

# **THE MARCUS TUCKER COLLECTION: BLACK MEN OF COURAGE**

A special collection of books about  
positive, high achieving Black men to  
inspire *all* Americans.

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# THE MARCUS TUCKER COLLECTION: Black Men of Courage

## Biographies of Inspiring African American Achievers

**THE MARCUS TUCKER COLLECTION: Black Men of Courage** is a unique collection of books at the **Santa Monica Public Library**, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90406. Tel. 310 ñ 458 ñ 8600. The Collection honors Judge Marcus O. Tucker, Jr., who was born and raised in Santa Monica, for his 43 year legal and judicial career as a pioneer and leader, his community involvement, and his interest in young people.

**The purpose of this collection** is to inspire *all* Americans, particularly young men, to pursue education, achievement, and community service.

The African American men profiled in these books struggled against many obstacles to make positive contributions to society. Some are famous, many are not, but all have something of value to offer young people today in their quest to find a place in our society. Our future as a flourishing community depends on adults encouraging a commitment to beneficial achievement and service.

**To young people everywhere:** read these books to inspire *your own* dreams and to learn ways to overcome inevitable difficulties. This booklist and more information about individual books may be found on the library's website at **www.smpl.org**. Keyword "Marcus Tucker Collection."

The following binders are at the Reference Desk.

1. **THE MARCUS O. TUCKER COLLECTION: Black Men of Courage** binder contains the front covers and information about the books in this collection.
2. **Santa Monica's Black Men of Courage** binder contains biographical articles about Santa Monica's men of achievement including:
  - \*Judge Marcus O. Tucker. His profile is on the internet at **www.thehistorymakers.com** under "Lawmakers." A short biography is included in **THE HERITAGE OF AFRICAN AMERICANS IN LONG BEACH**.
  - \*Nathaniel Trives, first Black mayor of Santa Monica, is in **WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS** and on the internet at **www.Mr.SantaMonica.com**

The following list has two categories:

**Biographies** of over 100 individuals and

**Careers**, which includes books profiling a number of individuals within selected career areas.

\*indicates 1) individual names and 2) Santa Monica Library's call number.

Some books are on order or being processed.

### I. BIOGRAPHIES.

- \*Rev. Ralph Abernathy. **AND THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN: An Autobiography**. Activist minister who worked with Dr. Martin L. King in the famous 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and in subsequent civil rights struggles. \*921 Abernathy
- \*Alvin Ailey. **REVELATIONS, The Autobiography of Alvin Ailey** by Alvin Ailey. \*793.3 Ailey Also **DANCING REVELATIONS, Alvin Ailey's Embodiment of African American Culture** by Thomas F. DeFrantz. \*793.3 Ailey. **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre** by Jack Mitchell. \*793.3 Mitchell. Choreographer, Dancer, Founder of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater now based in New York. Ailey grew up and began his career in Los Angeles.
- \*Ira Aldridge. **IRA ALDRIDGE, The Negro Tragedian** by Herbert Marshall & Mildred Stock. Born a free African American in New York City, Aldridge found success as a Shakespearean actor in England in 1833 and toured all over Europe. \*921 Aldridge

