

passport to History

Suggested Books and Videos



Pre - 1776

Books

The Ride: Paul Revere and the Night that Saved America / Kostya Kennedy

Taking Manhattan : the extraordinary events that created New York and shaped America / Russell Shorto

The Scarlet Letter / Nathaniel Hawthorne

American Colonies / Alan Taylor

Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the heart of a new nation / David A. Price

The Shipwreck that Saved Jamestown: the Sea Venture castaways and the fate of America / Lorri Glover and Daniel Blake Smith

Colonial Days: discover the past with fun projects, games, activities, and recipes / David C. King

The Mayflower and the Pilgrims' New World / Nathaniel Philbrick

Welcome to Felicity's World, 1774 / Catherine Courley

Killing the Witches: the horror of Salem, Massachusetts / Bill O'Reilly & Martin Dugard



Media

The Scarlet Letter (1934)

The Crucible (1996)

The New World (2005)

The Last of the Mohicans (1992)

Desperate Crossing: The Untold Story of the Mayflower (2006)

Colonial House (2004)

Jamestown (2017-2019) 3 Seasons

The War That Made America (2006)

Jamestown's Dark Winter (2015)

New Worlds (2015)

1776 - 1801

Books

The First Conspiracy: the secret plot to Kill George Washington / Brad Meltzer

The American Revolution / Kate Messner; Illustrated by Justin Greenwood

I Survived the American Revolution, 1776 / Lauren Tarshis; Illustrated by Scott Dawson

Chains: seeds of America / Laurie Halse Anderson

The American Revolution: an intimate history / Geoffrey C. Ward and Ken Burns

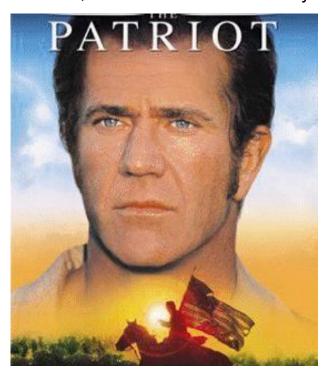
George Washington's Secret Six: the spy ring that saved the American Revolution / Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger

A Magnificent Catastrophe : the tumultuous election of 1800, America's first presidential campaign / Edward J. Larson

The Pioneers : the heroic story of the settlers who brought the American idea west / David McCullough

The Side-by-Side Declaration of Independence / David Miles

Women Heroes of the American Revolution : 20 stories of espionage, sabotage, defiance, and rescue / Susan Casey



Media

The Patriot (2000)

Drums Along the Mohawk (1939)

Benedict Arnold: A Question of Honor (2003)

Hamilton: Building America (2017)

Black Patriots : Heroes of the Revolution (2020)

TURN: Washington's Spies (2014-2017) 4 Seasons

Liberty! The American Revolution (1997)

John Adams (2008)

The American Revolution (2025)

Revolutionary War Weapons (2025)

1801 - 1826

Books

The Flag Maker / Susan Campbell Bartoletti; illustrated Claire A. Nivola

Empire of Liberty: a history of the early republic, 1789-1815 / Gordon S. Wood

The Rockets' Red Glare: an illustrated history of the War of 1812 / Donald R. Hickey and Connie D. Clark

Star-spangled : the story of a flag, a battle, and the American anthem / Tim Grove

Jefferson's America : the President, the purchase, and the explorers who transformed a nation / Julie M. Fenster

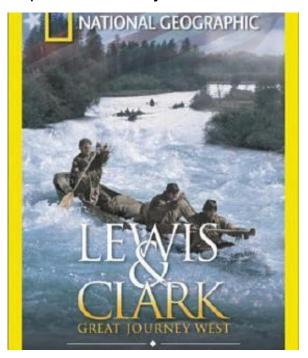
The Jeffersonians : the visionary presidencies of Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe / Kevin R. C. Gutzman

Once on this Island / Gloria Whelan

The Essential Lewis and Clark / Landon Y. Jones, editor

A Brutal Reckoning: Andrew Jackson, the Creek Indians, and the epic war for the American South / Peter Cozzens

Perilous Fight : America's intrepid war with Britain on the high seas, 1812-1815 / Stephen Budiansky



Media

A Star-Spangled Story: Battle for America (2014)

Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West (2002)

Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery (1997)

Sally Hemings: An American Scandal (2000)

