

## **2025 – 2020 Social Action**

Selections may be from the 2025-2020 Reading lists if not included in previous reports, children and youth titles can be read for credit in all plans of the Reading Program

### **2025 Social Action**

#### **A Bigger Picture: My Fight to Bring a New African Voice to the Climate Crisis.**

Vanessa Nakate. Mariner Books 2021.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla Audio Book. 1 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. Unlimited Hoopla E Book. 6 print copies.

This book from leading climate justice activist Vanessa Nakate, founder of the Rise Up Movement and the Vash Green Schools Project, offers a new perspective on one of the biggest issues of our time. Nakate shares her story as a young Ugandan woman who sees that her community bears disproportionate consequences to the climate crisis. At the same time, she sees that activists from African nations and the Global South are not being heard in the same way as activists from White nations are heard. Inspired by Sweden's Greta Thunberg, in 2019 Nakate became Uganda's first Fridays for Future protestor, awakening to her personal power and summoning a commanding political voice.

### **2025 Social Action**

#### **Before the Streetlights Come On: Black America's Urgent Call for Climate Solutions**

Heather McTeer Toney. Broadleaf Books. 2023. 198p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Hoopla Audio Book. 1 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. Unlimited Electronic Hoopla E Book. 6 print copies.

From attorney, environmentalist, speaker, and writer Heather McTeer Toney comes this formidable call for climate change. Yet while it is a voter issue, an economy driver, and a defining dynamic for the foreseeable future, Toney argues that in Black communities, climate change is seen as less urgent when compared to other pressing issues, including police brutality, gun violence, job security, food insecurity, and the blatant racism faced daily around the country. But with Black Americans disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change, it is a central issue of racial justice and affects every aspect of life for Black communities.

### **2025 Social Action**

#### **The Darkness Manifesto: On Light Pollution, Night Ecology, and the Ancient Rhythms That Sustain Life**

Johan Eklof. Scribner 2023. 252p,

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 23 print copies. 2 copies audio discs.

In this well-researched book, Swedish conservationist Johan Eklöf urges readers to appreciate natural darkness, its creatures, and its unique benefits. He also reveals the startling domino effect of diminishing darkness: insects, dumbfounded by streetlamps, failing to reproduce; birds blinded and bewildered by artificial lights; and bats starving as they wait in vain for insects that only come out in the dark. For humans, light-induced sleep disturbances impact hormones and weight and can contribute to mental health problems. The street lamps, floodlights, and neon signs of cities are altering entire ecosystems. Translated by Elizabeth DeNoma.

## **2025 Social Action**

### **Our Missing Hearts: A novel**

Celeste Ng. Penguin Books. 2023.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 5 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 3 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. 1 24 print copies. 67 large print copies. 45 audio disc copies. 10 audio media player.

Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his father, a former linguist who now shelves books in a university library. His mother Margaret, a Chinese American poet, left without a trace when he was nine years old. He doesn't know what happened to her—only that her books have been banned— and he resents that she cared more about her work than about him. Then one day, Bird receives a mysterious letter containing only a cryptic drawing, and soon he is pulled into a quest to find her. Named a Best Book of 2022 by People, TIME Magazine, The Washington Post, USA Today, NPR, and more.

## **2025 Social Action**

### **Solito: A Memoir**

Javier Zamora. Hogarth. 2023. 388p. s

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 37 print copies.

Salvadoran poet Javier Zamora offers a memoir about his 3,000-mile journey from his small town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, and across the U.S. border to reunite with a mother who left four years ago and a father he barely remembers. Traveling alone amid a group of strangers and a “coyote” hired to lead them to safety, he expects his trip to last two short weeks. He cannot foresee the perilous boat trips, relentless desert treks, pointed guns, and arrests that await him; nor can he know those two weeks will expand into two life-altering months alongside fellow migrants who will come to encircle him like family. (Violence)

## **2025 Social Action**

### **The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row**

Anthony Ray Hinton. St. Martin's Griffin. 2019. 269p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla Audio Book. 2 Electronic Libby Audiobook, 4 audio media players. 43 print copies. 9 audio disc copies.

In 1985, Hinton was arrested and charged with two counts of capital murder in Alabama. Stunned, he knew it was a case of mistaken identity. But with no money and a different system of justice for a poor Black man in the South, Hinton was sentenced to death by electrocution. He spent his first three years on Death Row in agonizing despair and anger. But as Hinton realized and accepted his fate, he resolved not only to survive but find a way to live, becoming a beacon to his fellow inmates, 54 of whom were executed mere feet from his cell. Hinton won his release in 2015.

## **2025 Social Action**

### **Time: The Untold Story of the Love That Held Us Together When Incarceration Kept Us Apart**

Fox Richardson and Rob Richardson. Baker Books. 2023. 293p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

Fox and Robert Richardson endured 21 years as an incarcerated family. Together they have six sons and continue their advocacy for incarcerated families through Participatory Defense, which they founded with the vision of “changing lives and laws through love.” The Academy Award-nominated documentary “Time” introduced audiences to Fox and Rob, who riveted audiences with their relentless fight for each other and justice, despite America's broken prison system. (Profane language)

## **2025 Social Action**

### **Viral Justice: How We Grow the World We Want**

Ruha Benjamin. Princeton University Press. 2022. 373p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla E Book. 4 print copies.

