picture Day By Reem Faruqi</p> 	<p>Just the thought of Eid makes Amira warm and tingly inside. From wearing new clothes to handing out goody bags at the mosque, Amira can't wait for the festivities to begin. But when a flier on the fridge catches her eye, Amira's stomach goes cold. Not only is it Eid, it's also school picture day. If she's not in her class picture, how will her classmates remember her? Won't her teacher wonder where she is?</p> <p>Though the day's celebrations at the mosque are everything Amira was dreaming of, her absence at picture day weighs on her. A last-minute idea on the car ride home might just provide the solution to everything in this delightful story from acclaimed author Reem Faruqi, illustrated with vibrant color by Fahmida Azim.</p>
<p>Lailah's Lunchbox By Reem Faruqi</p> 	<p>Lailah is in a new school in a new country, thousands of miles from her old home, and missing her old friends. When Ramadan begins, she is excited that she is finally old enough to participate in the fasting but worried that her classmates won't understand why she doesn't join them in the lunchroom.</p> <p>Lailah solves her problem with help from the school librarian and her teacher and in doing so learns that she can make new friends who respect her beliefs. This gentle, moving story from first-time author Reem Faruqi comes to life in Lea Lyon's vibrant illustrations. Lyon uses decorative arabesque borders on intermittent spreads to contrast the ordered patterns of Islamic observances with the unbounded rhythms of American school days.</p>
<p>King for a Day</p>	<p>Malik, a Pakistani boy who uses a wheelchair, is excited to compete in the</p>

<p>By Rukhsana Khan</p> 	<p>annual kite-flying festival of Basant. Can his kite defeat the bully's and make him King of the festival?</p> <p>Basant is here, with feasts and parties to celebrate the arrival of spring. But what Malik is looking forward to most is doing battle from his rooftop with Falcon, the special kite he has built for speed. Today is Malik's chance to be the best kite fighter, the king of Basant.</p> <p>In two fierce battles, Malik takes down the kites flown by the bully next door. Then Malik moves on, guiding Falcon into leaps, swirls, and dives, slashing strings and plucking kites from the sky. By the end of the day, Malik has a big pile of captured kites. He is the king! But then the bully reappears, trying to take a kite from a girl in the alley below. With a sudden act of kingly generosity, Malik finds the perfect way to help the girl.</p> <p>This lively, contemporary story introduces readers to a centuries-old festival and the traditional sport of kite fighting, and to a spirited, determined young boy who masters the sport while finding his own way to face and overcome life's challenges.</p>
<p>The Shape of Home By Rashin Kheiriyeh</p> 	<p>It's Rashin's first day of school in America! Everything is a different shape than what she's used to: from the foods on her breakfast plate to the letters in the books! And the kids' families are from all over!</p> <p>The new teacher asks each child to imagine the shape of home on a map. Rashin knows right away what she'll say: Iran looks like a cat! What will the other kids say?</p> <p>What about the country YOUR family is originally from? Is it shaped like an apple? A boot? A torch?</p>
<p>My Friend Suhana By Shaila Abdullah</p> 	<p>A True Story of Friendship and Winner of the Dolly Gray Children's Literature Award</p> <p>Award-winning author and designer Shaila Abdullah teams up with her 10-year-old daughter Aanyah to bring you this heartwarming tale of a little girl who forms a close bond with a child with cerebral palsy. The girl finds that through her art, she can reach her special friend Suhana.</p>
<p>Sitti's Secrets By Naomi Shihab Nye</p>	<p>Mona's grandmother, her Sitti, lives in a small Palestinian village on the other side of the earth. Once, Mona went to visit her.</p>



They couldn't speak each other's language, so they made up their own. They learned about each other's worlds, and they discovered each other's secrets. Then it was time for Mona to go back home, back to the other side of the earth. But even though there were millions of miles and millions of people between them, they remained true neighbors forever.

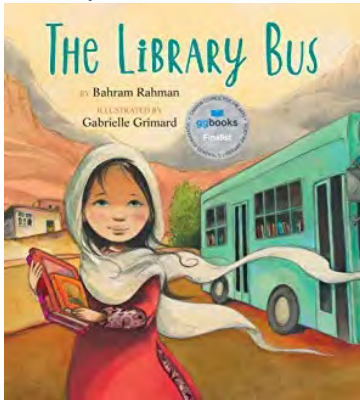
In My Mosque
By M.O. Yuksel



No matter who you are or where you're from, everyone is welcome here. From grandmothers reading lines of the Qur'an and the imam telling stories of living as one, to meeting new friends and learning to help others, mosques are centers for friendship, community, and love.

M. O. Yuksel's beautiful text celebrates the joys and traditions found in every mosque around the world and is brought to life with stunning artwork by *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Hatem Aly (Yasmin series, *The Proudest Blue*, *The Inquisitor's Tale*). The book also includes backmatter with an author's note, a glossary, and more information about many historical and significant mosques around the world.

The Library Bus
By Bahram Rahman

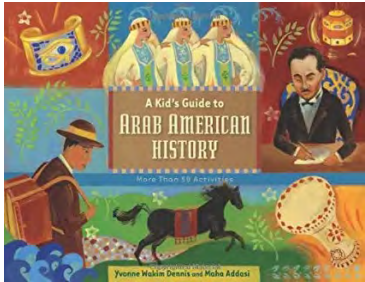
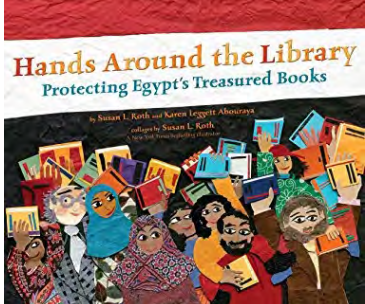
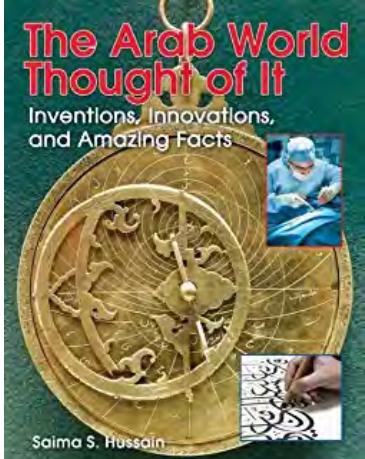


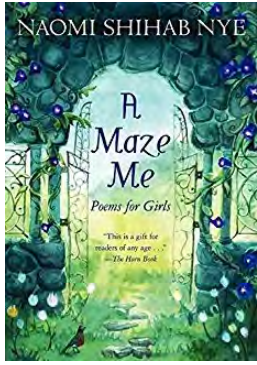
It is still dark in Kabul, Afghanistan when the library bus rumbles out of the city. There are no bus seats—instead there are chairs and tables and shelves of books. And there are no passengers—instead there is Pari, who is nervously starting her first day as Mama's library helper. Pari stands tall to hand out notebooks and pencils at the villages and the refugee camp, but she feels intimidated. The girls they visit are learning to write English from Mama. Pari can't even read or write in Farsi yet. But next year she will go to school and learn all there is to know. And she is so lucky. Not long ago, Mama tells her, girls were not allowed to read at all.

Non-Fiction

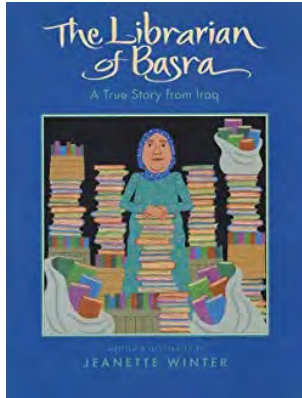
A Kid's Guide to Arab
American History
By Yvonne Wakim Dennis

Many Americans, educators included, mistakenly believe all Arabs share the same culture, language, and religion, and have only recently begun immigrating to the United States. *A Kid's Guide to Arab American History* dispels these and other stereotypes and provides a contemporary as well as historical look at the people and experiences that have shaped Arab American culture. Each chapter focuses on a different group of Arab Americans including those of Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, Jordanian, Egyptian, Iraqi and Yemeni descent and features more than 50 fun activities that highlight their distinct arts, games, clothing, and food. Kids will love dancing the dabke, constructing a

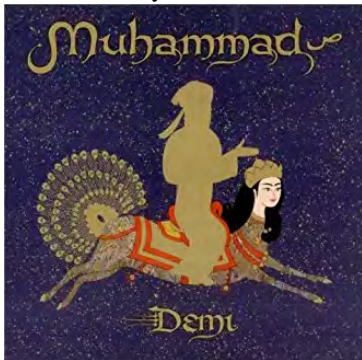
 <p>A Kid's Guide to ARAB AMERICAN HISTORY Marie Thoun & Anwaruddin Youssef Makris, Derrin and Maha Adessi</p>	<p>derbekke drum, playing a game of senet, making hummus, creating an arabesque design, and crafting an Egyptian-style cuff bracelet. Along the way they will learn to count in Kurdish, pick up a few Syrian words for family members, learn a Yemeni saying, and speak a little Iraqi. Short biographies of notable Arab Americans, including actor and philanthropist Danny Thomas, singer Paula Abdul, artist Helen Zughuib, and activist Ralph Nader, demonstrate a wide variety of careers and contributions.</p>
<p>Hands Around the Library: Protecting Egypt's Treasured Books By Karen Leggett Abouraya</p>  <p>Hands Around the Library Protecting Egypt's Treasured Books By Susan L. Korih and Karen Leggett Abouraya Illustrated by Susan L. Korih</p>	<p>In January 2011, in a moment that captured the hearts of people all over the world, thousands of Egypt's students, library workers, and demonstrators surrounded the great Library of Alexandria and joined hands, forming a human chain to protect the building. They chanted "We love you, Egypt!" as they stood together for the freedom the library represented.</p>
<p>The Arab World Thought of It: Inventions, Innovations and Amazing Facts By Saima Hussain</p>  <p>The Arab World Thought of It Inventions, Innovations, and Amazing Facts Saima S. Hussain</p>	<p>Ink-filled pens, mattresses, and bars of soap—these are only some of the inventions and innovations that have been passed down through the millennia from the peoples of Arab lands. Readers may be surprised to learn that they have also given us • the scalpel • planetariums • three-course meals As in the other titles in this series, The Arab World Thought of It uses stunning photos and well-researched information to provide an overview of contributions made in the fields of medicine, architecture, food, and education. Also included is a look at accomplishments in the areas of engineering, transportation, and oil production. Complete with maps, timeline, index, and a list of further reading, this book is an excellent starting point for the exploration of a thriving culture.</p>
<p>A Maze Me: Poems for Girls By Naomi Shihab Nye</p>	<p>First love, friendship, school, family, community, having a crush, loving your mother and hating your mother, sense of self, body image, hopes and dreams . . . these seventy-two poems by Naomi Shihab Nye—written expressly for this collection—will speak to girls of all ages.</p>



The Librarian of Basra: A True Story from Iraq
By Jeanette Winter



Muhammad
By Demi



The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid
By Jeanette Winter

Alia Muhammad Baker's library in Basra, Iraq, has been a meeting place for those who love books for the past fourteen years. Now war has come, and Alia fears that the library—along with the thirty thousand books within it—will be destroyed forever.

In this incredible true story of a war-stricken country where civilians seem powerless in the face of battle, this feminist and inspirational tale about a librarian's struggle to save her community's priceless collection of books reminds us how, throughout the world, the love of literature can unite us all.

Born in Mecca in the year 570, Muhammad grew into a sensitive and thoughtful man who believed deeply in the worship of one true god. In his fortieth year, Muhammad experienced a revelation from the angel Gabriel that he, Muhammad, was the messenger of God. Over the next twenty-three years, he received many such revelations, all of which were written down by scribes at the time of revelation to become the Koran, the sacred scripture of Islam, a religion that is practiced by nearly one-quarter of the world's population and holds as its most sacred tenet that there is no god but God. Through a clear text and stunning illustrations based upon those of traditional Islamic expression, the award-winning artist Demi here introduces the remarkable life of the Prophet Muhammad for young readers.