Texas (Alternate title: James A. Michener's Texas) (1994)

The Technology of Lewis & Clark (2003)

The Revenant (2015)

The Far Horizons (1955)

War of 1812: a 4-part documentary series (2011)

Buccaneer (1938)

1826 - 1851

Books

The Indifferent Stars Above : the harrowing saga of a Donner Party bride / Daniel James Brown

Women of the Frontier: 16 tales of trailblazing homesteaders, entrepreneurs, and rabble-rousers / Brandon Marie Miller

What was the Gold Rush? / Joan Holub; illustrated by Tim Tominson

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer / Mark Twain

Heirs of the Founders : the epic rivalry of Henry Clay, John Calhoun and Daniel Webster, the second generation of American giants / H. W. Brands

America Aflame: how the Civil War created a nation / David Goldfield

A Wicked War: Polk, Clay, Lincoln, and the 1846 U.S. Invasion of Mexico / Amy S. Greenberg

Jacksonland: President Andrew Jackson, Cherokee Chief John Ross, and a great American land grab / Steve Inskeep

A Pioneer Sampler: the daily life of a pioneer family in 1840 / Barbara Greenwood; illustrated by Heather Collins

What Hath God Wrought: the transformation of America, 1815-1848 / Daniel Walker Howe



Media

The Alamo (2004)

Redeeming Love (2022)

Davy Crockett: king of the wild frontier (1955)

The Birth of a Nation (2016)

The Underground Railroad (2021)

12 Years a Slave (2013)

Texas Rising (2015)

Queen (1993)

Amistad (1997)

The Son (2017-2019)

1851 - 1876

Books

Battle Lines: A Graphic History of the Civil War /Jonathan Fetter-Vorm & Ari Kelman

Blood and Germs: The Civil War Battle Against Wounds and Disease / Gail Jarrow

The Demon of Unrest : A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War / Erik Larson

Photography and the American Civil War / Jeff L. Rosenheim

Soldier Song: A True Story of the Civil War / by Debbie Levy

I Can't Wait to Call You My Wife: African American Letters of Love and Family in the Civil War Era / Rita Roberts

Little House on the Prairie / Laura Ingalls Wilder

Midnight on the Potomac: The Last Year of the Civil War, the Lincoln Assassination, and the Rebirth of America / Scott Ellsworth

Like a River: A Civil War Novel / Kathy Cannon Wiechman

Emancipation Proclamation: Lincoln and the dawn of liberty / Tonya Bolden



Media

Dances with Wolves (1990)

Harriet (2019)

Emperor (2020)

Buffalo Soldiers (1997)

Little Women (1994)

Mercy Street (2016-2017) 2 Seasons

Hell on Wheels (2011-2016) 5 Seasons

North and South (1985)

The Civil War (1990)

Roots (1977)

1876 - 1901

Books

Passing Strange: A Gilded Age Tale of Love and Deception Across the Color Line / Martha A. Sandweiss

The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden and the Trial of the Century / Sarah Miller

Sarah, Plain and Tall / Patricia MacLachlan

Deadwood: Gold, Guns, and Greed in the American West / Peter Cozzens

The Gunfighters: How Texas Made the West Wild / Bryan Burrough

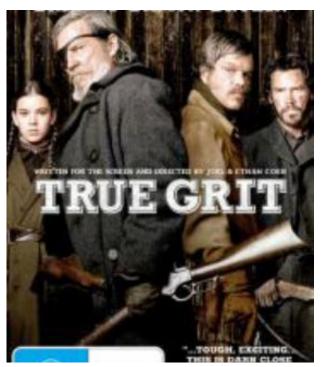
Dear Yesteryear / Kimberly Annece Henderson

The Electric War: Edison, Tesla, Westinghouse and the Race to Light the World / Mike Winchell

Ambushed!: The Assassination Plot Against President Garfield / Gail Jarrow

Bringing Down the Colonel: A Sex Scandal of the Gilded Age and the "Powerless" Woman Who Took on Washington (2018) by Patricia Miller

The Devil in the White City: murder, magic, and madness at the fair that changed America / Erik Larson



Media

Newsies (1992)

The Gilded Age (2022-) 3 Seasons

The Knick (2014-2015) 2 Seasons

1883 : A Yellowstone origin story (2021-2022)

The American West (2016)

True Grit (2010)

Deadwood (2004-2006) 3 Seasons

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969)