Ruha Benjamin is a sociologist and a professor in the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University. The twin plagues of COVID-19 and anti-Black police violence inspired her to rethink the importance of small, individual actions. Part memoir, part manifesto, *Viral Justice* is a sweeping and deeply personal exploration of how we can transform society through the choices we make every day. Vividly recounting her personal experiences and those of her family, Benjamin shows how seemingly minor decisions and habits could spread virally and have exponentially positive effects.

## **2025 Social Action**

### **What We Owe the Future**

William Macaskill. Basic Books. 2023.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla Audio Book. 4 Electronic Libby Audiobook.

2 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. 23 print copies.

In this instant New York Times bestseller, renowned philosopher William MacAskill puts forth the case for longtermism: how positively influencing the distant future is our time's key moral priority. As MacAskill shares, it's not enough to reverse climate change or avert a pandemic. We must ensure that civilization would rebound if it collapsed; counter the end of moral progress; and prepare for a planet where the smartest beings are digital.

## **2025 Social Action – Youth**

### **I Rise**

Marie Arnold. Versify. 2022.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: Unlimited Electronic Hoopla E Book. 2 Electronic Libby Audiobook.

1 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. 23 print copies. Unlimited Electronic Hoopla Audio Book.

From Haitian-born children's author Marie Arnold comes what is a love letter to Harlem and hope. Fourteen-year-old Ayo has to decide whether to take on her mother's activist role when her mom is shot by police. As she tries to find answers, Ayo looks to the wisdom of her ancestors and her Harlem community for guidance. This impactful and unforgettable novel takes on the important issues of inequality, systemic racism, police violence, and social justice.

## **2025 Social Action – Youth**

### **The Sum of Us (Adapted for Young Readers): How Racism Hurts Everyone**

Heather McGhee. Yearling. 2024. Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 25 print copies.

The New York Times bestseller has been adapted for a new generation of young readers, leaders, thinkers, and activists, examining how racism affects and harms all of us and how we need to face it head-on, together. McGhee examines how damaging racism is, not only to people of color but also to white people. She offers hope and real solutions so all can prosper. An expert in economic policy, McGhee draws lessons both from her work at a think tank and from her travels around the country talking to everyday Americans fighting for a more just and inclusive society.

## **2025 Social Action – Youth**

### **This is Your Time**

Ruby Bridges. Delacorte Press. 2020.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 3 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 1 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook.  
38 print copies.

This New York Times bestseller and CBC Kids' Book Choice Award winner tells the tale of civil rights icon Ruby Bridges—who, at the age of six, was the first Black child to integrate into an all-white elementary school in New Orleans. Written as a letter from civil rights activist and icon Ruby Bridges to the reader, the book is both a recounting of Ruby's experience and an appeal to generations to come to effect change. Suitable for youth & children.

## **2025 Social Action – Youth**

### **Victory Stand! Raising My Fist for Justice**

Tommie Smith, Derrick Barnes, & Dawud Anyabwile. Norton Young Readers. 2022. 200p.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 Electronic Libby Audiobook. 2 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook.  
59 Print copies.

On October 16, 1968, during the medal ceremony at the Mexico City Olympics, Tommie Smith, the gold medal winner in the 200-meter sprint, and John Carlos, the bronze medal winner, raised their black-gloved fists to protest racial injustice inflicted upon African Americans. Both men were forced to leave the Olympics, received death threats, and faced ostracism and continuing economic hardships. In his first-ever memoir for young readers, Tommie Smith looks back on his childhood growing up in rural Texas through to his stellar athletic career, culminating in his historic victory and Olympic podium protest. Black-and-white illustrations throughout.

## **2025 Social Action – Children**

### **An Asian American A to Z: A Children's Guide to our History.**

Cathy Linh Che & Kyle Lucia Wu. Haymarket Books. 2023.

Written by the directors of Kundiman—an organization dedicated to nurturing Asian American writers—An Asian American A to Z is a book for children of all backgrounds and a vital resource for tomorrow's organizers. Co-authors Cathy Linh Che and Kyle Lucia Wu take us on a journey through stories of celebration and resistance: the Third World Liberation Front, the Muslim Ban, Japanese American incarceration camps, Padma Lakshmi, Rashida Tlaib, Sunisa Lee, and more. It is a history of struggle, but also one of great triumph, brought to life with colorful and dynamic illustrations.

## **2025 Social Action – Children**

### **Choosing Brave: How Mamie Till-Mobley and Emmett Till Sparked the Civil Rights Movement**

Angela Joy. Roaring Brook Press. 2022.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 2 Electronic Kindle, Libby EBook. 66 print copies.

This picture book biography of Mamie Till-Mobley, the mother of Emmett Till, helps young readers understand how she channeled grief over her son's death into a call to action for the civil rights movement. At age 14, Emmett Till was brutally murdered while visiting the South in 1955. His death became a rallying point for the civil rights movement, but few know that it was his mother who was the catalyst for bringing his name to the forefront of history. A thorough and moving story masterfully crafted to be both comprehensive and suitable for younger readers. (Violence)

## **2024 Social Action**

### **As Long as Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice, from Colonization to Standing Rock.**

Dina Gilio-Whitaker. Beacon Press. 2019.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 5 print copies.