- \*Kofi Annan. **KOFI ANNAN: A Man of Peace in a World of War** by Stanley Meisler.  
Diplomat. Former United Nations Secretary General. Born in Ghana.
- \*Arthur Ashe. **DAYS OF GRACE, A Memoir** by Arthur Ashe. \*796.342 Ashe  
Pioneer champion tennis player, writer. Author of **A HARD ROAD TO GLORY: A History of the African American Athlete**. \*796.A
- \*James Baldwin. **JAMES BALDWIN: Artist on Fire, A Portrait** by William Weatherby.  
Novelist and essay writer, most active 1960s ñ 80s. \*921 Baldwin
- \*Benjamin Banneker. **THE LIFE OF BENJAMIN BANNEKER** by Silvio Bedini. \*921 B  
Mathematician, astronomer, writer. Free African American in the 1700s, published a popular farmer's almanac, surveyed and recreated plans for the new city of Washington D.C.
- \*James Beckwourth. **THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF JAMES P. BECKWOURTH** by James Beckwourth. Famous 19<sup>th</sup> century cowboy, explorer, & war chief of the Crow Indian nation. \*921 Beckwourth
- \*Guion Bluford. **SPACE CHALLENGER: The Story of Guion Bluford** by James Haskins.  
\*x629.45 Bluford First African American astronaut.
- \*Francis Bok. **ESCAPE FROM SLAVERY, The True Story of my Ten Years in Captivity and my Journey to Freedom in America** by Francis Bok. In 1986 at age 7, Bok was kidnapped in Southern Sudan and sold into slavery in Northern Sudan. He escaped in 1996 and came to America. Today he is a lecturer and anti-slavery activist. \*306.362 Bok
- \*Tom Bradley. **TOM BRADLEY, The Impossible Dream** by J. Gregory Payne. \*921 Bradley  
Lawyer, elected first African American mayor of Los Angeles in 1973. Served 4 terms.
- \*Edward Brooke. **BRIDGING THE DIVIDE: My Life** by Edward Brooke. \*328.73 Brooke  
Lawyer, elected first African American U.S. Senator in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, also first A.A. Attorney General for the state of Massachusetts. 328.73 Brooke
- \*Les Brown. **IT'S NOT OVER UNTIL YOU WIN** by Les Brown. \*158.1 Brown  
Also **LIVE YOUR DREAMS**. Abandoned and inaccurately labeled retarded, Brown became a successful lecturer, state senator, and writer.
- \*Ron Brown. **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF RON BROWN, A Memoir by His Daughter** by Tracey L. Brown. Ron Brown was the first African American Secretary of Commerce (1993). \*921 Brown, Ron.
- \*Sterling Brown. **STERLING A. BROWN, Building the Black Aesthetic Tradition** by Joanne V. Gabbin. Poet, writer, principal architect of African American literary criticism from the 1920s to 1980s. His poetry was widely translated into several languages. \*811 Brown, Sterling
- \*Willie Brown. **WILLIE BROWN, A Biography** by James Richardson. Lawyer, politician. First African American Speaker of the California Assembly, one of the most powerful people in the legislature, and first African American mayor of San Francisco, CA. \*921 Brown, Willie
- \*John Edward Bruce. **JOHN EDWARD BRUCE, POLITICIAN, JOURNALIST, AND SELF-TRAINED HISTORIAN OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA** by Ralph L. Crowder. 19<sup>th</sup> Century pioneer in many fields. \*921 Bruce, John
- \*Dr. Ralph Bunche. **RALPH BUNCHE, An American Life** by Brian Urquhart. \*921 Bunche  
Nobel prize laureate, diplomat, scholar, writer. Raised in Los Angeles, magna cum laude UCLA graduate, first Chairman of the political science dept. at Howard University, United Nations Undersecretary. In 1950 Bunche was the first Black American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and was the highest-ranking American in the U.N. until his retirement (1967).  
Also **RALPH J. BUNCHE, Selected Speeches and Writings** ed. Charles P. Henry. \*973.0496 B  
UCLA has Bunche Hall and the Bunche Center for Afro-American Studies.