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee (2007)

Unforgiven (1992)

1901 - 1926

Books

Killers of the Flower Moon : The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI / David Grann

The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women / Kate Moore

Dreamland Burning / Jennifer Latham

On A Burning Deck: The Road to Akron: An Oral History of The Great Migration / Tom Jones

Rags: Hero Dog of WWI: A True Story / Margot Theis Raven

All Blood Runs Red: The Legendary Life of Eugene Bullard-Boxer, Pilot, Soldier, Spy / Phil Keith

The Great Gatsby / F. Scott Fitzgerald

Iron Valley: The Transformation of the Iron Industry in Ohio's Mahoning Valley, 1802–1913 / Clayton J. Ruminski

Come on In, America: The United States in World War I / Linda Barrett Osborne

1919: The Year that Changed America / Martin W. Sandler



Media

Flyboys (2006)

The Great Gatsby (2013)

Singin' in the Rain (1952)

Meet Me in St. Louis (1944)

Sergeant York (1941)

De-Lovely (2004)

Lady and the Tramp (1955)

There Will Be Blood (2007)

The Decades Collection : 1900–1909 (2007)

Houdini (2014)

1926 - 1951

Books

They Called Us Enemy / George Takei

The Trackers / Charles Frazier

What Was the Great Depression? / Janet B. Pascal

Crash: The Great Depression and the Fall and Rise of America / Marc Favreau

No Money, No Beer, No Pennants : The Cleveland Indians and Baseball in the Great Depression / Scott H. Longert

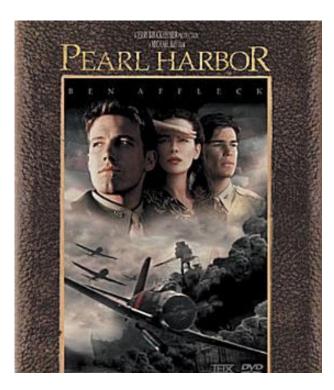
Helmet for My Pillow: From Parris Island to the Pacific / Robert Leckie

Courage Has No Color: The true story of the Triple Nickels, America's First Black Paratroopers / Tanya Lee Stone

Fly Girls: The daring American women pilots who helped win WWII / P. O'Connell Pearson

Navajo Code Talkers / Brynn Baker

The Great American Dust Bowl / Don Brown



Media

Saving Private Ryan (1998)

Pearl Harbor (2001)

42 (2013)

Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (2008)

Race (2016)

Annie (1982 or 2014)

A League of Their Own (1992)

The Wizard of Oz (1939)

Boardwalk Empire (2010-2014) 5 Seasons

The Untouchables (1959-1963) 4 Seasons

1951 - 1976

Books

The Kennedy Half-Century: the Presidency, Assassination, and Lasting

Legacy of John F. Kennedy / Larry Sabato

Kent State: Four Dead in Ohio / Derf Backderf

Hidden Figures / Margot Lee Shetterly

The Korean War: 1950-53 / Carter Malkasian

The Vietnam War: The Definitive Illustrated History (2025) edited by Alice

Hughes

And We Rise / Erica Martin

American Moonshot / Douglas Brinkley

Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights / Ann Bausum,

Overground Railroad: The Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America / Candacy Taylor

Fallout : Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown / Steve Sheinkin



Media

Hidden Figures (2016)

Apollo 13 (1995)

October Sky (1999)

Selma (2014)

Loving (2016)

Good Morning Vietnam (1987)

Green Book (2018)

All The President's Men (1976)

The Vietnam War (2017)

Mad Men (2007-2015) 7 Seasons

1976 - 2001

Books

The Reagan Diaries / Ronald Reagan

White House Diary / Jimmy Carter

How to Survive a Plague : The Inside Story of How Citizens and Science Tamed AIDS / David France

American Life in the 1980s / Kate Conley

The Black Girl Next Door: A Memoir / Jennifer Baszile

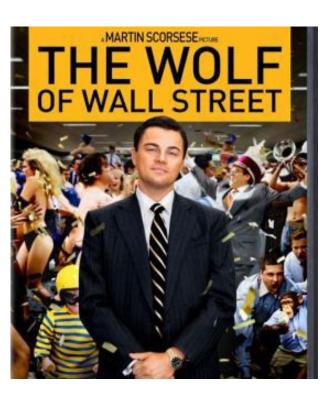
The Job: True Tales from the Life of a New York City Cop / Steve Osborne