Through the unique lens of “Indigenized environmental justice,” researcher and activist Dina Gilio-Whitaker explores the fraught history of treaty violations, struggles for food and water security, and protection of sacred sites, while highlighting the leadership of Indigenous women in this centuries-long struggle. *As Long As Grass Grows* gives readers a history of Indigenous resistance to government and corporate incursions on their lands and offers new approaches to environmental justice activism. This is the story of Native peoples’ resistance to environmental injustice and land incursions, and a call for environmentalists to learn from the Indigenous community’s rich history of activism.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Beating Guns: Hope for People Who are Weary of Violence.,**

Shaine Claiborne and Michael Martin. Brazos Press. 2019.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 14 print copies.

Bestselling author and activist Shane Claiborne and Michael Martin show why Christians should be concerned about gun violence and how they can be part of the solution. The authors transcend stale rhetoric about gun control to offer a creative and productive response. Full-color images show how guns are being turned into tools and musical instruments across the nation. Charts, tables, and facts convey the realities of gun violence in America, but as the authors make clear, there is a story behind every statistic. *Beating Guns* allows victims and perpetrators to tell their own compelling stories, offering hope for change.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **The Color of Compromise: The Truth About the American Church’s Complicity in Racism.**

Jemar Tisby. Zondervan. 2019.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 3 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 7 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 14 print copies.

*The Color of Compromise* is not a call to shame or a platform to blame White evangelical Christians. Rather, it is a call from a place of love and desire to fight for a more racially unified church that no longer compromises what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality, and a call that challenges Black and White Christians alike to stand up now and begin implementing change. Here, Tisby outlines concrete ways to bring about a more equitable and inclusive environment among God’s people—starting today.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Conditional Citizens: On Belonging in America.**

Laila Lalami. Pantheon. 2020.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1MP3, Overdrive Listen. 17 print copies.

What does it mean to be American? In this starkly illuminating and impassioned book, Pulitzer Prize Finalist Laila Lalami recounts her unlikely journey from Moroccan immigrant to U.S. citizen, using it as a starting point for her exploration of American rights, liberties, and protections. Tapping into history, politics, and literature, she elucidates how accidents of birth—such as national origin, race, and gender—that once determined the boundaries of Americanness still cast their shadows today. A *New York Times* Editors’ Choice, as well as a Best Book of the Year for *Time*, NPR, Bookpage, and *L.A. Times*.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Ecowomanism: African American Women and Earth-Honoring Faiths.**

Melanie L Harris. Orbis Books 2017.

Scholarship on African American history and culture has often neglected the tradition of African American women who engage in theological and religious reflection on their ethical and moral responsibility to care for the earth. But in *Ecowomanism*, Melanie Harris argues that African American women make distinctive contributions to the environmental justice movement in the ways that they theologize, theorize, practice spiritual activism, and come into religious understandings about our relationship with the earth. Incorporating elements of her family history to set the stage for her argument, Harris intersperses her academic reflections with her own personal stories and anecdotes.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side.**

Eve. L. Ewing. University of Chicago Press. 2018.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 MP3, Overdrive, Listen. 6 print copies.

Dr. Eve Louise Ewing is a sociologist whose research is focused on racism, social inequality, urban policy, and the impact of these forces on American public schools and young people. Here, Ewing takes a hard look at Chicago Public Schools. While people talk about them with a mix of pity and contempt, Ewing knows them from the inside: as a student, then a teacher, and now a scholar who studies them. That perspective has shown her public schools are not buildings full of failures but an integral part of their neighborhoods, at the heart of their communities, storehouses of history and memory that bring people together.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor.**

Layla Saad. Sourcebooks. 2020.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 64 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 18 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 3 Audio disc. 41 print copies. 4 Large print.

Awareness leads to action, and action leads to change. This eye-opening book challenges readers to do the essential work of unpacking biases, and helps White people take action and dismantle the privilege within themselves to stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on people of color, and in turn, help other White people do better, too. Based on the viral Instagram challenge that captivated participants worldwide, *Me and White Supremacy* takes readers on a 28-day journey, complete with journal prompts, to do the necessary and vital work that can ultimately lead to improving race relations.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **The Nickel Boys.**

Colson Whitehead. Doubleday. 2019.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 6 Audio media player. 74 print copies. 29 Audio disc. 21 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle.

When Elwood Curtis, a Black boy in 1960s Tallahassee, is unfairly sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called the Nickel Academy, he finds himself trapped in a chamber of horrors. Elwood's only salvation is his friendship with fellow "delinquent" Turner, which deepens despite Turner's conviction that Elwood is hopelessly naive, the world is crooked, and the only way to survive is to scheme and avoid trouble. Based on the real story of a reform school that operated for 111 years and warped the lives of thousands, *The Nickel Boys* dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys unjustly sentenced.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **The Rage of Innocence: How American Criminalizes Black Youth.**

Kristin Henning. Pantheon. 2021.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 29 print copies.