- \*Stokely Carmichael. **READY FOR REVOLUTION, The Life and Struggles of Stokely Carmichael (Kwame Ture)** by Stokely Carmichael. Voting rights activist in the 1960s protests in Mississippi. Chairman of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Com. (SNCC), later advocate for Black Power as a new direction for SNCC. Changed his name in 1978 to Kwame Ture to honor his African mentors--Kwame Nkrumah and Sekou Toure. \*921 Stokely
- \*Dr. Ben Carson. **GIFTED HANDS, The Ben Carson Story** by Ben Carson, M.D. \*617.48 Carson Neurosurgeon, writer. Pioneer in successfully separating Siamese twins joined at the head. Chief of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Also author of **THE BIG PICTURE**.
- \*Judge Robert Carter. **A MATTER OF LAW: A Memoir of Struggle in the Cause of Equal Rights** by Judge Robert L. Carter. Lawyer, federal district court judge in New York State. One of the legendary NAACP legal team headed by Thurgood Marshall, Carter argued the historic *Linda Brown vs the Board of Education of Topeka* before the U.S. Supreme Court. \*323.1196 C
- \*George Washington Carver. **GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER: His Life and Faith in His Own Words** eds. Gary Kremer and William J. Federer. Scientist, writer, artist, poet. Born into slavery in 1864 in Missouri. After Emancipation (1865), earned a Bachelor of Agriculture degree at Iowa State Agricultural College (1894) and a Master of Agriculture degree (1896) from Iowa State College. Research scientist at Tuskegee Institute. Created innovative outreach program to help Alabama farmers improve crops. Famous for creating 300 products out of peanuts and sweet potatoes. His painting won an award at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. \*921 Carver
- \*J.L. Chestnut. **BLACK IN SELMA, The Uncommon Life of J. L. Chestnut, Jr.** by J.L. Chestnut. Lawyer, active in the 1960s-80s civil rights movement in Selma, Alabama. Also a law schoolmate of Judge Tucker at Howard University Law School. \*921 Chestnut
- \*Dr. Price Cobbs. **MY AMERICAN LIFE, From Rage to Entitlement: A Memoir** by Price Cobbs, M.D. Psychiatrist, writer. Dr. Cobb has made many contributions to the field of psychiatry. \*305.896
- \*Johnnie Cochran. **JOURNEY TO JUSTICE** by Johnnie Cochran. Lawyer, writer. Founded a law firm in Los Angeles, famous defense lawyer for O.J. Simpson. \*921 Cochran
- \*Captain Paul Cuffe. **CAPTAIN PAUL CUFFE'S LOGS AND LETTERS, 1808 – 1817, A Black Quaker's "Voice from within the Veil"** ed. Rosalind C. Wiggins. Ship builder, owned fleet of 3 ships, successful businessman who organized the Friendly Society, a trading cooperative in Freetown, Sierra Leone in 1811 to promote positive trade between U.S. and Africa.
- \*General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. **BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR., AMERICAN: An Autobiography.** Son of Gen. Davis, Sr., 1936 West Point graduate, commander of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, (African American pilots in World War II), first African American general in the U.S. Air Force. Became a four star general in 1998. Died in 2002. \*921 Davis, Benjamin
- \*General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. **AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK GENERAL, Benjamin O. Davis 1880 – 1970** by Marvin Fletcher. Extraordinary 50 year U.S. Army career from 1898 to 1948, rising from private to the Army's first African American general officer in 1940. \*921, Davis B.
- \*Ossie Davis. **WITH OSSIE AND RUBY: In This Life Together** by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee. Famous acting couple. Ossie Davis was also a film director and producer. \*791.4092 Davis Also, **LIFE LIT BY SOME LARGE VISION: Selected Speeches and Writings by Ossie Davis.**
- \*Earl Dickerson. **EARL B. DICKERSON: A Voice for Freedom and Equality** by Robert Blakely Lawyer, activist, businessman, elected to the Chicago City Council in 1939. \*921 Dickerson

\*Frederick Douglass. **MY BONDAGE AND MY FREEDOM** by Frederick Douglass.

Famous 19<sup>th</sup> Century African American Abolitionist, orator, writer, publisher of the *North Star Newspaper*, civil rights activist, leader and diplomat. \*921 Douglass

\*Dr. Charles Drew. **CHARLES R. DREW, Pioneer in Blood Research** by Richard Hardwick.

Medical doctor, scientist, professor. Pioneered research into blood preservation and started the first blood bank during World War II, Director of the American Red Cross Blood Bank, Chief of surgery at Freedman's Hospital, Washington D.C., professor at Howard University School of Medicine. \*x921 Drew

\*Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois. **THE SOULS OF BLACK FOLK** by W.E.B. Du Bois. \*973.0496 Du Bois

Scholar, first Black to earn Phd from Harvard University, educator, prolific writer, NAACP co-founder, editor of the NAACP's *Crisis magazine*. Also organized an exhibit about African American progress at the 1900 Paris Exposition, leading philosopher and activist for Black political and civil rights. Also **Writings by Du Bois**. \*973.0496

Dungy, Tony. **QUIET STRENGTH** by Tony Dungy. Champion Super Bowl coach. 796.332 Dungy

\*Duke Ellington. **MUSIC IS MY MISTRESS** by Duke Ellington. Also **DUKE ELLINGTON** by James Lincoln Collier. \*781.65092 Ellington Prolific composer of all kinds of music from jazz to sacred music (1920s-70s), jazz pianist, charismatic founder-leader of one of the world's most famous bands.