Get to know Zaha Hadid in this nonfiction picture book about the famed architect's life and her triumph over adversity from celebrated author-illustrator Jeanette Winter.

Zaha Hadid grew up in Baghdad, Iraq, and dreamed of designing her own cities. After studying architecture in London, she opened her own studio and started designing buildings. But as a Muslim woman, Hadid faced many obstacles. Determined to succeed, she worked hard for many years, and achieved her goals—and now you can see the buildings Hadid has designed all




over the world.

Middle School

Sources:

- [Delaware County Orange Branch Library - Middle School Book List Suggestions](#)

Fiction	
<p>Other Words for Home By Jasmine Warga</p> 	<p>A gorgeously written, hopeful middle grade novel in verse about a young girl who must leave Syria to move to the United States, perfect for fans of Jason Reynolds and Aisha Saeed.</p> <p>Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives.</p> <p>At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. The American movies that Jude has always loved haven't quite prepared her for starting school in the US—and her new label of "Middle Eastern," an identity she's never known before.</p> <p>But this life also brings unexpected surprises—there are new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude might just try out for. Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.</p> <p>This lyrical, life-affirming story is about losing and finding home and, most importantly, finding yourself.</p>
<p>Amina's Voice By Hena Khan</p>	<p>A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community in this "compassionate, timely novel" (<i>Booklist</i>, starred review) from the award-winning author of <i>It's Ramadan</i>, <i>Curious George</i> and <i>Golden Domes</i></p>

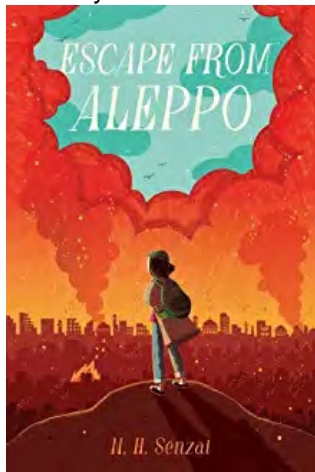


and Silver Lanterns

Amina has never been comfortable in the spotlight. She is happy just hanging out with her best friend, Soojin. Except now that she's in middle school everything feels different. Soojin is suddenly hanging out with Emily, one of the "cool" girls in the class, and even talking about changing her name to something more "American." Does Amina need to start changing too? Or hiding who she is to fit in? While Amina grapples with these questions, she is devastated when her local mosque is vandalized.

Amina's Voice brings to life the joys and challenges of a young Pakistani American and highlights the many ways in which one girl's voice can help bring a diverse community together to love and support each other.

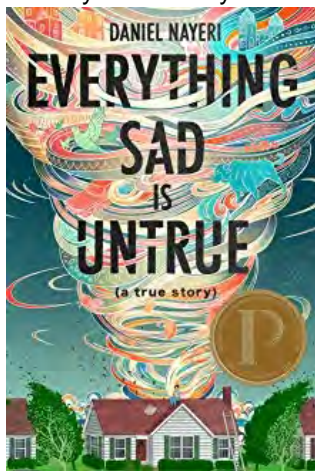
Escape from Aleppo
By N.H. Senzai



Nadia stands at the center of attention in her parents' elegant dining room. *This is the best day of my life*, she thinks. Everyone is about to sing "Happy Birthday," when her uncle calls from the living room, "Baba, brothers, you need to see this." Reluctantly, she follows her family into the other room. On TV, a reporter stands near an overturned vegetable cart on a dusty street. Beside it is a mound of smoldering ashes. The reporter explains that a vegetable vendor in the city of Tunis burned himself alive, protesting corrupt government officials who have been harassing his business. Nadia frowns.

It is December 17, 2010: Nadia's twelfth birthday and the beginning of the Arab Spring. Soon anti-government protests erupt across the Middle East and, one by one, countries are thrown into turmoil. As civil war flares in Syria and bombs fall across Nadia's home city of Aleppo, her family decides to flee to safety. Inspired by current events, this novel sheds light on the complicated situation in Syria that has led to an international refugee crisis, and tells the story of one girl's journey to safety.


Everything Sad is Untrue
By Daniel Nayeri



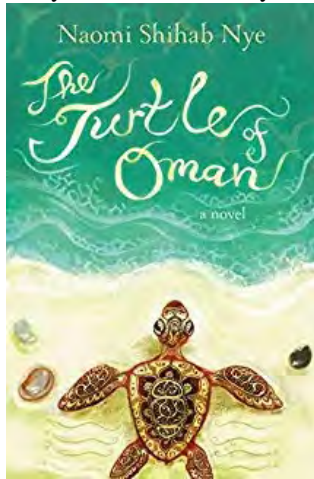
A sprawling, evocative, and groundbreaking autobiographical novel told in the unforgettable and hilarious voice of a young Iranian refugee. It is a powerfully layered novel that poses the questions: Who owns the truth? Who speaks it? Who believes it?

"A patchwork story is the shame of the refugee," Nayeri writes early in the novel. In an Oklahoman middle school, Khosrou (whom everyone calls Daniel) stands in front of a skeptical audience of classmates, telling the tales of his family's history, stretching back years, decades, and centuries. At the core is Daniel's story of how they became refugees—starting with his mother's vocal embrace of Christianity in a country that made such a thing a capital offense, and continuing through their midnight flight from the secret police, bribing their way onto a plane-to-anywhere. Anywhere becomes the sad, cement refugee camps of Italy, and then finally asylum in the U.S. Implementing a distinct literary style and challenging western narrative structures, Nayeri deftly weaves through stories of the long and beautiful history of his family in Iran, adding a richness of ancient tales and Persian folklore.

Like Scheherazade of One Thousand and One Nights in a hostile classroom, Daniel spins a tale to save his own life: to stake his claim to the truth.

	<p>EVERYTHING SAD IS UNTRUE (a true story) is a tale of heartbreak and resilience and urges readers to speak their truth and be heard.</p>
<p>Furthemore By Tahereh Mafi</p> 	<p>Inspired by her childhood love of books like <i>A Secret Garden</i> and <i>The Chronicles of Narnia</i>, bestselling author Tahereh Mafi crafts a spellbinding new world where color is currency, adventure is inevitable, and friendship is found in the most unexpected places.</p> <p>There are only three things that matter to twelve-year-old Alice Alexis Queensmeadow: Mother, who wouldn't miss her; magic and color, which seem to elude her; and Father, who always loved her. The day Father disappears from Ferenwood he takes nothing but a ruler with him. But it's been almost three years since then, and Alice is determined to find him. She loves her father even more than she loves adventure, and she's about to embark on one to find the other.</p> <p>But bringing Father home is no small matter. In order to find him she'll have to travel through the mythical, dangerous land of Furthermore, where down can be up, paper is alive, and left can be both right and very, very wrong. It will take all of Alice's wits (and every limb she's got) to find Father and return home to Ferenwood in one piece. On her quest to find Father, Alice must first find herself—and hold fast to the magic of love in the face of loss.</p>
<p>Farrah Rocks Fifth Grade By Susan Muaddi Darraj</p> 	<p>Farah and her best friend, Allie Liu, are getting excited to turn in their applications to the Magnet Academy, where they both hope to attend sixth grade. But when new girl Dana Denver shows up, Farah's world is turned upside down. As Dana starts bullying Farah's little brother, Samir, Farah begins to second-guess her choice to leave him behind at Harbortown Elementary/Middle School. Determined to handle it on her own, Farah comes up with a plan—a plan that involves lying to those closest to her. Will her lies catch up with her, or can Farah find a way to defeat the bully and rock fifth grade?</p>
<p>The Treasure of Maria Mamoun By Michelle Chalfoun</p> 	<p>Twelve-year-old Maria lives a lonely, latchkey-kid's life in the Bronx. Her Lebanese mother is working two nursing jobs to keep them afloat, and Maria keeps her worries to herself, not wanting to be a burden. Then something happens one day between home and school that changes everything. Mom whisks them to an altogether different world on Martha's Vineyard, where she's found a job on a seaside estate. While the mysterious bedridden owner—a former film director—keeps her mother busy, Maria has the freedom to explore a place she thought could only exist in the movies. Making friends with a troublesome local character, Maria finds an old sailboat that could make a marvelous clubhouse. She also stumbles upon an old map that she is sure will lead to pirate's plunder—but golden treasure may not be the most valuable thing she discovers for herself this special summer.</p>

The Turtle of Oman
By Naomi Shihab Nye

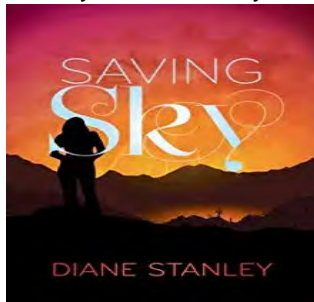


Praised by the *Horn Book* as “both quiet and exhilarating,” this novel by the acclaimed poet and National Book Award Finalist Naomi Shihab Nye follows Aref Al-Amri as he says goodbye to everything and everyone he loves in his hometown of Muscat, Oman, as his family prepares to move to Ann Arbor, Michigan. This book was awarded a 2015 Middle East Book Award, was named a Notable Book by the American Library Association, and includes extra material by the author.

Aref does not want to leave Oman. He does not want to leave his elementary school, his friends, or his beloved grandfather, Sidi. He does not want to live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where his parents will go to graduate school. His mother is desperate for him to pack his suitcase—but he refuses. Finally, she calls Sidi for help. But rather than pack, Aref and Sidi go on a series of adventures. They visit the camp of a thousand stars deep in the desert, they sleep on Sidi’s roof, they fish in the Gulf of Oman and dream about going to India, they travel to the nature reserve to watch the sea turtles. At each stop, Sidi finds a small stone that he later slips into Aref’s suitcase—mementos of home.

This accessible, exquisite novel shines with gentle humor and explores themes of moving, family, nature, and immigration. Naomi Shihab Nye has created what *Kirkus* called “a warm and humorous peek at the profound and mundane details of moving from one country to another—a perfect pick for kids on the move.” Features black-and-white spot art and decorations by Betsy Peterschmidt.

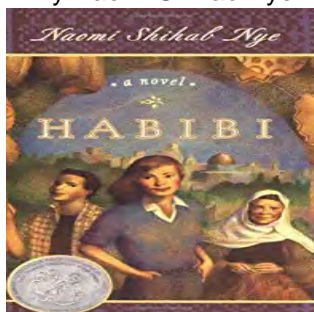
Saving Sky
By Diane Stanley



The country is at war, terrorists strike at random, widespread rationing is in effect, and the power grid is down. But thirteen-year-old Sky Brightman is remarkably untouched by it all. She lives off the grid on sixty acres of rural New Mexico ranch land with chores to do and horses to ride and no television or internet to bring disturbing news into her family’s adobe house. Sky’s schoolmates think she’s a little weird.

Then a string of mysterious arrests begins, and her new friend, Kareem, becomes a target. Sky is finally forced to confront the world in all its complexity. Summoning her considerable courage and ingenuity, she takes a stand against injustice. With humor, hope, and fierce determination, she proves that even a child can change the world.

Habibi
By Naomi Shihab Nye



The day after Liyana got her first real kiss, her life changed forever. Not because of the kiss, but because it was the day her father announced that the family was moving from St. Louis all the way to Palestine. Though her father grew up there, Liyana knows very little about her family’s Arab heritage. Her grandmother and the rest of her relatives who live in the West Bank are strangers and speak a language she can’t understand. It isn’t until she meets Omer that her homesickness fades. But Omer is Jewish, and their friendship is silently forbidden in this land. How can they make their families understand? And how can Liyana ever learn to call this place home?