Drawing upon 25 years of representing Black youth in Washington, D.C.'s juvenile courts, Henning confronts America's irrational, manufactured fears of these young people and makes a powerfully compelling case that the crisis in racist American policing begins with its relationship to Black children. Henning explains how discriminatory, aggressive policing has socialized a generation of Black teenagers to fear, resent, and resist police, and she details the long-term consequences of racism that they experience at the hands of police and their vigilante surrogates. Unlike White youth, Black youth are seen as a threat and are denied healthy adolescent development.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World.**

Katharine Hayhoe, Atria/One Signal Publishers. 2021.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 2 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 2 Audio disc. 12 print copies. 2 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle

In *Saving Us*, Canadian climate scientist Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action. This is not another doomsday narrative about a planet on fire. It is a multilayered look at science, faith, and human psychology from an icon in her field—recently named chief scientist at The Nature Conservancy. Drawing on interdisciplinary research and personal stories, Hayhoe shows that small conversations can have astonishing results.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone.**

Heather McGhee. One World. 2021.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 59 print copies.

Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it often fails the American public. From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a root problem: racism in politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for White people, too. McGhee embarks on a journey across the country from Maine to Mississippi to California, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm—the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Until I am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America.**

Keisha N Blain. Beacon Press. 2021.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 2 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 1 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 20 print copies.

Award-winning historian and bestselling author Blain situates Fannie Lou Hamer as a key political thinker alongside leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and Rosa Parks and demonstrates how her ideas remain salient for a new generation of activists committed to dismantling systems of oppression. Despite her limited material resources and the myriad challenges she endured as a Black woman living in poverty in Mississippi, Hamer committed herself to making a difference in the lives of others. A blend of social commentary, biography, and intellectual history, the book is a manifesto for anyone committed to social justice.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Willful Defiance: The Movement to Dismantle the School-To-Prison Pipeline,**

Mark Warren. Oxford University Press. 2021.

In *Willful Defiance*, Warren—professor of public policy and public affairs at the University of Massachusetts Boston—documents how Black and Brown parents, students, and low-income communities of color organized to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline in their local schools and built an intersectional movement that spread across the country. Examining organizing processes in Mississippi, Los Angeles, Chicago, and other localities, he shows how relatively small groups of community members built the power to win policy changes to reduce suspensions and expulsions by combining deep local organizing with resources from the national movement.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Echoes of Grace**

Guadalupe Garcia McCall. TU Books. 2022. Youth.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 2 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 23 print copies.

This triumphant new novel explores sisterhood, family secrets, intergenerational trauma, life, and love in a modern Gothic setting with a magical realist twist. In Eagle Pass, Texas, Grace struggles to understand the echoes she inherited from her mother's visions, which often distort her reality. One morning, a disturbing echo takes hold of Grace, and tragedy strikes. As Grace's echoes bring ghosts and premonitions, they also bring memories of when Grace fled to Mexico to the house of her maternal grandmother—a woman who Grace had been told died long ago. Will piecing together the truth heal her, or will the echoes destroy everything she holds dear?

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Running.**

Natalia Sylvester. Clarion Books. 2020. Youth.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 2 HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle. 21 print copies.

When 15-year-old Cuban American Mariana Ruiz's father runs for president, Mari starts to see him with new eyes. In this debut novel about privacy, waking up, and speaking up, her father's presidential campaign brings a new level of scrutiny to sheltered Mariana and the rest of her family, from a 60 Minutes-style tour of their house to tabloids doctoring photos and inventing scandals. As tensions rise within the Ruiz family, Mari realizes her father is not the man she thought he was. But how do you find your voice when everyone's watching?



## **2024 Social Action**

### **Kids Fight Climate Change: Act Now to be a #2minutesuperhero.**

Martin Dorey. Candlewick Press. 2022. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 6 print copies

Our planet is in trouble! But with the help of this book, every kid can be a superhero making a difference. Sixty engaging missions guide readers through making carbon-saving changes in all aspects of their lives, from gardening to gadgets—even a do-it-yourself water-saving device for their toilet tank. Aided by lively illustrations, the author weaves crucial climate statistics and helpful resources with stories of positive change already happening, such as the resurgence of the Eurasian beaver due to conservation efforts. Along the way, readers meet other superheroes, both animal and human, who are changing the world, too.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **Saving American Beach: The Biography of African American Environmentalist Mavynee Betsch.**

Heidi Tyline King. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books For Young Readers. 2021. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 25 print copies.

This heartfelt biography tells the story of MaVynee Betsch, an African American opera singer turned environmentalist and the legacy she preserved. Betsch loved going to the beach. But in the days of Jim Crow, most of the beaches in Jacksonville were for Whites only. Her grandfather bought a beach that African American families could enjoy without being reminded they were second class citizens; he called it American Beach. After the beach fell into disrepair, Betsch remembered the importance of American Beach and began her second act as a conservationist, ultimately saving the place that always felt most like home.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **We Are Water Protectors.**

Carole Lindstrom. Roaring Brook Press. 2020. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 1 HTML, Kindle. 105 print copies.

Winner of the 2021 Caldecott Medal and a number-one New York Times bestseller, *We Are Water Protectors* issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption. Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, it is a bold and lyrical picture book written by Carole Lindstrom and vibrantly illustrated by Michaela Goade about one young water protector who takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource.