\*Ralph Ellison. **RALPH ELLISON, Emergence of Genius** by Lawrence Jackson. Writer. **INVISIBLE MAN** is his most famous novel. Also **COLLECTED ESSAYS OF RALPH ELLISON**.

\*Simon Estes. **SIMON ESTES: In His Own Voice: An Autobiography** by Simon Estes.

Well-known contemporary opera and classical music singer. \*782.1092 Estes

\*Olaudah Equiano. **AN AFRICAN'S LIFE: The Life and Times of Olaudah Equiano** by James Walvin. Kidnapped in Africa at 11 years and brought to England, his autobiography was published in 1789 and became a powerful argument against slavery. Equiano became a prominent Afro-British Abolitionist and lecturer. \*921 Equiano

\*Medgar Evers. **THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MEDGAR EVERS, A Hero's Life and Legacy Revealed Through His Writings, Letters, and Speeches** edited by Myrlie Evers-Williams and Manning Marable. Civil rights activist, NAACP's first field secretary in Mississippi, murdered in 1963 in Jackson Miss. \*921 Evers

\*James Farmer. **LAY BARE THE HEART, An Autobiography of the Civil Rights Movement** by James Farmer. Civil rights activist and founder of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in 1942 which became one of the major civil rights organizations in the 1960s-70s, organized the Freedom Riders who integrated interstate bus transportation in 1961. \*921 Farmer

\*Lt. Henry O. Flipper. **THE COLORED CADET AT WEST POINT** by Flipper. \*355.07 Flipper Born into slavery, emancipated at Civil War's end, entered West Point at 17, he endured constant harassment yet triumphed as the first African American graduate of West Point in 1877. After leaving the Army, he had a successful engineering career.

\*James Forten. **A GENTLEMAN OF COLOR, The Life of James Forten** by Julie Winch.

Free African American born in Philadelphia in 1773. By 1810 owned highly successful sailmaking business known for innovation, a leader in the African American community, and a prominent Abolitionist in both American and international antislavery movements. \*921 Forten

\*Dr. John Hope Franklin. **MIRROR TO AMERICA, The Autobiography of John Hope Franklin** by John Hope Franklin. Pioneering historian, scholar, professor, writer. Well known for his reinterpretation of Reconstruction history. \*973.0496 Franklin

\*Marcus Garvey. **MARCUS GARVEY** by David E. Cronon. \*921 Garvey Founded a successful Black nationalist mass movement in the early 1900s. Also **MARCUS GARVEY, Life and Lessons** ed. DVD **MARCUS GARVEY: Look for me in the Whirlwind**.

