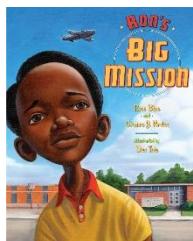
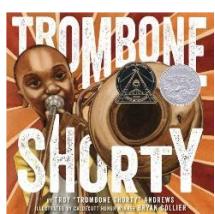


HRS Library Recommendations February 25, 2021

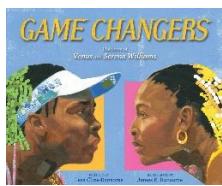
Primary, Grades 1-3:



Ron's Big Mission, by Rose Blue: Nine-year-old Ron McNair loved looking at books in his local library but, because of segregationist laws in his town, he couldn't get a library card to take them home. One summer day in 1959, Ron stood up to these racist rules. An author's note at the end explains that Ron wasn't just any child—he grew up to become a renowned astronaut and the second African American to fly in space! This story shows us how the actions of one person can make a big impact in their community.

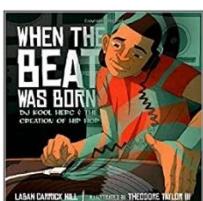


Trombone Shorty, by Troy Andrews*: If you or your student loves music, be sure to check out this amazing book! Troy Andrews (better known as Trombone Shorty) shares details from his own childhood, his discovery of music, and his journey to fame. Lyrical storytelling and bright, engaging images will carry you straight into the New Orleans streets. This book is available in the library as well as on the Epic website, where you can hear Trombone Shorty read the story and play his music!



Game Changers, by Lesa Cline-Ransome: This beautiful story explores the early lives of tennis legends Venus and Serena Williams, and it focuses on the incredible bond between sisters. The use of mixed media artwork provides eye-catching detail on every page, and the accomplishments of these two women will leave your student feeling inspired.

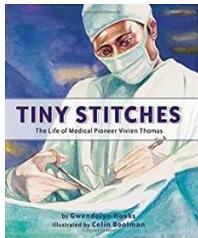
Intermediate, Grades 4-5:



When the Beat Was Born, by Laban Carrick Hill: "Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc." In this engaging biography, follow Clive Campbell from his hometown in Kingston, Jamaica, to DJ gigs in The Bronx, and into the universe of Hip Hop as one boy uses his love of music to inspire the world. Music lovers of all ages will enjoy this book!

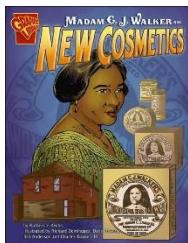


She Loved Baseball, by Audrey Vernick: This book follows the incredible story of Effa Manley, a baseball team owner, civil rights activist, and the only woman to ever be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Her determination amidst racism and sexism makes for a truly inspiring read. Note: this book uses the term negro in its historical context and in reference to the baseball leagues at that time. Family discussion of the history of this word's usage may be helpful before reading.

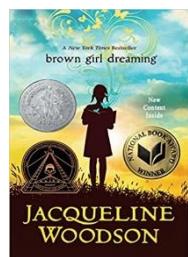


Tiny Stitches, by Gwendolyn Hooks*: Vivien Thomas had dreams of medical school, but when he lost his savings amidst the Great Depression, he had to find other ways to pursue his goals. This incredible story details his journey, and how he helped develop a procedure used in the first ever open-heart surgery on a child.

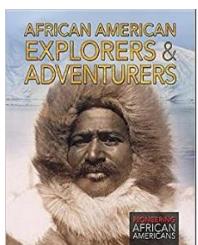
Middle School, Grades 6-8:



Madam CJ Walker and New Cosmetics, by Katherine Krohn: In a fun and engaging graphic novel format, this book explores the story of America's first female self-made millionaire. Walker was a revolutionary businesswoman who built an empire supporting Black women, and she used her wealth and public platform for social change. This is a name you'll want to remember!



Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline Woodson: In this memoir, award-winning children's author Jacqueline Woodson shares her experiences growing up as a Black girl in the 1960s, her time split between northern and southern states. Written in the form of poetry, this story beautifully describes Woodson's youth, as well as the joy she experienced in discovering herself through writing.



African American Explorers and Adventurers, by Joanne Randolph*: For students who love adventure and nonfiction, this is a must-read! From pilots and ship captains to Arctic explorers, this book explores the unbelievable stories of dozens of Black adventurers throughout American history. This book is part of the Pioneering African Americans series on Epic, where students can also find texts on trailblazing inventors, musicians, activists, and much more.

Titles marked with an asterisk (*) this week are available on Epic!, an incredible resource for electronic books (eBooks). Lower school students can access their login information through their teachers, while middle school students should reach out to Mrs. Mahrt for their class code. Happy reading!