## **2024 Social Action**

### **You Have a Voice.**

Vera Ahyya. Hightree Publishing. 2022. Children.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet: 1 print copy.

Inspired by Ahyya's viral video that has been viewed by millions comes her powerful debut children's book, *You Have a Voice*. The book celebrates the power every child naturally holds in using their voice to make change for good—and empowers both children and grown-ups to use their voice in the world.

### 2023 Social Action

***Black Was the Ink – Novel.*** Michelle Coles with illustrations by Justin Johnson. TU Books. 2021. After escalating violence in his D.C. neighborhood, 16-year-old Malcolm is shipped off by his mother to his father’s family farm in Mississippi. Malcolm is anything but pleased. Then he encounters the ghost of his ancestor, Cedric Johnson, and journeys to 1866. As Cedric, Malcolm meets the real-life Black statesmen who fought for change during the Reconstruction era and made American history. But even after witnessing their bravery, Malcolm’s faith in his own future remains shaky, particularly since he knows the gains these statesmen made were almost immediately stripped away. Malcolm must decide which path to take. Can Cedric’s experiences help him construct a better future? Or will Malcolm resign himself to resentments and defeat? Suitable for youth.  
Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 3 HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle. 28 print copies.

### 2023 Social Action

***Bright Star (Lucero).*** Yuyi Morales. Neal Porter Books. 2021. With a combination of powerful, spare language and sumptuous, complex imagery, New York Times bestselling author Yuyi Morales weaves the tale of a fawn making her way through the Sonoran Desert, a landscape that is dangerous, beautiful—and full of potential. A gentle voice urges her onward, to face her fears and challenge the obstacles that seek to hold her back. With a voice full of calm, contemplative wisdom, readers are invited to listen and observe, to accept themselves, and to dare to shout. Suitable for children.  
Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 3 HTML, Kindle. 34 print copies. 3 book on CD.

### 2023 Social Action – Bonus book – counts 2 books Social Action

***Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents.*** Isabel Wilkerson. Random House. 2020. In this brilliant book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more. Using riveting stories about people—including Martin Luther King Jr.—she shows the ways the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day, ultimately pointing to ways America can move beyond the artificial and destructive separations of human divisions toward hope.  
Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 2 HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle. 1 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 28 book on CD. 137 print copies.

### 2023 Social Action

***Cousins: Connected Through Slavery, A Black Woman and A White Woman Discover Their Past – And Each Other.*** Betty Kilby Baldwin and Phoebe Kilby. Walnut Street Books. 2021. What happens when a White woman, Phoebe, contacts a Black woman, Betty, saying she suspects they are connected through slavery? Revealed to be cousins, they commit to a path of reconciliation. In alternating chapters, each tells her dramatic story, from Betty’s experience as one of the first Black children to attend her desegregated school to Phoebe’s eventual question to Betty: “How do I begin to repair the harms?” Piercingly honest, the book includes a working reparations project that the women conceived together.  
Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 1 print copy.

### **2023 Social Action**

***The Four Winds – Novel.*** Kristin Hannah. St. Martin's Press. 2021.

Bestselling author Kristin Hannah delivers a powerful epic about love, heroism and hope during the Great Depression, when millions were out of work and even the land seemed to have turned against them. Centered on Elsa Wolcott, married to a Great Plains farmer whose land is ravaged by dust storms and drought, each day has become a desperate battle against nature and a fight to keep her children alive. Elsa must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or leave it behind and go west in search of a better life for her family. *The Four Winds* is a rich, sweeping novel that stunningly brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived through it—the harsh realities that divided us as a nation and the enduring battle between the haves and have-nots.

Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 57 MP3, Overdrive Listen. 211 HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle. 51 . 19 Self-playing digital audio book. 140 print copies.

### **2023 Social Action**

***The Green New Deal.*** Jeremy Rifkin. St. Martin's Press. 2019.

With 25 years of experience at the forefront of enacting green transitions for both the European Union and the People's Republic of China, New York Times bestselling author and renowned economic and social theorist Jeremy Rifkin offers his indispensable wisdom in a blueprint for how to transform the global economy and save life on earth. This book offers an urgent, workable plan to confront climate change and transform America's economy for a post-fossil fuel world.

Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 9 print copies.

### **2023 Social Action**

***The New American: A Novel.*** Micheline Aharonian Marcom. Simon & Schuster. 2020.

Inspired in part by interviews with Central American refugees, and told in lyrical prose, Micheline Aharonian Marcom weaves a heart-pounding and heartbreaking tale of one young man who risks so much to go home. One day, Emilio learns a shocking secret: he is undocumented. His parents, who emigrated from Guatemala to California, had never told him. When the young Guatemalan American college student gets into a car accident he is soon deported to Guatemala. Determined to get back to California, the only home he has ever known, Emilio makes an epic journey across thousands of miles and eventually the Sonoran Desert and the U.S.-Mexico border, meeting thieves and corrupt law enforcement but also kind strangers and new friends.

Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 1 Book on CD. 17 print copies.