- \*A. G. Gaston. **BLACK TITAN: A.G. Gaston and the Making of a Black American Millionaire** by Carol Jenkins and Elizabeth G. Hines. Born poor in 1892 in Alabama, Gaston built a business empire in Birmingham, Alabama and died in 1996 worth over \$130 million. Because he never had the opportunity to go to school beyond the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, he established a scholarship foundation at Tuskegee University, and donated funds to many colleges. \*921 Gaston
- \*Mifflin W. Gibbs. **SHADOW AND LIGHT: An Autobiography** Mifflin W. Gibbs. 19<sup>th</sup> Century activist, lawyer, first Municipal Court Judge in America, U.S. Consul to Madagascar in 1897. Came to California during the Gold Rush of 1849. B 1823, published bio in 1902.
- \*Dizzy Gillespie. **DIZZY, The Life and Times of John Birks Gillespie** by Donald Maggin. Jazz trumpeter, major contributor to Bebop & Afro-Cuban music from 1930s to 1980s. \*921 G
- \*Earl Graves. **HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT BEING WHITE: Straight Talk on Making It in America** by Earl Graves. Entrepreneur, founder of *Black Enterprise* magazine. Graves uses his own life story of building successful businesses to illustrate strategies for others.
- \*Farrah Gray. **REALLIONAIRE, Nine Steps to Becoming Rich From the Inside Out** by Farrah Gray. Entrepreneur, motivational lecturer, writer still in his 20s. The business focus of his family lifted them out of a Chicago public housing project to success. \*323.024 Gray
- \*Fred Gray. **BUS RIDE TO JUSTICE: Changing the System by the System, The Life and Works of Fred Gray - Preacher, Attorney, Politician** by Fred Gray. \*921 Gray, Fred. Lawyer, activist in Montgomery, Alabama. Defended Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin L. King and other civil rights protestors and activists. Currently the first Black president of the Alabama Bar Assn.
- \*Alex Haley. writer. **ROOTS** by Alex Haley. \*929.2 Haley. Also **ALEX HALEY: The Man Who Traced America's Roots, His Life, His Work**. Also **THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X**. \*921 X Malcolm. **ROOTS** traced Haley's family back to Africa, catapulted him into international fame and launched a national passion for genealogy.  
Note: the **ROOTS** Series is also on DVD.
- \*Jeff Henderson. **COOKED: From the Streets to the Stove, from Cocaine to Foie Gras** by Jeff Henderson. Chef. He learned his trade in prison, then became a top chef in Las Vegas.
- \*Matthew Henson. **MATTHEW HENSON, Black Explorer** by Edward Dolan. Explorer who reached the North Pole with Robert Peary. \*921 Henson
- \*Charles Hamilton Houston. **GROUNDWORK: Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights** by Genna Rae McNeil. Lawyer, Dean of Howard University Law School that transformed the school into a West Point for civil rights, architect of the NAACP legal strategy that resulted in the historic *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision. \*921 Houston, Charles
- \*Joshua Houston. **FROM SLAVE TO STATESMAN, The Legacy of Joshua Houston, Servant To Sam Houston** by Patricia S. Prather and Jane C. Monday. Born in 1822 into slavery and owned then emancipated by Sam Houston. Joshua became active in Texas Independence movement. Later one of the first African American Aldermen (City Councilman) in Huntsville, Texas during Reconstruction and remained a leader until his death in 1902. \*921 Houston, J
- \*Langston Hughes. **THE LIFE OF LANGSTON HUGHES, Vol. I: 1902 – 1941. I Too, Sing America; Vol. II: 1941- 1967, I Dream a World** by Arnold Rampersad. \*921 Hughes  
**I WONDER AS I WANDER: An Autobiographical Journey** by Langston Hughes.  
\*921 Hughes. Very famous 20<sup>th</sup> Century writer, poet, playwright, and storyteller.
- \*Hal Jackson. **THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT: My Life as a Trailblazer in Broadcasting and Entertainment** by Hal Jackson. Entrepreneur, radio and television host. First African American to buy a radio station. \*791.44092 Jackson