American Life in the 1990s / A. W. Buckey

Fault Lines: A History of the United States Since 1974 / Kevin M. Kruse and Julian E. Zelizer

Eleanor & Park / Rainbow Rowell

Daisy Jones & the Six / Taylor Jenkins Reid



Media

Reagan (2024)

Everybody Hates Chris (2005-2009) 4 Seasons Jobs (2013)

Jimmy Carter : Rock & Roll President (2020)
Air (2023)

The Wolf of Wall Street (2013)

Friends (1994-2004) 10 Seasons

The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (1990-1996) 6 Seasons

The Jeffersons (1975-1985) 11 Seasons

The Americans (2013-2018) 6 Seasons

2001 - 2026

Books

Killing the Killers: The Secret War Against Terrorists / Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard

In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers / Don Brown

The Only Plane in the Sky / Garrett Graff

Generation Kill / Evan Wright

Ground Zero / Alan Gratz

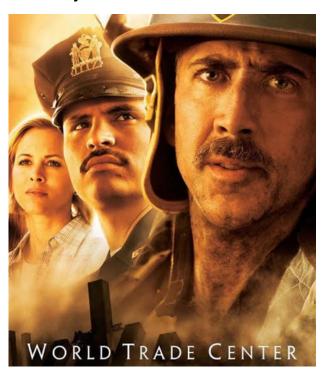
The Kindest Lie / Nancy Johnson

All the Devils Are Here: The Hidden History of the Financial Crisis / Bethany McLean and Joe Nocera

Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic / Sam Quinones

American Life in the 2000s / Erin Nicks

One in a Millennial : On Friendship, Feelings, Fangirls, and Fitting In / Kate Kennedy



Media

World Trade Center (2006)

American Sniper (2014)

United 93 (2006)

The Social Network (2010)

War Dogs (2016)

The Big Short (2015)

Barbershop (2002)

Mean Girls (2004)

Modern Family (2009-2020) 11 Seasons

The West Wing (1999-2006) 7 Seasons

America 250 W-TCPL

Indigenous People

Books

The Buffalo Hunter Hunter / Stephen Graham Jones

Living Nations, Living Words: An anthology of first peoples poetry / Collected by Joy Harjo

The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History / Ned Blackhawk

Tasunka: A Lakota Horse Legend / written by Donald F. Montileaux; translated by Agnes Gay

Crazy Brave : A Memoir / Joy Harjo

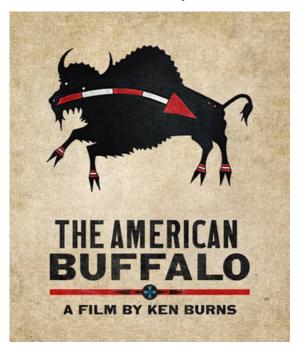
Night of the Living Rez / Morgan Talty

Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices / edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale

Of All Tribes / Joseph Bruchac

Code Talker / Chester Nez

To Walk the Sky: How Iroquois Steelworkers Helped Build Towering Cities / Patricia Morris Buckley



Media

The American Buffalo (2023)

Navajo Code Talkers of World War II (2018)

Dark Winds (2022 -) 3 Seasons

500 Nations (1995)

Native America (2018 -) 2 Seasons

Rutherford Falls (2021-2022)

Geronimo: An American Legend (1993)

Smoke Signals (1998)

N. Scott Momaday : Words from a Bear (2019) Wind River (2017)

OHIO

Books

Ohio / Betsy Rathburn

Ohio / Kevin Kern

Made in Ohio / Conrade Hinds

Original Ohio / David Meyers

Crimetown U.S.A. / Allan May

Warren / Josh Nativio

Historic Theaters of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley / Sean T. Posey

Cortland and Bazetta Township / Sally Lane

Lost Youngstown / Sean T. Posey

There's Always This Year: On Basketball and Ascension / Hanif Abdurragib



Media

The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio (2005)

A Christmas Story (1983)

More Than a Game (2008)

Major League (1989)

Bye Bye Birdie (1963)

Super 8 (2011)

Hot in Cleveland (2010-2015) 6 Seasons

Glee (2009-2015) 6 Seasons

The Drew Carey Show (1995-2004) 9 Seasons

WKRP in Cincinnati (1978-1982) 4 Seasons