### **2023 Social Action**

***Nibi's Water Song.*** Sunshine Tenasco and Illustrated by Chief Lady Bird. Lee & Low Books. 2021.

This bright and vivacious book from two Indigenous creators celebrates the energy, moxie, and determination of water activists of all ages. When Nibi, an Indigenous girl, turns the tap in her house, only mucky brown water comes out. That starts her on a search for clean water to drink. Though she must face polluted rivers, unfriendly neighbors, and discouragement, Nibi's joyful energy becomes a catalyst for change and action as her community rallies around her to make clean drinking water available for all. Suitable for children.

Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 12 print copies.

### **2023 Social Action**

***What Can I do?: My Path From Climate Despair to Action.*** Jane Fonda. Penguin Books. 2021.

In 2019, daunted by the looming disaster of climate change and inspired by Greta Thunberg, Naomi Klein, and student climate strikers, activist Jane Fonda asked herself one question: What can I do? She moved to Washington, D.C., and teamed up with Greenpeace, leading climate scientists, and community organizers not only to understand what's at stake, but to equip all of us with the education and tools we need to join her in protest. What Can I Do? isn't a wish list but a to-do list, urging us to wake up and take action.

Wayne Co. Library Clevnet – 32 print copies

### **2022 Social Action**

***The Girl with Seven Names: Escape from North Korea.*** Hyeonseo Lee with David John. William Collins. 2015.

Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal totalitarian regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom. This is the unique story not only of Hyeonseo's escape from the darkness in North Korea, into the light, but also of her coming of age, education and the resolve she found to rebuild her life – not once, but twice – first in China, then in South Korea. Strong, brave and eloquent, this memoir is a triumph of her remarkable spirit.

Wayne Co. Public Clevnet – 12 Print copies.

### **2022 Social Action**

***The Leavers: A Novel.*** Lisa Ko. Algonquin Books. 2017.

"One morning, Deming Guo's mother, an undocumented Chinese immigrant named Polly, goes to her job at the nail salon and never comes home. With his mother gone, eleven-year-old Deming is left with no one to care for him. He is eventually adopted by two white college professors who move him from the Bronx to a small town upstate. Set in New York and China, the Leavers is the story of how one boy comes into his own when everything he's loved has been taken away--and how a mother learns to live with the mistakes of her past"--

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 2 Electronic Format: MP3, Overdrive Listen. 4 Audiobook CD. 7 Largeprint. 55 Print copies. 1 Pre-loaded Audiobook. 1 Electronic Format: HTML Adobe EPUB, Kindle.

### **2022 Social Action**

***Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God.*** Kaitlin B. Curtice. Bravos Press. 2020.

Native is about identity, soul-searching, and the never-ending journey of finding ourselves and finding God. As both a citizen of the Potawatomi Nation and a Christian, Kaitlin Curtice offers a unique perspective on these topics. In this book, she shows how reconnecting with her Potawatomi identity both informs and challenges her faith.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 1 Print copy. 2 Electronic Format: HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle.

### **2022 Social Action**

***Separated by the Border: A Birth Mother, a Foster Mother, and a Migrant Child's 3,00-Mile Journey.*** Gena Thomas. IVP Books 2019.

Weaving together the stories of birth mother and foster mother, this book shows the human face of the immigrant and refugee, the challenges of the immigration and foster care systems, and the tenacious power of motherly love.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 3 Print copies.

## 2022 Social Action

***Small Great Things: A Novel.*** Jodi Picoult. Ballantine Books 2018.

Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with more than twenty years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned to another patient. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African American, to touch their child. The hospital complies with their request, but the next day, the baby goes into cardiac distress while Ruth is alone in the nursery. Does she obey orders or does she intervene?

Jodi Picoult tackles race, privilege, prejudice, justice, and compassion—and doesn't offer easy answers.

Wayne Co. library clevnet - 62 Electronic Format: HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle. 33 Electronic Format: MP3, Overdrive Listen. 58 Largeprint. 10 Pre-loaded Audiobook. 51 Audiobook CD 123 Print copies

## 2022 Social Action

***Tomatoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit.*** Barry Estabrook. McMeel. 2011.

James Beard Award-winning journalist Barry Estabrook presents the history of the modern tomato industry--a suspenseful whodunit as well as an exposé of America's agribusiness systems.

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 12 Print copies. 2 Audiobook CD. Electronic Format: HTML, Adobe EPUB, Kindle.

## 2022 Social Action

***She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World.*** Chelsea Clinton; Illustrated by Alexandra Boiger. Philomel Books. 2017.

"A nonfiction picture book compilation of the stories of 13 American women who persisted in overcoming obstacles and changing the world"

Wayne Co. Library clevnet – 79 Print copies. 3 Audiobook CD. 2 Pre-loaded Audiobook

## 2021 Social Action

***Crocodile's Crossing: A Search for Home.*** Yoeri Slegers. Flyaway Books 2020. Picture book.

Crocodile is tired, scared and hopeful as he searches for his new home. "Everything will be better where I'm going!" he thinks. Featuring bright artwork, this thoughtful tale sensitively introduces children to the complex topic of immigration and portrays the challenges faced by refugees and other newcomers.

Prejudices – Juvenile fiction Wayne County Library Clevnet – 2 print copies.