Silverworld
By Diana Abu-Jaber

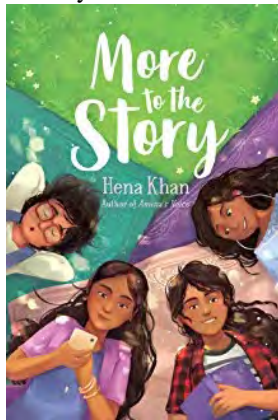


Sitti, Sami's Lebanese grandmother, has been ill for a while, slipping from reality and speaking in a language only Sami can understand. Her family thinks Sitti belongs in a nursing home, but Sami doesn't believe she's sick at all. Desperate to help, Sami casts a spell from her grandmother's mysterious charm book and falls through an ancient mirror into a world unlike any other.

Welcome to Silverworld, an enchanted city where light and dark creatures called Flickers and Shadows strive to live in harmony. But lately Flickers have started going missing, and powerful Shadow soldiers are taking over the land.

Everyone in Silverworld suspects that Shadow Queen Nixie is responsible for the chaos, which is bad enough. But could Nixie be holding Sami's grandmother in her grasp too? To save Sitti and Silverworld, Sami must brave adventure, danger, and the toughest challenge of all: change.

More to the Story
By Hena Khan

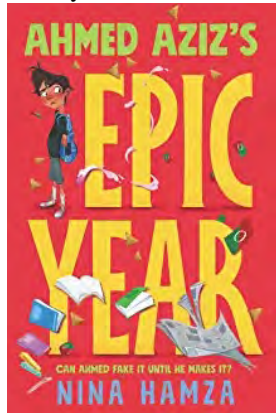


From the critically acclaimed author of *Amina's Voice* comes a new story inspired by Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic, *Little Women*, featuring four sisters from a modern American Muslim family living in Georgia.

When Jameela Mirza is picked to be feature editor of her middle school newspaper, she's one step closer to being an award-winning journalist like her late grandfather. The problem is her editor-in-chief keeps shooting down her article ideas. Jameela's assigned to write about the new boy in school, who has a cool British accent but doesn't share much, and wonders how she'll make his story gripping enough to enter into a national media contest.

Jameela, along with her three sisters, is devastated when their father needs to take a job overseas, away from their cozy Georgia home for six months. Missing him makes Jameela determined to write an epic article—one to make her dad extra proud. But when her younger sister gets seriously ill, Jameela's world turns upside down. And as her hunger for fame looks like it might cost her a blossoming friendship, Jameela questions what matters most, and whether she's cut out to be a journalist at all...

Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year
By Nina Hamza



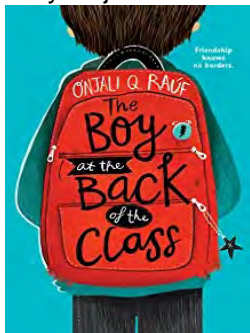
This hilarious and poignant tween debut about dealing with bullies, making friends, and the power of good books is a great next read for fans of *Merci Suárez*, *Changes Gears* and John David Anderson.

Ahmed Aziz is having an epic year—epically *bad*.

After his dad gets sick, the family moves from Hawaii to Minnesota for his dad's treatment. Even though his dad grew up there, Ahmed can't imagine a worse place to live. He's one of the only brown kids in his school. And as a proud slacker, Ahmed doesn't want to deal with expectations from his new teachers.

Ahmed surprises himself by actually reading the assigned books for his English class: *Holes*, *Bridge to Terabithia*, and *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*. Shockingly, he doesn't hate them. Ahmed also starts learning about his uncle, who died before Ahmed was born. Getting bits and pieces of his family's history might be the one upside of the move, as his dad's health hangs in the balance and the school bully refuses to leave him alone. Will Ahmed ever warm to Minnesota?

Boy at the Back of the Class
By Onjali Q. Rauf

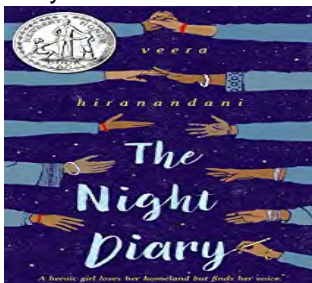


In the vein of timely titles such as Katherine Applegate's *Wishtree* and Alan Gratz's *Refugee* comes a touching, accessible middle-grade debut about the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis, as well as the lifechanging power of friendship and standing as an ally.

There used to be an empty chair at the back of Mrs. Khan's classroom, but on the third Tuesday of the school year a new kid fills it: nine-year-old Ahmet, a Syrian refugee. The whole class is curious about this new boy—he doesn't seem to smile, and he doesn't talk much. But after learning that Ahmet fled a "Very Real War" and was separated from his family along the way, a determined group of his classmates band together to concoct the "Greatest Idea in the World"—a magnificent plan to reunite Ahmet with his loved ones.

Balancing humor and heart, this relatable story about the refugee crisis from the perspective of kids highlights the community-changing potential of standing as an ally and reminds readers that everyone deserves a place to call home.

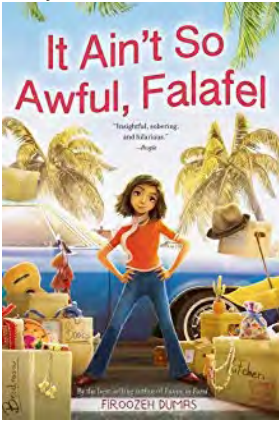
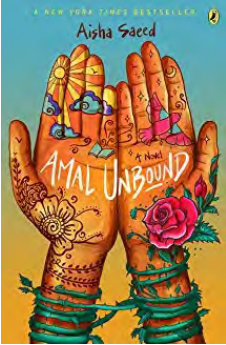
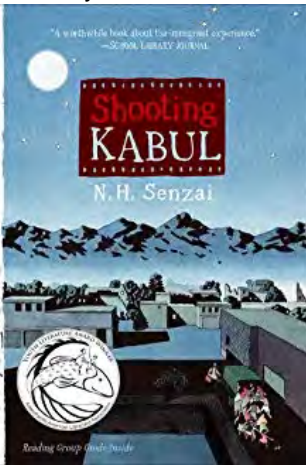
The Night Diary
By Veera Hiranandani



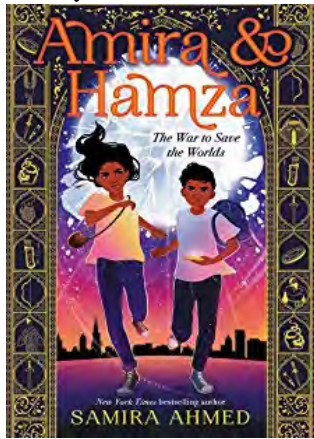
In the vein of *Inside Out and Back Again* and *The War That Saved My Life* comes a poignant, personal, and hopeful tale of India's partition, and of one girl's journey to find a new home in a divided country.

It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders.

Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs, or what her country is anymore. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home. The journey is long, difficult, and dangerous, and after losing her mother as a baby, Nisha can't imagine losing her homeland, too. But even if her country has been ripped apart, Nisha still believes in the possibility of putting herself back together.

	<p>Told through Nisha's letters to her mother, <i>The Night Diary</i> is a heartfelt story of one girl's search for home, for her own identity...and for a hopeful future.</p>
<p>It Ain't So Awful, Falafel By Firoozeh Dumas</p> 	<p>Zomorod (Cindy) Yousefzadeh is the new kid on the block . . . for the fourth time. California's Newport Beach is her family's latest perch, and she's determined to shuck her brainy loner persona and start afresh with a new Brady Bunch name—Cindy. It's the late 1970s, and fitting in becomes more difficult as Iran makes U.S. headlines with protests, revolution, and finally the taking of American hostages. Even puka shell necklaces, pool parties, and flying fish can't distract Cindy from the anti-Iran sentiments that creep way too close to home. A poignant yet lighthearted middle grade debut from the author of the best-selling <i>Funny in Farsi</i></p>
<p>Amal Unbound By Aisha Saeed</p> 	<p>Amal has big dreams, until a nightmarish encounter . . .</p> <p>Twelve-year-old Amal's dream of becoming a teacher one day is dashed in an instant when she accidentally insults a member of her Pakistani village's ruling family. As punishment for her behavior, she is forced to leave her heartbroken family behind and go work at their estate.</p> <p>Amal is distraught but has faced setbacks before. So she summons her courage and begins navigating the complex rules of life as a servant, with all its attendant jealousies and pecking-order woes. Most troubling, though, is Amal's increasing awareness of the deadly measures the Khan family will go to in order to stay in control. It's clear that their hold over her village will never loosen as long as everyone is too afraid to challenge them--so if Amal is to have any chance of ensuring her loved ones' safety and winning back her freedom, she must find a way to work with the other servants to make it happen.</p>
<p>Shooting Kabul By N.H. Senzai</p> 	<p>In the summer of 2001, twelve year old Fadi's parents make the difficult decision to illegally leave Afghanistan and move the family to the United States. When their underground transport arrives at the rendezvous point, chaos ensues, and Fadi is left dragging his younger sister Mariam through the crush of people. But Mariam accidentally lets go of his hand and becomes lost in the crowd, just as Fadi is snatched up into the truck. With Taliban soldiers closing in, the truck speeds away, leaving Mariam behind.</p> <p>Adjusting to life in the United States isn't easy for Fadi's family and as the events of September 11th unfold the prospects of locating Mariam in a war torn Afghanistan seem slim. When a photography competition with a grand prize trip to India is announced, Fadi sees his chance to return to Afghanistan and find his sister. But can one photo really bring Mariam home? Based in part on Ms. Senzai's husband's own experience fleeing his home in Soviet controlled Afghanistan in the 1970s, <i>Shooting Kabul</i> is a powerful story of hope, love, and perseverance.</p>

Amira and Hamza: The War to Save the Worlds
By Samira Ahmed



From bestselling author Samira Ahmed comes a thrilling and magical adventure intertwining Islamic legend and history, perfect for fans of Aru Shah and the Land of Stories.

On the day of a rare super blue blood moon eclipse, twelve-year-old Amira and her little brother, Hamza, can't stop their bickering while attending a special exhibit on medieval Islamic astronomy. While stargazer Amira is wowed by the amazing gadgets, a bored Hamza wanders off, stumbling across the mesmerizing and forbidden Box of the Moon. Amira can only watch in horror as Hamza grabs the defunct box and it springs to life, setting off a series of events that could shatter their world—literally.

Suddenly, day turns to night, everyone around Amira and Hamza falls under a sleep spell, and a chunk of the moon breaks off, hurtling toward them at lightning speed, as they come face-to-face with two otherworldly creatures: jinn.

The jinn reveal that the siblings have a role to play in an ancient prophecy. Together, they must journey to the mystical land of Qaf, battle a great evil, and end a civil war to prevent the moon—the stopper between realms—from breaking apart and unleashing terrifying jinn, devils, and ghuls onto earth. Or they might have to say goodbye to their parents and life as they know it, forever....

Barakah Beats
By Maleeha Siddiqui



Julie and the Phantoms meets Amina's Voice! This is a sweet, powerful, and joyous novel about a Muslim girl who finds her voice on her own terms... by joining her school's most popular band.

This book is perfect for fans of *The First Rule of Punk* and *Save Me a Seat*.