- \*Gen. Daniel James. **CHAPPIE, America's First Black Four-star General: The Life and Times of Daniel James, Jr.** by J. Alfred Phelps. Member of the famous "Tuskegee Airmen" (pilots) in World War II, became the first Black four-star general in the U.S. Air Force. \*921 James
- \*Dr. Charles S. Johnson. **SIDELINES ACTIVIST, Charles S. Johnson and the Struggle for Civil Rights** by Richard Robbins. 1893 ñ 1956. Sociologist, first African American President of Fisk University, historic Black university in Nashville, Tennessee. \*921 Johnson, Charles
- \*John H. Johnson. **JOHN H. JOHNSON, The Man from Ebony** by Lucille Falkof. Johnson started notable magazines such as *Ebony*, *Negro Digest*, & *Jet*.. Other businesses include include Fashion Fair Cosmetics, the Ebony Fashion Fair, Ebony Publishing Co. **SUCCEEDING AGAINST THE ODDS, The Autobiography of a Great American Businessman** by Johnson. Note: DVD interview of Johnson.
- \*James Earl Jones. **VOICES AND SILENCES** by James Earl Jones. Actor who overcame a serious stuttering problem to become an outstanding professional.
- \*Quincy Jones. **Q, The Autobiography of Quincy Jones** by Quincy Jones. Musician, composer, arranger, and entrepreneur. \*781.65092 Jones, Quincy
- \*Michael Jordan. **DRIVEN FROM WITHIN** by Michael Jordan. Basketball player who led the Chicago Bulls to several championships. \*796.323 Jordan, Michael
- \*Vernon Jordan. **VERNON CAN READ, A Memoir** by Vernon Jordan. \*921 Jordan Lawyer, civil rights activist, former head of the United Negro College Fund & the Urban League.
- \*Julian, Percy. DVD "Forgotten Genius: Percy Julian." Scientist, chemist, businessman. Julian made major discoveries in 20<sup>th</sup> century science. Founded Julian Labs & became millionaire.
- \*Dr. Ernest Just. **BLACK APPOLLO OF SCIENCE: The Life of Ernest Just** by Kenneth Manning. Pioneering research scientist in biology, Howard University professor. \*921 Just
- \*Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. **TO THE MOUNTAINTOP, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Sacred Mission to Save America 1955 -1968** by Stewart Burns. The pre-eminent leader of the 1950s-60s civil rights protests until his assassination in 1968. King molded a mass movement using his philosophy of non-violent protest against injustice. Also a prolific writer. Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* speech at the 1963 March on Washington is known around the world as a call for equality and justice. \*323.1196 King.
- \*Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. **DADDY KING, An Autobiography** by Martin Luther King, Sr. Rev. King is the father of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta Georgia for many years. \*921 King
- \*Gen. Daniel James. **CHAPPIE, America's First Black Four-star General: The Life and Times of Daniel James, Jr.** by J. Alfred Phelps. James was an original "Tuskegee Airman" and the first Black 4 star general (in the Air Force). \*921 James, Daniel
- \*John Mercer Langston. **JOHN MERCER LANGSTON AND THE FIGHT FOR BLACK FREEDOM 1829 – 65** by William F. Cheek and Aimee Lee Cheek. Lawyer, first Dean of Howard University Law School in Washington D.C. and diplomat. \*921 Langston
- \*Congressman John Lewis. **WALKING WITH THE WIND: A Memoir of the Movement** by John Lewis. 1960s student activist while in college, currently a U. S. Congressman. \*921 Lewis
- \*Dr. W. Arthur Lewis. **W. ARTHUR LEWIS and the Birth of Development Economics** by Robert Tignor. Economist, winner of the Nobel prize in Economics, innovative theorist in economics of development.
- \*Joe Louis. **JOE LOUIS, My Life** by Joe Louis. World heavyweight title holder in boxing widely admired by everyone in the 1930s and 40s. \*796.83 Lewis

- \*Nelson Mandela. **LONG WALK TO FREEDOM: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela** by Nelson Mandela. Lawyer, freedom fighter in South Africa, jailed for 27 years for his protests against apartheid, elected first African president of South Africa in 1994. \*921 Mandela
- \*Justice Thurgood Marshall. **THURGOOD MARSHALL, Justice for All** by Roger Goldman. \*921 Marshall. Also **THURGOOD MARSHALL, American Revolutionary** by Juan Williams. \*921 Marshall First African American U. S. Supreme Court justice, also headed the NAACP legal team that argued the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* cases which guaranteed equal access to an integrated education for African Americans.
- \*Dr. Benjamin Mays. **BORN TO REBEL, An Autobiography** by Dr. Benjamin Mays. He was a past president of Morehouse College, the alma mater of Dr. Martin L. King Jr. \*921 Mays
- \*Fredrick L. McGhee. **FREDRICK L. MCGHEE, A Life on the Color Line 1861-1912.** First Black lawyer to practice in Minneapolis, Minnesota in the late 1880s. Activist, community leader. \*921 McGhee
- \*Rufus McKinney. **BEATING THE ODDS: The Story of One Black Man's Life in Twentieth Century America** by Rufus McKinney. Pioneering lawyer in corporate America, first African American to head the Wash. D.C. office of a Fortune 500 company. \*921 McKinney
- \*Emperor Menelik II. **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MENELIK II, Ethiopia 1844 – 1913** by Harold G. Marcus. Emperor of Ethiopia who transformed an ancient empire into modern state which became the only African area not subjugated by 19<sup>th</sup> Century European domination. \*921 Menelik
- \*Kweisi Mfume. **NO FREE RIDE: From the Mean Streets to the Mainstream** by Kweisi Mfume. Civil rights activist, U. S. Congressman, former president of the NAACP. \*921 M
- \*Harry T. Moore. **BEFORE HIS TIME, The Untold Story of Harry T. Moore, America's First Civil Rights Martyr** by Ben Green. NAACP coordinator in Florida in the 1940s until his assassination in 1951. Also co-founded the Progressive Voters League in 1944 which registered 100,000 new voters in Florida. \*921 Moore
- \*Judge Francis Nyalali. **BUILDING THE RULE OF LAW: Francis Nyalali and the Road to Judicial Independence in Africa** by Jennifer Widner. Chief Justice of Tanzania from 1976 ñ 1999. Earned his law degree in England, returned home to practice law, helped craft a legal system for newly independent Tanzania. \*967.8 Nyalali
- \*President Barack Obama. **DREAMS FROM MY FATHER, A Story of Race and Inheritance** by Barack Obama. First African American President of the United States. Former U.S. Senator from Illinois. Lawyer, first African American Editor of the Harvard Law Review in 1991. Born in Hawaii. \*921 Obama Also authored **THE AUDACITY OF HOPE: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream** \*320.973
- \*Jesse Owens. **JESSE OWENS, An American Life** by William J. Baker. Athlete, Businessman. Youngest of 10 children of an Alabama sharecropper, Owens won 4 gold medals in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany, the first person to do so in a single Olympics. \*921 Owens
- \*Gordon Parks. **VOICES IN THE MIRROR, An Autobiography** by Gordon Parks. Photographer, film director, writer, composer, a true Renaissance man. Born in 1912 in Fort Scott, Kansas. \*921 Parks, Gordon
- \*Gen. Frank Petersen. **INTO THE TIGER'S JAW: America's First Black Marine Aviator** by Lt. Gen. Frank Petersen. First Black Marine pilot and first Black Marine general. \*921 P
- \*Sidney Poitier. **THE MEASURE OF A MAN: A Spiritual Autobiography** by Sidney Poitier. Actor. First African American male Oscar winner (1963). \*921 Poitier