## 2021 Social Action

***Ferguson and Faith: Sparkling Leadership and Awakening Community.*** Leah Gunning Francis. Chalice Press. 2015.

The shooting death of Michael Brown reignited a long-smoldering movement for justice, with many St. Louis-area clergy stepping up to support the young leaders of today's civil rights movement.

Seminary professor Leah Gunning Francis was among the activists. Her interviews with more than two dozen faith leaders and organizers demonstrate that being called to lead a faithful life can take us to places we never expected to go.

### **2021 Social Action**

***For Such a Time As This: Hope and Forgiveness After the Charleston Massacre.*** Rev. Sharon Risher with Sherri Wood Emmons. Chalice Press. 2019.

Plunged into the depths of mourning, anger and shock, the Reverend Sharon Risher could have wallowed in the pain of losing her mother and two cousins at the hands of a white supremacist during the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church massacre. Instead, she chose the path of forgiveness and hope—eventually forgiving the convicted killer for his crime.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 9 print copies

### **2021 Social Action**

***Girl Gone Missing: A Cash Blackbear Mystery.*** Marci R. Rendon. Cinco Puntos Press. 2019.

Nineteen-year-old Anishinabe woman Renee “Cash” Blackbear hears about a blonde girl in her English class who has gone missing. And then another. She begins to dream about blonde girls calling for help; they’re in Minneapolis. She’s never been far from the Red River and she’s never heard of white slavery. Then, suddenly, she’s locked inside a room with the lost girls. She needs to find a way out.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 9 print copies.

### **2021 Social Action**

***No Justice: One White Police Officer, One Black Family, and How one Bullet Ripped Us Apart.***

Robbie Tolan and Lawrence Ross. Center Street. 2018.

A white police officer shot a young black man named Robbie Tolan in the chest, right in his own driveway. It was a mistake, and yet no one was willing to take responsibility. How do you pick up the pieces of your life when society and the legal system let you down? In a journey that took nearly a decade, Robbie was held together by the strength of his parents, his faith in God, and an impenetrable belief that he deserved justice like any other American.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 7 print copies.

### **2021 Social Action**

***Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin.*** Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin. Penguin Random House. 2017.

Trayvon Martin has become a symbol of social justice activism, as has his hauntingly familiar image: the photo of a child wearing a hoodie and gazing silently at the camera. But who was Trayvon before he became an icon? And how did one black child’s death in a small Florida town become the match that lit a civil rights crusade? Trayvon’s parents take readers beyond the news cycle with an account only they could give. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 3 Audiobook CD.

39 print copies.

### **2021 Social Action**

***Women Rise Up: Sacred Stories of Resistance For Today’s Revolution.*** Katey Zeh. The Far Press. 2019.

Hannah struggled with depression over her infertility. Mary Magdalene witnessed the execution of her friend. Ruth was an undocumented migrant worker at risk of sexual violence. And yet, these women discovered powerful ways to resist by claiming the power of their innate sacred worth. What can we learn from these foremothers of our faith that will help guide us in our collective struggle for gender justice today?

**2020 Social Action – Bonus Book [two books in Social Action]**

***So You Want to Talk About Race.*** Ijeoma Oluo. Seal Press. 2018.

Widespread reporting on white supremacy has made it impossible to ignore the issue of race. Still, it is a difficult subject to talk about. Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to “model minorities” in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism and how they infect almost every aspect of American life. Intercultural communication.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 76 print copies.

3 Audiobook CD. 36 ebook [Adobe EPub, HTML, Kindle]. 2 Pre-loaded Audiobook.

**2020 Social Action**

***A Cage Without Bars.*** Anne Dublin. Second Story Press. 2018. 121 p.

It is 1492 and Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain have signed the Edict of Expulsion, giving Jews three months to leave the country. After escaping to Portugal with their parents, 12-year-old Joseph and his sister Gracia, along with hundreds of other Jewish children, are kidnapped and enslaved on an island off the coast of West Africa, where they are forcibly baptized and made to work on a sugar plantation. Joseph holds to the hope that one day he will be free.

Historical – Juvenile fiction. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 1 print copy

**2020 Social Action**

***The Fig Tree Revolution: Unleashing Local Churches Into the Mission of Justice.*** Bill Mefford.

Cascade Books. 2017.

This inspirational book has practical steps to mobilize believers in grassroots efforts and help local churches engage in the transformative work of justice. The locus of God’s change is through believers immersed in relationships with those impacted by injustice. Based on the first four chapters of Esther and drawn from real stories of people creating change.

Wayne County Library Clevnet– 1 print.

**2020 Social Action**

***Immigration and Justice for Our Neighbors.*** Jennifer Clark and Miriam Downey Editors. Celery City Books. 2017.

This is an anthology of poems, essays, and short stories based on the immigrant experience.

**2020 Social Action**

***Loaded: A Disarming History of the Second Amendment.*** Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. City Lights Books. 2019.

This is a deeply researched—and deeply disturbing—history of guns and gun laws in the United States. As historian and educator Dunbar-Ortiz explains, in order to understand the current obstacles to gun control, we must understand the history of U.S. guns, from their role in the “settling of America” to the present. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 11 print copies.

1 ebook [Adobe EPub, HTML, Kindle].