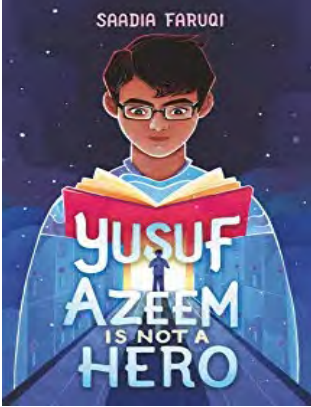
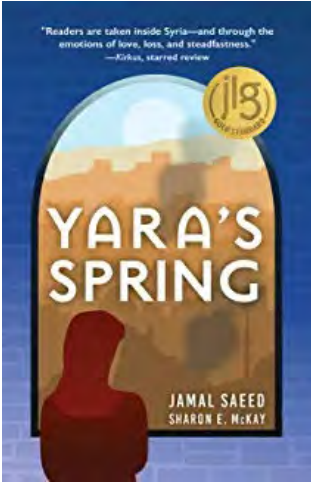
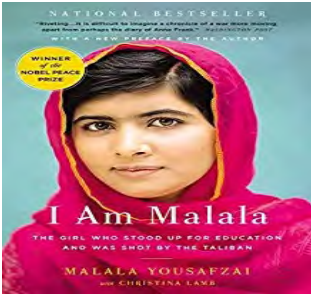
Twelve-year-old Nimra Sharif has spent her whole life in Islamic school, but now it's time to go to "real school."

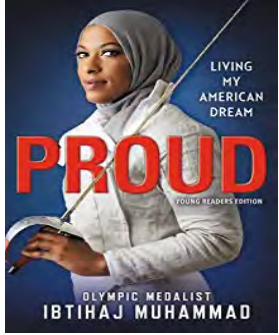
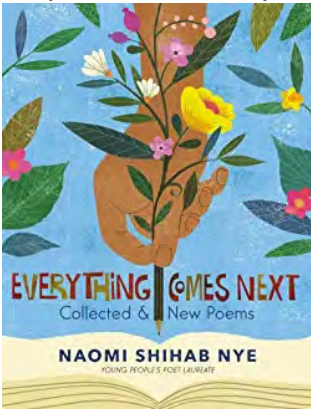
Nimra's nervous, but as long as she has Jenna, her best friend who already goes to the public school, she figures she can take on just about anything.

Unfortunately, middle school is hard. The teachers are mean, the schedule is confusing, and Jenna starts giving hijab-wearing Nimra the cold shoulder around the other kids.

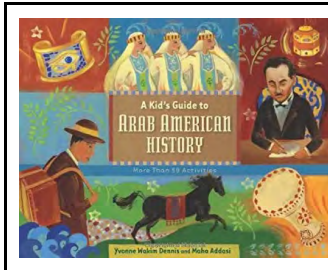
Desperate to fit in and get back in Jenna's good graces, Nimra accepts an unlikely invitation to join the school's popular 8th grade boy band, Barakah Beats. The only problem is, Nimra was taught that music isn't allowed in Islam, and she knows her parents would be disappointed if they found out. So she devises a simple plan: join the band, win Jenna back, then quietly drop out before her parents find out.

But dropping out of the band proves harder than expected. Not only is her plan to get Jenna back working, but Nimra really likes hanging out with the band—they value her contributions and respect how important her faith is to her. Then Barakah Beats signs up for a talent show to benefit refugees, and Nimra's lies start to unravel. With the show only a few weeks away and Jenna's friendship hanging in the balance, Nimra has to decide whether to betray her bandmates—or herself.

<p>Yusuf Azeem Is Not a Hero By Saadia Faruqi</p> 	<p>At a time when we are all asking questions about identity, grief, and how to stand up for what is right, this book by the author of <i>A Thousand Questions</i> will hit home with young readers who love Hena Khan and Varian Johnson—or anyone struggling to understand recent U.S. history and how it still affects us today. Yusuf Azeem has spent all his life in the small town of Frey, Texas—and nearly that long waiting for the chance to participate in the regional robotics competition, which he just <i>knows</i> he can win.</p> <p>Only, this year is going to be more difficult than he thought. Because this year is the twentieth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, an anniversary that has everyone in his Muslim community on edge.</p> <p>With “Never Forget” banners everywhere and a hostile group of townspeople protesting the new mosque, Yusuf realizes that the country’s anger from two decades ago hasn’t gone away. Can he hold onto his joy—and his friendships—in the face of heartache and prejudice?</p>
<p>Yara’s Spring By Jamal Saeed</p> 	<p>Coming of age against all odds in the midst of the Arab Spring.</p> <p>Growing up in East Aleppo, Yara’s childhood has long been shadowed by the coming revolution. But when the Arab Spring finally arrives at Yara’s doorstep, it is worse than even her Nana imagined: sudden, violent, and deadly. When rescuers dig Yara out from under the rubble that was once her family’s home, she emerges to a changed world. Her parents and Nana are gone, and her brother, Saad, can’t speak—struck silent by everything he’s seen. Now, with her friend Shireen and Shireen’s charismatic brother, Ali, Yara must try to find a way to safety. With danger around every corner, Yara is pushed to her limits as she discovers how far she’ll go for her loved ones—and for a chance for freedom.</p> <p>Crafted through the focused lens of Jamal Saeed’s own experiences in Syria and brought to life with acclaimed author Sharon E. McKay, <i>Yara’s Spring</i> is a story of coming of age against all odds and the many kinds of love that bloom even in the face of war.</p>
<p>Non-Fiction</p>	
<p>I am Malala By Malala Yousafzai</p> 	<p>"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday."</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 pointblank 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</p>

	<p>York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.</p>
<p>Proud: Living My American Dream By Ibtihaj Muhammad</p> 	<p>The inspiring and critically acclaimed all-American story of faith, family, hard work, and perseverance by Olympic fencer, activist, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author, and <i>Time</i> "100 Most Influential People" honoree Ibtihaj Muhammad</p> <p>At the 2016 Olympic Games, Ibtihaj Muhammad smashed barriers as the first American to compete wearing hijab, and she made history as the first Muslim American woman to win a medal. But before she was an Olympian, activist, and entrepreneur, Ibtihaj was a young outsider trying to find her place.</p> <p>Growing up in suburban New Jersey, Ibtihaj was often the only African American Muslim student in her class. When she discovered and fell in love with fencing, a sport most popular with affluent young white people, she stood out even more. Rivals and teammates often pointed out Ibtihaj's differences, telling her she would never succeed. Yet she powered on, rising above bigotry and other obstacles on the path to pursue her dream.</p> <p>Ibtihaj's inspiring journey from humble beginnings to the international stage is told in her own words and enhanced with helpful advice and never-before-published photographs. <i>Proud</i> is an all-American tale of faith, family, hard work, and self reliance.</p>
<p>Everything Comes Next: Collected and New Poems By Naomi Shihab Nye</p> 	<p>This celebratory book collects in one volume award-winning and beloved poet Naomi Shihab Nye's most popular and accessible poems.</p> <p>Featuring new, never-before-published poems; an introduction by bestselling poet and author Edward Hirsch, as well as a foreword and writing tips by the poet; and stunning artwork by bestselling artist Rafael López, <i>Everything Comes Next</i> is essential for poetry readers, classroom teachers, and library collections.</p> <p><i>Everything Comes Next</i> is a treasure chest of Naomi Shihab Nye's most beloved poems, and features favorites such as "Famous" and "A Valentine for Ernest Mann," as well as widely shared pieces such as "Kindness" and "Gate A4." The book is an introduction to the poet's work for new readers, as well as a comprehensive edition for classroom and family sharing. Writing prompts and tips by the award-winning poet make this an outstanding choice for aspiring poets of all ages.</p>
<p>Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood By Ibtisam Barakt</p>	<p><i>"When a war ends it does not go away," my mother says. "It hides inside us . . . Just forget!"</i> <i>But I do not want to do what Mother says . . . I want to remember.</i></p> <p>In this groundbreaking memoir set in Ramallah during the aftermath of the 1967 Six-Day War, Ibtisam Barakat captures what it is like to be a child whose world is shattered by war. With candor and courage, she stitches together memories of her childhood: fear and confusion as bombs explode near her home and she is separated from her family; the harshness of life in the Middle East as a Palestinian refugee; her unexpected joy when she discovers Alef, the first letter of the Arabic</p>

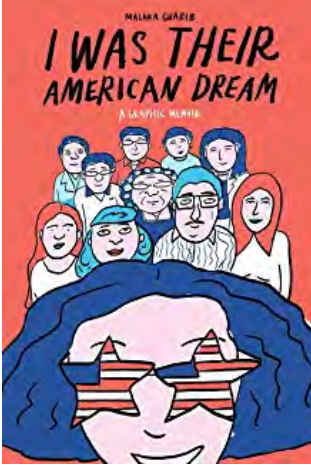
 <p>TASTING THE SKY A PALESTINIAN CHILDHOOD IBTISAM BARAKAT</p>	<p>alphabet. This is the beginning of her passionate connection to words, and as language becomes her refuge, allowing her to piece together the fragments of her world, it becomes her true home.</p> <p>Transcending the particulars of politics, <i>Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood</i> is an illuminating and timely book that provides a telling glimpse into a part of the Middle East that has become an increasingly important part of the puzzle of world peace.</p>
<p>1001 Inventions: The Enduring Legacy of Muslim Civilizations By Salim T.S. Al-Hassani</p>  <p>1001 INVENTIONS THE ENDURING LEGACY OF MUSLIM CIVILIZATION THIRD EDITION SALIM T. S. AL-HASSANI, CHIEF EDITOR</p>	<p>1001 Inventions: The Enduring Legacy of Muslim Civilization takes readers on a journey through years of forgotten Islamic history to discover one thousand fascinating scientific and technological inventions still being used throughout the world today. Take a look at all of the discoveries that led to the great technological advances of our time; engineering, early medicinal practices, and the origins of cartography are just a few of the areas explored in this book. 1001 Inventions provides unique insight into a significant time period in Muslim history that has been looked over by much of the world. A time where discoveries were made and inventions were created that have impacted how Western civilization and the rest of the world lives today. The book will cover seven aspects of life relatable to everyone, including home, school, hospital, market, town, world and universe.</p>
<p>The Arab World Thought of It: Inventions, Innovations, and Amazing Facts By Saima Hussain</p>  <p>The Arab World Thought of It Inventions, Innovations, and Amazing Facts Saima S. Hussain</p>	<p>Ink-filled pens, mattresses, and bars of soap—these are only some of the inventions and innovations that have been passed down through the millennia from the peoples of Arab lands. Readers may be surprised to learn that they have also given us • the scalpel • planetariums • three-course meals As in the other titles in this series, <i>The Arab World Thought of It</i> uses stunning photos and well researched information to provide an overview of contributions made in the fields of medicine, architecture, food, and education. Also included is a look at accomplishments in the areas of engineering, transportation, and oil production. Complete with maps, timeline, index, and a list of further reading, this book is an excellent starting point for the exploration of a thriving culture.</p>
<p>A Kid's Guide to Arab American History By Yvonne Wakim Dennis</p>	<p>Many Americans, educators included, mistakenly believe all Arabs share the same culture, language, and religion, and have only recently begun immigrating to the United States. <i>A Kid's Guide to Arab American History</i> dispels these and other stereotypes and provides a contemporary as well as historical look at the people and experiences that have shaped Arab American culture. Each chapter focuses on a different group of Arab Americans including those of Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, Jordanian, Egyptian, Iraqi and Yemeni descent and features more than 50 fun activities that highlight their distinct arts, games, clothing, and food.</p>



Kids will love dancing the dabke, constructing a derbekke drum, playing a game of senet, making hummus, creating an arabesque design, and crafting an Egyptian-style cuff bracelet. Along the way they will learn to count in Kurdish, pick up a few Syrian words for family members, learn a Yemeni saying, and speak a little Iraqi. Short biographies of notable Arab Americans, including actor and philanthropist Danny Thomas, singer Paula Abdul, artist Helen Zughaib, and activist Ralph Nader, demonstrate a wide variety of careers and contributions.

Graphic Novels

I Was Their American Dream: A Graphic Memoir
By Malaka Gharib



I Was Their American Dream is at once a coming-of-age story and a reminder of the thousands of immigrants who come to America in search for a better life for themselves and their children. The daughter of parents with unfulfilled dreams themselves, Malaka navigated her childhood chasing her parents' ideals, learning to code-switch between her family's Filipino and Egyptian customs, adapting to white culture to fit in, crushing on skater boys, and trying to understand the tension between holding onto cultural values and trying to be an all-American kid.

Malaka Gharib's triumphant graphic memoir brings to life her teenage antics and illuminates earnest questions about identity and culture, while providing thoughtful insight into the lives of modern immigrants and the generation of millennial children they raised. Malaka's story is a heartfelt tribute to the American immigrants who have invested their future in the promise of the American dream.

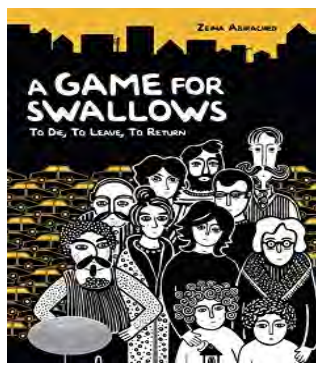
Ms. Marvel series
By G. Willow Wilson



Marvel Comics presents the all-new Ms. Marvel, the groundbreaking heroine that has become an international sensation! Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City - until she is suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who truly is the all-new Ms. Marvel? Teenager? Muslim? Inhuman? Find out as she takes the Marvel Universe by storm! As Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them as well. Is Kamala ready to wield these immense new gifts? Or will the weight of the legacy before her be too much to handle? Kamala has no idea either. But she's comin' for you, New York! It's history in the making from acclaimed writer G. Willow Wilson (Air, Cairo) and beloved artist Adrian Alphona (Runaways)!

A Game for Swallows: To Die, To Leave, To Return
By Zeina Abirached

When Zeina was born, the civil war in Lebanon had been going on for six years, so it's just a normal part of life for her and her parents and little brother. The city of Beirut is cut in two, separated by bricks and sandbags and threatened by snipers and shelling. East Beirut is for Christians, and West Beirut is for Muslims. When Zeina's parents don't return one afternoon from a visit to the other half of the city



and the bombing grows ever closer, the neighbors in her apartment house create a world indoors for Zeina and her brother where it's comfy and safe, where they can share cooking lessons and games and gossip. Together they try to make it through a dramatic day in the one place they hoped they would always be safe—home.

Piece by Piece: The Story of Nisrin's Hijab
By Priya Huq



In this middle-grade graphic novel, Nisrin will have to rely on faith, friends, and family to help her recover after she is the target of a hate crime

Nisrin is a 13-year-old Bangladeshi-American girl living in Milwaukie, Oregon, in 2002. As she nears the end of eighth grade, she gives a presentation for World Culture Day about Bangladesh while wearing a traditional cultural dress. On her way home, she is the victim of a hate crime when a man violently attacks her for wearing a headscarf.

Deeply traumatized by the experience, Nisrin spends the summer depressed and isolated. Other than weekly therapy, Nisrin doesn't leave the house until fall arrives and it's time for her to start freshman year at a new school. The night before class starts, Nisrin makes a decision. She tells her family she's going to start wearing a hijab, much to their dismay. Her mother and grandparent's shocked and angry reactions confuse her—but they only strengthen her resolve.

This choice puts Nisrin on a path to not only discover more about Islam, but also her family's complicated relationship with the religion, and the reasons they left Bangladesh in the first place. On top of everything else, she's struggling to fit in at school—her hijab makes her a target for students and faculty alike. But with the help from old friends and new, Nisrin is starting to figure out what really makes *her* happy. *Piece by Piece* is an original graphic novel about growing up and choosing your own path, even if it leads you to a different place than you expected.

High School

Sources:

- [Delaware County Orange Branch Library - High School Book List Suggestions](#)

Fiction

A Very Large Expanse of Sea
By Tahereh Mafi

From the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the Shatter Me series comes a powerful, heartrending contemporary novel about fear, first love, and the devastating impact of prejudice.

It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped.

Shirin is never surprised by how horrible people can be. She's tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments—even the physical violence—she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. So she's built up protective walls and refuses to let anyone close enough to hurt her. Instead, she drowns her frustrations in music and spends her afternoons breakdancing with her brother.

But then she meets Ocean James. He's the first person in forever who really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her—they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds—and Shirin has had her guard up for so long that she's not sure she'll ever be able to let it down.

We Hunt the Flame
By Hafsah Faizal

Set in a richly detailed world inspired by ancient Arabia, Hafsah Faizal's We Hunt the Flame—first in the Sands of Arawiya duology—is a gripping debut of discovery, conquering fear, and taking identity into your own hands.

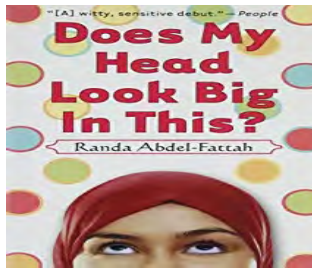
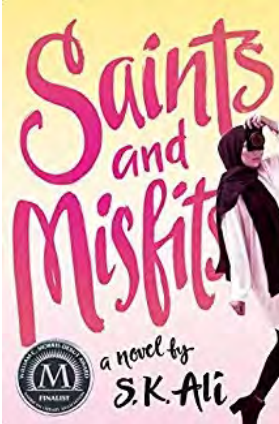

Zafira is the Hunter, disguising herself as a man when she braves the cursed forest of the Arz to feed her people. Nasir is the Prince of Death, assassinating those foolish enough to defy his autocratic father, the sultan. If Zafira was exposed as a girl, all of her achievements would be rejected; if Nasir displayed his compassion, his father would punish him in the most brutal of ways. Both Zafira and Nasir are legends in the kingdom of Arawiya—but neither wants to be.

War is brewing, and the Arz sweeps closer with each passing day, engulfing the land in shadow. When Zafira embarks on a quest to uncover a lost artifact that can restore magic to her suffering world and stop the Arz, Nasir is sent by the sultan on a similar mission: retrieve the artifact and kill the Hunter. But an ancient evil stirs as their journey unfolds—and the prize they seek may pose a threat greater than either can imagine.

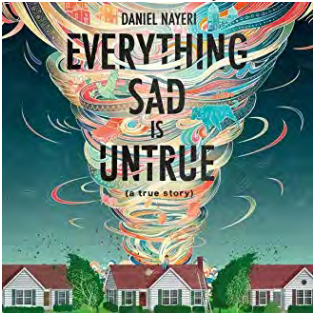

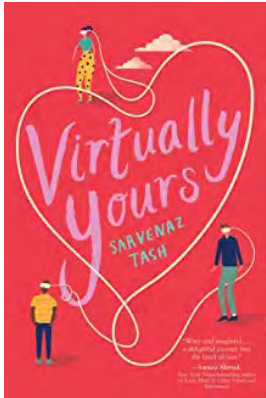
Does My Head Look Big In This?
By Randa Abdel-Fattah

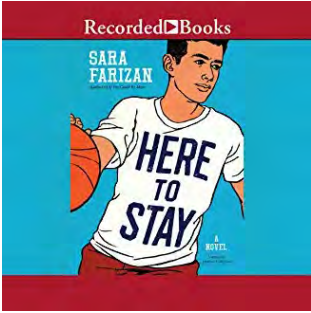
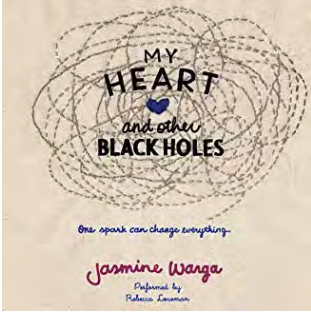
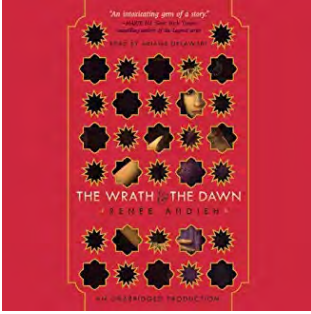
When sixteen-year-old Amal decides to wear the hijab full-time, her entire world changes, all because of a piece of cloth...

Sixteen-year-old Amal makes the decision to start wearing the hijab full-time and everyone has a reaction. Her parents, her teachers, her friends, people on the street. But she stands by her decision to embrace her faith and all that it is, even if it does make her a little different from everyone else. Can she handle the taunts of "towel head," the prejudice of her classmates, and still attract the cutest boy in school? Brilliantly funny and poignant, Randa Abdel-Fattah's debut novel will strike a chord in all teenage readers, no matter what their beliefs.

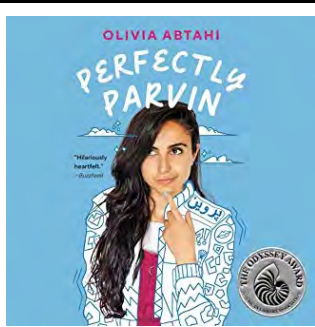
	
<p>Saints and Misfits By S.K. Ali</p> 	<p><i>Saints and Misfits</i>—a William C. Morris Award finalist and an <i>Entertainment Weekly</i> Best YA Book of the Year—is a “timely and authentic” (<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review) debut novel that feels like a modern day <i>My So-Called Life</i>...starring a Muslim teen.</p> <p>There are three kinds of people in my world:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saints, those special people moving the world forward. Sometimes you glaze over them. Or, at least, I do. They're in your face so much, you can't see them, like how you can't see your nose. 2. Misfits, people who don't belong. Like me—the way I don't fit into Dad's brand-new family or in the leftover one composed of Mom and my older brother, Mama's Boy—Muhammad. <p>Also, there's Jeremy and me. Misfits. Because although, alliteratively speaking, Janna and Jeremy sound good together, we don't go together. Same planet, different worlds.</p> <p>But sometimes worlds collide and beautiful things happen, right?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Monsters. Well, monsters wearing saint masks, like in Flannery O'Connor's stories. Like the monster at my mosque. <p>People think he's holy, untouchable, but nobody has seen under the mask. Except me.</p>
<p>An Ember in the Ashes By Sabaa Tahir #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR SABAA TAHIR</p> 	<p>Set in a terrifyingly brutal Rome-like world, <i>An Ember in the Ashes</i> is an epic fantasy debut about an orphan fighting for her family and a soldier fighting for his freedom. It's a story that's literally burning to be told.</p> <p>Laia is a Scholar living under the ironfisted rule of the Martial Empire. When her brother is arrested for treason, Laia goes undercover as a slave at the empire's greatest military academy in exchange for assistance from rebel Scholars who claim they will help to save her brother from execution.</p> <p>Elias is the academy's finest soldier—and secretly its most unwilling. Elias is considering deserting the military, but before he can, he's ordered to participate in a ruthless contest to choose the next Martial emperor.</p> <p>When Laia and Elias' paths cross at the academy, they find that their destinies are more intertwined than either could have imagined and that their choices will change the future of the empire itself.</p>
<p>Internment By Samira Ahmed</p>	<p><i>Rebellions are built on hope.</i></p> <p>Set in a horrifying near-future United States, 17-year-old Layla Amin and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim American citizens.</p> <p>With the help of newly made friends also trapped within the internment camp, her</p>