### **2020 Social Action**

***Holding Up Your Corner: Talking About Race In Your Community.*** E. Willis Johnson. Abingdon Press. 2017.

This book equips church leaders to respond to crises with confidence, lower their inhibitions about addressing race, and transform their communities by reclaiming their authority as prophetic witnesses and leaders. The practical, foundational guidance will prompt readers to observe, identify and name the complex causes of violence and hatred in their communities. Become part of God's work in the world by learning to use:

- Testimony and other narrative devices
- Proclamation
- Guided group conversations

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 1 print. 1 ebook [HTML, Adobe EPub, Kindle]

### **2020 Social Action**

***Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School.*** Janet Halfmann and London Ladd, Illustrator. Lee & Low Books. 2018.

In 19th century Mississippi, it was illegal for enslaved people to learn to read and write. But this did not stop Lilly Ann Granderson, an enslaved person who started a midnight school and taught hundreds of her peers to do so. Many shared their knowledge and others forged passes to escape to freedom. Based on a true story, *Midnight Teacher* is an inspiring testament to a little-known pioneer in education.

Educators - Biography – Juvenile literature Wayne County Library Clevnet – 23 print copies.

### **2020 Social Action**

***Six By Ten: Stories From Solitary.*** Taylor Pendergrass and Mateo Koke, Editors. HayMarket Books. 2018. An estimated 80,000 Americans are held in solitary confinement across the country, often in cells no bigger than six by ten feet, with 24 hours per day of little or no meaningful human contact. This book shares first-person narratives of prisoners, family members, and corrections officers and explores the mental, physical and spiritual impacts of America's widespread embrace of this punishment.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 2 print copies

### **2020 Social Action**

***Storming the Wall Climate Change, Migration and Homeland Security.*** Todd Miller. City Lights Books. 2017.

This book connects the dots between climate-ravaged communities, the corporations cashing in on border militarization, and emerging movements for environmental justice and sustainability. Reporting from the flashpoints of climate clashes and from likely sites of future battles, Miller chronicles a growing system of militarized divisions. Stories of crisis, greed and violence are juxtaposed with powerful examples of solidarity and hope in this urgent and timely message. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 3 print copies.

### **2020 Social Action**

***They Will Inherit the Earth: Peace and Nonviolence in a Time of Climate Change.*** John Dear. Orbis Books. 2018.

At his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus makes the connection between our practice of nonviolence and our unity with creation. From that, this book extrapolates that our rejection of nonviolence is inevitably linked to the catastrophic effects of climate change and environmental ruin. These personal stories of John Dear's life and work invite us to return to nonviolence as a way of life and a living solidarity with earth and its creatures.



### **2020 Social Action**

***The Water Walker.*** Joanne Robertson. Second Story Press. 2017. Picture book.

An Ojibwe grandmother (nokomis) loves nibi (water). Nokomis walks to raise awareness of our need to protect nibi for future generations and for all life on the planet. She and others have walked around all the Great Lakes from the four salt waters, or oceans, to Lake Superior. The walks are full of challenges, and by her example she challenges us to take responsibility for protecting our water and to protect our planet for all generations.

Water conservation – Juvenile literature. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 10 print copies.

### **2020 Social Action**

***We Kiss Them With Rain.*** Futhi Ntshingila. Catalyst Press. 2018. 48p. Picture book.

Life wasn't always this hard for 14-year-old Mvelo. There were good times living with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. Now her mother is dying of AIDS, and what happened to Mvelo is the elephant in the room. In this modern-day Shakespeare-style comedy set in a squatter camp outside Durban, South Africa, appearances are a façade and the things that are revealed provide Mvelo with a golden opportunity to change her fate. Teenagers – Juvenile fiction.

Wayne County Library Clevnet – 4 print copies.

### **2020 Social Action**

***What Comes With the Dust.*** Gharbi M Mustafa. Arcade Publishing 2018.

This slim, profound novel illuminates the plight of those living under the Islamic State as well as the spirit of the Yazidi people—similar to how *The Kite Runner* and *The Swallows of Kabul* shed light on the Taliban regime. It tells the story of Yazidi women Nazo and Soz as they fight to survive.

Fiction. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 4 print copies

### **2020 Social Action**

***Where Will I Live?*** Rosemary McCarney. Second Story Press. 2017. Pictorial work.

This stunning photo essay with images from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees examines the thousands of children around the world who have been forced to flee war, terror, hunger and natural disasters. The images will help unaffected children understand not only what this must feel like but also how very lucky they are. The final message is that children, even with uncertain futures, are resilient and can face uncertainty with optimism.

Elementary reading - Refuge children Wayne County Library Clevnet – 9 print copies.

### **2020 Social Action**

***Who Lynched Willie Earle? Preaching to Confront Racism.*** William H. Willimon. Abingdon Press. 2017.

How do white, Protestant pastors preach effectively on racial violence and disease? How do you address crucial contemporary social crises when it's simply not possible to relate to black pain? This true story of pastor Hawley Lynn's 1947 sermon, a response to the last lynching in Greenville, South Carolina, will help pastors preach on race and violence in America, inviting and challenging the church to respond. Wayne County Library Clevnet – 2 print.