	<p>boyfriend on the outside, and an unexpected alliance, Layla begins a journey to fight for freedom, leading a revolution against the internment camp's director and his guards.</p> <p>Heart-racing and emotional, <i>Internment</i> challenges listeners to fight complicit silence that exists in our society today.</p> <p>"A riveting and cautionary tale. <i>Internment</i> urges us to speak up and speak out, to ask questions and demand answers, and when those answers prove unsatisfactory, to resist." (Stacey Lee, award-winning author of <i>Outrun the Moon</i>)</p>
<p>Darius the Great is Not Okay By Adib Khorram</p> 	<p>Darius doesn't think he'll ever be enough, in America or in Iran. Hilarious and heartbreaking, this unforgettable debut introduces a brilliant new voice in contemporary YA.</p> <p>Winner of the William C. Morris Debut Award.</p> <p>"Heartfelt, tender, and so utterly real. I'd live in this book forever if I could." (Becky Albertalli, award-winning author of <i>Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda</i>)</p> <p>Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He's a Fractional Persian half, his mom's side- and his first-ever trip to Iran is about to change his life.</p> <p>Darius has never really fit in at home, and he's sure things are going to be the same in Iran. His clinical depression doesn't exactly help matters, and trying to explain his medication to his grandparents only makes things harder. Then Darius meets Sohrab the boy next door, and everything changes. Soon, they're spending their days together, playing soccer, eating Faludeh, and talking for hours on a secret rooftop overlooking the city's skyline. Sohrab calls him Darioush- the original Persian version of his name - and Darius has never felt more like himself than he does now that he's Darioush to Sohrab.</p> <p>Adib Khorram's brilliant debut is for anyone who's ever felt not good enough- then met a friend who makes them feel so much better than okay.</p>
<p>Mariam Sharma Hits the Road By Sheba Karim</p> 	<p>Three Pakistani-American teenagers, on a trip through the land of pork ribs, mechanical bulls, and Confederate flags. It's going to be quite an adventure.</p> <p>The summer after her freshman year of college, Mariam is looking forward to working and hanging out with her best friends: irrepressible and beautiful Ghazala and religious but closeted Umar.</p> <p>But when a scandalous photo of Ghaz appears on a billboard in Times Square, Mariam and Umar come up with a plan to rescue her from her furious parents. And what could be a better escape than a spontaneous road trip down to New Orleans?</p> <p>With the heartbreaking honesty of Julie Murphy's <i>Dumplin'</i> mixed with the cultural growing pains and smart snark of <i>When Dimple Met Rishi</i>, this wry, remarkable road-trip story is about questioning where you come from - and choosing the family that chooses you back.</p>

<p>Everything Sad is Untrue By Daniel Nayeri</p> 	<p>At the front of a middle-school classroom in Oklahoma, a boy named Khosrou (whom everyone calls "Daniel") stands, trying to tell a story. His story. But no one believes a word he says. To them he is a dark-skinned, hairy-armed boy with a big butt whose lunch smells funny; who makes things up and talks about poop too much.</p> <p>But Khosrou's stories, stretching back years, and decades, and centuries, are beautiful, and terrifying, from the moment his family fled Iran in the middle of the night with the secret police moments behind them, back to the sad, cement refugee camps of Italy...and further back to the fields near the river Aras, where rain-soaked flowers bled red like the yolk of the sunset had burst over everything, and further back still to the jasmine-scented city of Isfahan.</p> <p>Like Scheherazade in a hostile classroom, Daniel weaves a tale to save his own life: to stake his claim to the truth. And it is (a true story).</p>
<p>Mirage By Somaiya Daud</p> 	<p>"<i>Mirage</i> is full of characters who feel like they existed long before the story began, and a rich world that is as beautiful as it is cruel. Somaiya Daud is a rare talent. A smart, romantic <i>exciting</i> debut." (Veronica Roth, number one <i>New York Times</i> best-selling author of <i>Divergent</i> and <i>Carve the Mark</i>)</p> <p>In a star system dominated by the brutal Vathek empire, 16-year-old Amani is a dreamer. She dreams of what life was like before the occupation; she dreams of writing poetry like the old-world poems she adores; she dreams of receiving a sign from Dihya thabne day she, too, will have adventure and travel beyond her isolated moon.</p> <p>But when adventure comes for Amani, it is not what she expects: She is kidnapped by the regime and taken in secret to the royal palace, where she discovers that she is nearly identical to the cruel half-Vathek Princess Maram. The princess is so hated by the conquered people that she requires a body double, someone to appear in public as Maram, ready to die in her place.</p> <p>As Amani is forced into her new role, she can't help but enjoy the palace's beauty and her time with the princess' fiancé, Idris. But the glitter of the royal court belies a world of violence and fear, and one wrong move could lead to her death....</p>
<p>Virtually Yours By Sarvenaz Tash</p> 	<p><i>How bad can one little virtual lie be?</i></p> <p>NYU freshman Mariam Vakilian hasn't dated anyone in five months, not since her high school sweetheart Caleb broke up with her. So, when she decides to take advantage of an expiring coupon and try out a new virtual reality dating service, it's sort of a big deal.</p> <p>It's an even bigger deal when it chooses as one of her three matches none other than Caleb himself. That has to be a sign, right? Except that her other match, Jeremy, just happens to be her new best friend IRL.</p> <p>Mariam's heart is telling her one thing, but the app is telling her another. So, which should she trust? Is all fair in modern love?</p>
<p>Here To Stay</p>	<p>For most of high school, Bijan Majidi has flown under the radar. He gets good</p>

<p>By Sara Farizan</p> 	<p>grades, reads comics, hangs out with his best friend, Sean, and secretly crushes on Elle, one of the most popular girls in his school. When he's called off the basketball team's varsity bench and makes the winning basket in a playoff game, everything changes in an instant.</p> <p>But not everyone is happy Bijan is the man of the hour: An anonymous cyberbully sends the entire school a picture of Bijan photoshopped to look like a terrorist. His mother is horrified, and the school administration is outraged. They promise to find and punish the culprit.</p> <p>All Bijan wants is to pretend it never happened and move on, but the incident isn't so easily erased. Though many of his classmates rally behind Bijan, some don't want him or his type to be a part of their school. And Bijan's finding out it's not always easy to tell your enemies from your friends....</p>
<p>My Heart and Other Black Holes By Jasmine Warga</p> 	<p>Sixteen-year-old physics nerd Aysel is obsessed with plotting her own death. With a mother who can barely look at her without wincing, classmates who whisper behind her back, and a father whose violent crime rocked her small town, Aysel is ready to turn her potential energy into nothingness.</p> <p>There's only one problem: She's not sure she has the courage to do it alone. But once she discovers a website with a section called Suicide Partners, Aysel's convinced she's found her solution--a teen boy with the username FrozenRobot (aka Roman), who's haunted by a family tragedy, is looking for a partner.</p> <p>Even though Aysel and Roman have nothing in common, they slowly start to fill in each other's broken lives. But as their suicide pact becomes more concrete, Aysel begins to question whether she really wants to go through with it. Ultimately, she must choose between wanting to die and trying to convince Roman to live so they can discover the potential of their energy together.</p> <p>This is a gorgeously written and compulsively listenable novel about the transformative power of love, heralding the arrival of an extraordinary new voice in teen fiction, Jasmine Warga.</p>
<p>The Wrath and the Dawn By Renee Ahdieh</p> 	<p><i>A sumptuous and epically told love story inspired by A Thousand and One Nights.</i></p> <p><i>Every dawn brings horror to a different family in a land ruled by a killer. Khalid, the 18-year-old caliph of Khorasan, takes a new bride each night only to have her executed at sunrise. So it is a suspicious surprise when 16-year-old Shahrzad volunteers to marry Khalid. But she does so with a clever plan to stay alive and exact revenge on the caliph for the murder of her best friend and countless other girls. Shazi's wit and will, indeed, get her through to the dawn that no others have seen, but with a catch...she's falling in love with the very boy who killed her dearest friend.</i></p> <p><i>She discovers that the murderous boy-king is not all that he seems and neither are the deaths of so many girls. Shazi is determined to uncover the reason for the murders and to break the cycle once and for all.</i></p>

<p>All-American Muslim Girl By Nadine Jolie Courtney</p> 	<p>Allie Abraham has it all going for her - she's a straight-A student with good friends and a close-knit family, and she's dating popular, sweet Wells Henderson. There's only one problem: Wells' father is Jack Henderson, America's most famous conservative shock jock, and Allie hasn't told Wells that her family is Muslim. It's not like Allie's religion is a secret. It's just that her parents don't practice and raised her to keep it to herself. But as Allie witnesses Islamophobia in her small town and across the nation, she decides to embrace her faith - study it, practice it, and even face misunderstanding for it. But who is Allie if she sheds the façade of the "perfect" all-American girl?</p>
<p>Not the Girls You're Looking For By Aminah Mae Safi</p> 	<p><i>Not the Girls You're Looking For</i> debut author Aminah Mae Safi's honest and smart audiobook about how easy it can be to hurt those around you even if - especially if - you love them.</p> <p>Lulu Saad doesn't need your advice, thank you very much. She's got her three best friends and nothing can stop her from conquering the known world. Sure, for half a minute she thought she'd nearly drowned a cute guy at a party, but he was totally faking it. And fine, yes, she caused a scene during Ramadan. It's all under control. Ish.</p> <p>Except maybe this time she's done a little more damage than she realizes. And if Lulu can't find her way out of this mess soon, she'll have to do more than repair friendships, family alliances, and wet clothing. She'll have to go looking for herself.</p>
<p>Down and Across By Arvin Ahmadi</p> 	<p>Discover the secret to success in this incisively funny debut, for fans of John Corey Whaley, David Arnold, and Ned Vizzini!</p> <p>Scott Ferdowski has a track record of quitting. Writing the Great American Novel? Three chapters. His summer internship? One week. His best friends know exactly what they want to do with the rest of their lives, but Scott can't commit to a breakfast cereal, let alone a passion. With college applications looming, Scott's parents pressure him to get serious about a career path like engineering or medicine. Desperate for help, he sneaks off to Washington, DC, to seek guidance from a famous professor who specializes in grit, the psychology of success.</p> <p>He never expects an adventure to unfold out of what was supposed to be a one-day visit. But that's what Scott gets when he meets Fiora Buchanan, a ballsy college student whose life ambition is to write crossword puzzles. When the bicycle she lends him gets Scott into a high-speed chase, he knows he's in for the ride of his life. Soon, Scott finds himself sneaking into bars, attempting to pick up girls at the National Zoo, and even giving the crossword thing a try- all while opening his eyes to fundamental truths about who he is and who he wants to be.</p>
<p>Perfectly Parvin By Olivia Abtahi</p>	<p>Fourteen-year-old Iranian American Parvin Mohammadi sets out to win the ultimate date to homecoming in this heartfelt and outright hilarious debut.</p> <p>Parvin Mohammadi has just been dumped- only days after receiving official girlfriend status. Not only is she heartbroken, she's humiliated. Enter high school</p>



heartthrob Matty Fumero, who just might be the smoking-hot cure to all her boy problems. If Parvin can get Matty to ask her to Homecoming, she's positive it will prove to herself and her ex that she's girlfriend material after all. There's just one problem: Matty is definitely too cool for bassoon-playing, frizzy-haired, Cheeto-eating Parvin. Since being herself hasn't worked for her in the past (see aforementioned dumping), she decides to start acting like the women in her favorite rom-coms. Those women aren't loud, they certainly don't cackle when they laugh, and they smile much more than they talk.

But Parvin discovers that being a rom-com dream girl is much harder than it looks. Also hard? The parent-mandated Farsi lessons. A confusing friendship with a boy who's definitely not supposed to like her. And hardest of all, the ramifications of the Muslim ban on her family in Iran. Suddenly, being herself has never been more important.

Olivia Abtahi's debut is as hilarious as it is heartfelt - a delightful tale where, amid the turmoil of high school friendships and crushes, being yourself is always the perfect way to be.

Non-Fiction

Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card
By Sara Saedi



At thirteen, bright-eyed, straight-A student Sara Saedi uncovered a terrible family secret: she was breaking the law simply by living in the United States. Only two years old when her parents fled Iran, she didn't learn of her undocumented status until her older sister wanted to apply for an after-school job, but couldn't because she didn't have a Social Security number.

Fear of deportation kept Sara up at night, but it didn't keep her from being a teenager. She desperately wanted a green card, along with clear skin, her own car, and a boyfriend.

Americanized follows Sara's progress toward getting her green card, but that's only a portion of her experiences as an Iranian-"American" teenager. From discovering that her parents secretly divorced to facilitate her mother's green card application to learning how to tame her unibrow, Sara pivots gracefully from the terrifying prospect that she might be kicked out of the country at any time to the almost-as-terrifying possibility that she might be the only one of her friends without a date to the prom. This moving, often hilarious story is for anyone who has ever shared either fear.

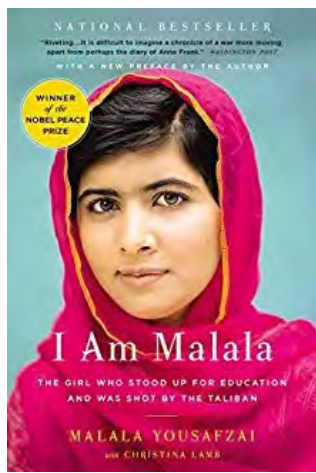
I am Malala
By Malala Yousafzai

A MEMOIR BY THE YOUNGEST RECIPIENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday."

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.

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at pointblank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive.

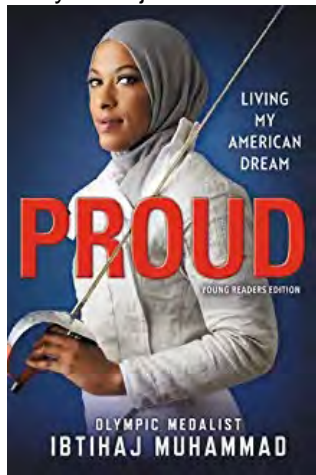


Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

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.

I AM MALALA will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.

Proud: Living My American Dream
By Ibtihaj Muhammad



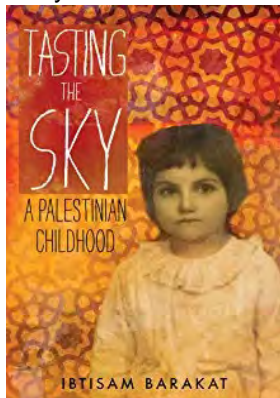
The inspiring and critically acclaimed all-American story of faith, family, hard work, and perseverance by Olympic fencer, activist, *New York Times* bestselling author, and *Time* "100 Most Influential People" honoree Ibtihaj Muhammad

At the 2016 Olympic Games, Ibtihaj Muhammad smashed barriers as the first American to compete wearing hijab, and she made history as the first Muslim American woman to win a medal. But before she was an Olympian, activist, and entrepreneur, Ibtihaj was a young outsider trying to find her place.

Growing up in suburban New Jersey, Ibtihaj was often the only African American Muslim student in her class. When she discovered and fell in love with fencing, a sport most popular with affluent young white people, she stood out even more. Rivals and teammates often pointed out Ibtihaj's differences, telling her she would never succeed. Yet she powered on, rising above bigotry and other obstacles on the path to pursue her dream.

Ibtihaj's inspiring journey from humble beginnings to the international stage is told in her own words and enhanced with helpful advice and never-before-published photographs. *Proud* is an all-American tale of faith, family, hard work, and self reliance.


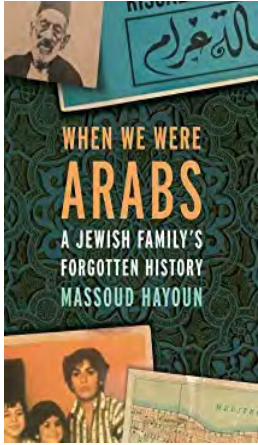
Tasting the Sky
By Ibtisam Barakat

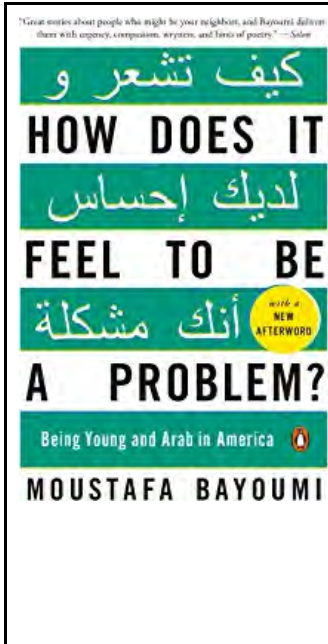


"When a war ends it does not go away," my mother says. "It hides inside us . . . Just forget!" But I do not want to do what Mother says . . . I want to remember.

In this groundbreaking memoir set in Ramallah during the aftermath of the 1967 Six-Day War, Ibtisam Barakat captures what it is like to be a child whose world is shattered by war. With candor and courage, she stitches together memories of her childhood: fear and confusion as bombs explode near her home and she is separated from her family; the harshness of life in the Middle East as a Palestinian refugee; her unexpected joy when she discovers Alef, the first letter of the Arabic alphabet. This is the beginning of her passionate connection to words, and as language becomes her refuge, allowing her to piece together the fragments of her world, it becomes her true home.

Transcending the particulars of politics, *Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood* is an illuminating and timely book that provides a telling glimpse into a part of the Middle East that has become an increasingly important part of the puzzle of world

	<p>peace. Winner of the Arab American National Museum Book Award for Children's/YA Literature</p>
<p>Balcony on the Moon: Coming of Age in Palestine By Ibtisam Barakat</p> 	<p>From award-winning Palestinian author Ibtisam Barakat comes a touching account of coming of age against a backdrop of political turmoil in the Middle East.</p> <p>Picking up where Ibtisam Barakat's first memoir, <i>Tasting the Sky</i>, left off, <i>Balcony on the Moon</i> follows her through her childhood and adolescence in Palestine from 1972-1981 in the aftermath of the Six Day War.</p> <p>This memoir about pursuing dreams in the face of adversity chronicles Ibtisam's desire to be a writer and shows how she finds inspiration through writing letters to pen pals and from an adult who encourages her to keep at it. But the most surprising turn of all for Ibtisam happens when her mother decides that she would like to seek out an education, too. Enlightening and at times funny, <i>Balcony on the Moon</i> is a not often depicted look at daily life in a politically tumultuous region.</p>
<p>When We Were Arabs: A Jewish Family's Forgotten History By Massoud Hayoun</p> 	<p>WINNER OF THE ARAB AMERICAN BOOK AWARD • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR</p> <p>The stunning debut of a brilliant nonfiction writer whose vivid account of his grandparents' lives in Egypt, Tunisia, Palestine, and Los Angeles reclaims his family's Jewish Arab identity</p> <p>There was a time when being an "Arab" didn't mean you were necessarily Muslim. It was a time when Oscar Hayoun, a Jewish Arab, strode along the Nile in a fashionable suit, long before he and his father arrived at the port of Haifa to join the Zionist state only to find themselves hosed down with DDT and then left unemployed on the margins of society. In that time, Arabness was a mark of cosmopolitanism, of intellectualism. Today, in the age of the Likud and ISIS, Oscar's son, the Jewish Arab journalist Massoud Hayoun whom Oscar raised in Los Angeles, finds his voice by telling his family's story.</p> <p>To reclaim a worldly, nuanced Arab identity is, for Hayoun, part of the larger project to recall a time before ethnic identity was mangled for political ends. It is also a journey deep into a lost age of sophisticated innocence in the Arab world; an age that is now nearly lost.</p> <p><i>When We Were Arabs</i> showcases the gorgeous prose of the Eppy Award-winning writer Massoud Hayoun, bringing the worlds of his grandparents alive, vividly shattering our contemporary understanding of what makes an Arab, what makes a Jew, and how we draw the lines over which we do battle.</p>
<p>How Does It Feel To Be a Problem?: Being Young and Arab in America By Moustafa Bayoumi</p>	<p>An eye-opening look at how young Arab- and Muslim-Americans are forging lives for themselves in a country that often mistakes them for the enemy</p> <p>Just over a century ago, W.E.B. Du Bois posed a probing question in his classic <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> How does it feel to be a problem? Now, Moustafa Bayoumi asks the same about America's new "problem"-Arab- and Muslim-Americans. Bayoumi takes readers into the lives of seven twentysomethings living in Brooklyn, home to the largest Arab-American population in the United</p>

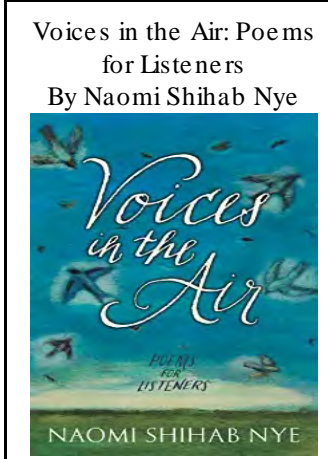


States. He moves beyond stereotypes and clichés to reveal their often unseen struggles, from being subjected to government surveillance to the indignities of workplace discrimination. Through it all, these young men and women persevere through triumphs and setbacks as they help weave the tapestry of a new society that is, at its heart, purely American.

What the Eyes Don't See:
A Story of Crisis,
Resistance and Hope In
an American City
By Mona Hanna-Attisha

**SUMMARY AND
ANALYSIS OF**
**What the Eyes
Don't See**
A Story of Crisis, Resistance,
and Hope in an American City
By
Mona Hanna-Attisha
AcesPrint

What the Eyes Don't See (2018) is a gripping and revealing look at how the public drinking water crisis in Flint, Michigan captured the nation's attention in late 2015. It also tells the story of how Mona Hanna-Attisha's family came from Iraq to America and how their history of activism has been carried on in their new home.



Young People's Poet Laureate and National Book Award Finalist Naomi Shihab Nye's uncommon and unforgettable voice offers readers peace, humor, inspiration, and solace. This volume of almost one hundred original poems is a stunning and engaging tribute to the diverse voices past and present that comfort us, compel us, lead us, and give us hope.

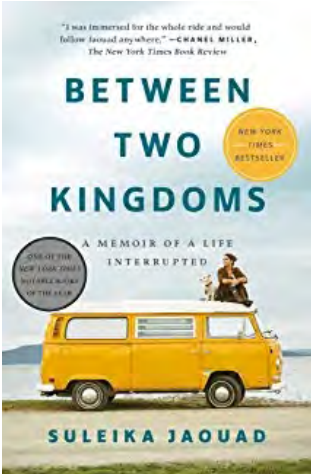
"I think the air is full of voices. If we slow down and practice listening, we hear those voices better. They live on in us. Inspiration? We need it every day. We deserve it. It is essential, like food, water, clean air, shelter. Here are some poems celebrating the voices that have changed my life and continue to do so."—Naomi Shihab Nye, Award-winning poet and author

Voices in the Air is a collection of almost one hundred original poems written by the award-winning poet Naomi Shihab Nye in honor of the artists, writers, poets,

historical figures, ordinary people, and diverse luminaries from past and present who inspire her and us. Full of words of encouragement, solace, and hope, this collection offers a message of peace and empathy.

Voices in the Air focuses on the inspirational people who strengthen and motivate us to create, to open our hearts, and to live rewarding and graceful lives. With short informational bios about the influential figures behind each poem, and a transcendent introduction by the poet, this is a collection to cherish, read again and again, and share with others.

Between Two Kingdoms:
A Memoir of a Life Interrupted
By Suleika Jaouad



In the summer after graduating from college, Suleika Jaouad was preparing, as they say in commencement speeches, to enter “the real world.” She had fallen in love and moved to Paris to pursue her dream of becoming a war correspondent. The real world she found, however, would take her into a very different kind of conflict zone.

It started with an itch—first on her feet, then up her legs, like a thousand invisible mosquito bites. Next came the exhaustion, and the six-hour naps that only deepened her fatigue. Then a trip to the doctor and, a few weeks shy of her twenty-third birthday, a diagnosis: leukemia, with a 35 percent chance of survival. Just like that, the life she had imagined for herself had gone up in flames. By the time Jaouad flew home to New York, she had lost her job, her apartment, and her independence. She would spend much of the next four years in a hospital bed, fighting for her life and chronicling the saga in a column for *The New York Times*.

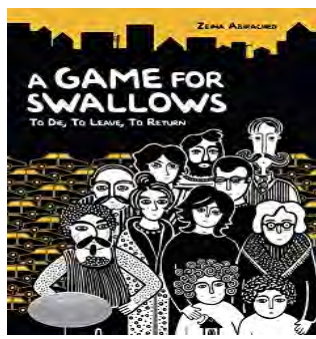
When Jaouad finally walked out of the cancer ward—after countless rounds of chemo, a clinical trial, and a bone marrow transplant—she was, according to the doctors, cured. But as she would soon learn, a cure is not where the work of healing ends; it’s where it begins. She had spent the past 1,500 days in desperate pursuit of one goal—to survive. And now that she’d done so, she realized that she had no idea how to live.

How would she reenter the world and live again? How could she reclaim what had been lost? Jaouad embarked—with her new best friend, Oscar, a scruffy terrier mutt—on a 100-day, 15,000-mile road trip across the country. She set out to meet some of the strangers who had written to her during her years in the hospital: a teenage girl in Florida also recovering from cancer; a teacher in California grieving the death of her son; a death-row inmate in Texas who’d spent his own years confined to a room. What she learned on this trip is that the divide between sick and well is porous, that the vast majority of us will travel back and forth between these realms throughout our lives. *Between Two Kingdoms* is a profound chronicle of survivorship and a fierce, tender, and inspiring exploration of what it means to begin again.

Graphic Novels

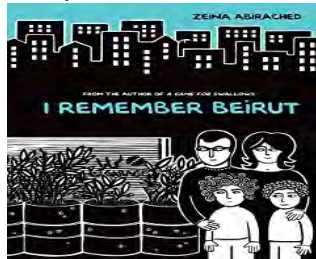
A Game for Swallows: To Die, To Leave, To Return
By Zeina Abirached

When Zeina was born, the civil war in Lebanon had been going on for six years, so it's just a normal part of life for her and her parents and little brother. The city of Beirut is cut in two, separated by bricks and sandbags and threatened by snipers and shelling. East Beirut is for Christians, and West Beirut is for Muslims. When Zeina's parents don't return one afternoon from a visit to the other half of the city



and the bombing grows ever closer, the neighbors in her apartment house create a world indoors for Zeina and her brother where it's comfy and safe, where they can share cooking lessons and games and gossip. Together they try to make it through a dramatic day in the one place they hoped they would always be safe—home.

I Remember Beirut
By Zeina Abirached



Abirached was born in Lebanon in 1981. She grew up in Beirut as fighting between Christians and Muslims divided the city streets. Follow her past cars riddled with bullet holes, into taxi cabs that travel where buses refuse to go, and on outings to collect shrapnel from the sidewalk.

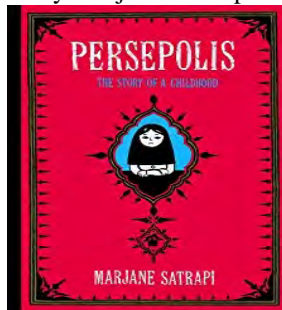
With striking black-and-white artwork, Abirached recalls the details of ordinary life inside a war zone.

Ms. Marvel series
By G. Willow Wilson



Marvel Comics presents the all-new Ms. Marvel, the groundbreaking heroine that has become an international sensation! Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City - until she is suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who truly is the all-new Ms. Marvel? Teenager? Muslim? Inhuman? Find out as she takes the Marvel Universe by storm! As Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them as well. Is Kamala ready to wield these immense new gifts? Or will the weight of the legacy before her be too much to handle? Kamala has no idea either. But she's comin' for you, New York! It's history in the making from acclaimed writer G. Willow Wilson (Air, Cairo) and beloved artist Adrian Alphona (Runaways)!

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood
By Marjane Satrapi




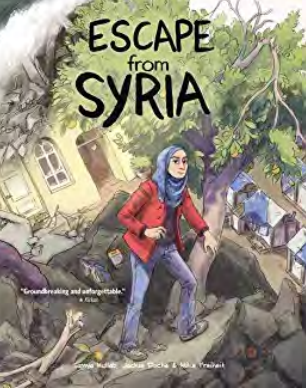
Wise, funny, and heartbreaking, *Persepolis* is Marjane Satrapi's bestselling graphic memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.

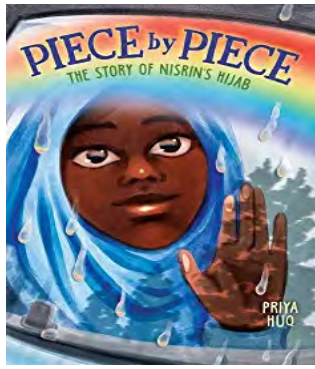
In powerful black-and-white comic strip images, Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq. The intelligent and outspoken only child of committed Marxists and the great-granddaughter of one of Iran's last emperors, Marjane bears witness to a childhood uniquely entwined with the history of her country.

Persepolis paints an unforgettable portrait of daily life in Iran and of the bewildering contradictions between home life and public life. Marjane's child's-

	<p>eye view of dethroned emperors, state-sanctioned whippings, and heroes of the revolution allows us to learn as she does the history of this fascinating country and of her own extraordinary family. Intensely personal, profoundly political, and wholly original, <i>Persepolis</i> at once a story of growing up and a reminder of the human cost of war and political repression. It shows how we carry on, with laughter and tears, in the face of absurdity. And, finally, it introduces us to an irresistible little girl with whom we cannot help but fall in love.</p>
<p>Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return By Marjane Satrapi</p> 	<p>In the best-selling <i>Persepolis</i>, heralded by the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> as “one of the freshest and most original memoirs of our day,” Marjane Satrapi dazzled us with her heartrending graphic memoir about growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. Here is the continuation of her fascinating story.</p> <p>In 1984, Marjane flees fundamentalism and the war with Iraq to begin a new life in Vienna. Once there, she faces the trials of adolescence far from her friends and family, and while she soon carves out a place for herself among a group of fellow outsiders, she continues to struggle for a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Finding that she misses her home more than she can stand, Marjane returns to Iran after graduation. Her difficult homecoming forces her to confront the changes both she and her country have undergone in her absence and her shame at what she perceives as her failure in Austria. Marjane allows her past to weigh heavily on her until she finds some like-minded friends, falls in love, and begins studying art at a university. However, the repression and statesanctioned chauvinism eventually lead her to question whether she can have a future in Iran.</p> <p>As funny and poignant as its predecessor, <i>Persepolis 2</i> is another clear-eyed and searing condemnation of the human cost of fundamentalism. In its depiction of the struggles of growing up—here compounded by Marjane’s status as an outsider both abroad and at home—it is raw, honest, and incredibly illuminating.</p>
<p>I Was Their American Dream: A Graphic Memoir By Malaka Gharib</p> 	<p><i>I Was Their American Dream</i> is at once a coming-of-age story and a reminder of the thousands of immigrants who come to America in search for a better life for themselves and their children. The daughter of parents with unfulfilled dreams themselves, Malaka navigated her childhood chasing her parents’ ideals, learning to code-switch between her family’s Filipino and Egyptian customs, adapting to white culture to fit in, crushing on skater boys, and trying to understand the tension between holding onto cultural values and trying to be an all-American kid.</p> <p>Malaka Gharib’s triumphant graphic memoir brings to life her teenage antics and illuminates earnest questions about identity and culture, while providing thoughtful insight into the lives of modern immigrants and the generation of millennial children they raised. Malaka’s story is a heartfelt tribute to the American immigrants who have invested their future in the promise of the American dream.</p>
<p>The Kite Runner: Graphic Novel By Khaled Hosseini</p>	<p>Since its publication in 2003, nearly 7 million readers have discovered <i>The Kite Runner</i>. Through Khaled Hosseini’s brilliant writing, a previously unknown part of the world was brought to vivid life for readers. Now, in this beautifully illustrated graphic novel adaptation, Hosseini brings his compelling story to a new generation of readers.</p>



	
<p>Escape from Syria By Samya Kullab</p> 	<p>From the pen of former <i>Daily Star</i> (Lebanon) reporter Samya Kullab comes this breathtaking and hard-hitting story of one family's struggle to survive in the face of war, displacement, poverty and relocation.</p> <p><i>Escape from Syria</i> is a fictionalized account that calls on real life circumstances and true tales of refugee families to serve as a microcosm of the Syrian uprising and the war and refugee crisis that followed. More than 22,000 copies of the book have sold to date and sadly there is no end in sight for the catastrophe in Syria. Knowing a personal story from behind the news helps young people to understand.</p> <p>The story spans six years in the lives of Walid, his wife Dalia, and their two children, Amina and Youssef. Forced to flee from Syria, they become asylum seekers in Lebanon, and finally resettled refugees in the West. It is a story that has been replayed thousands of times by other families.</p> <p>When the family home in Aleppo is destroyed by a government led bomb strike, Walid has no choice but to take his wife and children and flee their war-torn and much loved homeland. They struggle to survive in the wretched refugee camps of Lebanon, and when Youssef becomes very ill as a result of the poor hygienic conditions, his father is forced to take great personal risk to save his family.</p> <p>Walid's daughter, the young Amina, a whip-smart grade-A student, tells the story. As she witnesses firsthand the harsh realities that her family must endure if they are to survive—swindling smugglers, treacherous ocean crossings, and jihadist militias—she is forced to grow up very quickly in order to help her parents and brother.</p> <p>Kullab's narrative masterfully maps both the collapse and destruction of Syria, and the real life tragedies faced by its citizens still today. The family's escape from their homeland makes for a harrowing tale, but with their safe arrival in the West it serves as a hopeful endnote to this ongoing worldwide crisis.</p>
<p>Piece by Piece: The Story of Nisrin's Hijab By Priya Huq</p>	<p>In this middle-grade graphic novel, Nisrin will have to rely on faith, friends, and family to help her recover after she is the target of a hate crime</p> <p>Nisrin is a 13-year-old Bangladeshi-American girl living in Milwaukie, Oregon, in 2002. As she nears the end of eighth grade, she gives a presentation for World Culture Day about Bangladesh while wearing a traditional cultural dress. On her way home, she is the victim of a hate crime when a man violently attacks her for wearing a headscarf.</p> <p>Deeply traumatized by the experience, Nisrin spends the summer depressed and isolated. Other than weekly therapy, Nisrin doesn't leave the house until fall arrives and it's time for her to start freshman year at a new school. The night</p>



before class starts, Nisrin makes a decision. She tells her family she's going to start wearing a hijab, much to their dismay. Her mother and grandparent's shocked and angry reactions confuse her—but they only strengthen her resolve.

This choice puts Nisrin on a path to not only discover more about Islam, but also her family's complicated relationship with the religion, and the reasons they left Bangladesh in the first place. On top of everything else, she's struggling to fit in at school—her hijab makes her a target for students and faculty alike. But with the help from old friends and new, Nisrin is starting to figure out what really makes *her* happy. *Piece by Piece* is an original graphic novel about growing up and choosing your own path, even if it leads you to a different place than you expected.

A thief among the Trees:
An Ember in the Ashes
graphic novel
By Sabaa Tahir



Taking place years before the bestselling *An Ember in the Ashes* novel series, this standalone original graphic novel follows three young military recruits: Elias, Helene, and Tavi, during their brutal training as soldiers for the Martial Empire.

WITHIN THE EMPIRE THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS, ONLY ORDERS.

Elias, Helene and Tavi are Fivers-in training to become elite military recruits for the Martial Empire at Blackcliff Academy. When they're sent on a dangerous mission to steal a heavily-guarded poison on Isle South, they soon find themselves up against surprising enemies -- including other recruits. As the true horror of their assignment is revealed, these three will begin to confront the harrowing realities of Martial rule, their place in the system . . . and the choices they must make to survive.