- \*Judge Cecil Poole. **CECIL POOLE: A Life in Law** by James Haskins. Lawyer, first African American U. S. Attorney and first African American judge in the U.S. District Court in California. \*921 Poole
- \*Ted Posten. **TED POSTEN, PIONEER AMERICAN JOURNALIST** by Kathleen Hauke. First African American journalist at the Washington Post began his career in the legendary Pittsburgh Courier, the Amsterdam News (Harlem), headed the Negro News Desk of the Office of War Information in Washington D.C. 1906 ñ 1974. Also **A FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY, Ted Posten**. Ed by Kathleen Hauke. Selected articles From his entire reporting career.
- \*Colin Powell. **MY AMERICAN JOURNEY, An Autobiography** by Colin Powell. Soldier, first Black national security advisor to the President, first Black Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces, first Black Secretary of State. \*921 Powell
- \*Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor. **THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR, A Memoir of African-American Faith** by Samuel DeWitt Proctor. Minister. \*921 Proctor
- \*A. Philip Randolph. **A PHILIP RANDOLPH: Pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement** by Paula Pfeffer. \*921 Randolph. Pioneering labor leader, founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, an African American labor union which fought the country's largest business (the Pullman Company) and won after a 12 year struggle. Civil rights activist behind the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Also, **A. PHILIP RANDOLPH: The Religious Journey of an African American Labor Leader** by Cynthia Taylor. \*921 Randolph.
- \*Charles Rangel. **AND I HAVEN'T HAD A BAD DAY SINCE: From the Streets of Harlem to the Halls of Congress** by Charles Rangel. Lawyer, U.S. Representative from New York, N.Y., powerful chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Com. 328.73 Rangel
- \*Bass Reeves. **BLACK GUN, SILVER STAR, The Life and Legend of Frontier Marshal Bass Reeves** by Art T. Burton. Pioneering Deputy U. S. Marshal in Oklahoma for 32 years. Born into slavery, Reeves became the most feared man in Indian Territory during his tenure as a marshal 1875 ñ 1907. \*921 Reeves
- \*Virgil Richardson. **FLIGHT, The Story of Virgil Richardson, A Tuskegee Airman in Mexico** by Ben Vinson, III. One of the pioneering Black pilots in World War II. \*921 Richardson
- \*Paul Robeson. **HERE I STAND** by Paul Robeson. Also **PAUL ROBESON** by Martin Duberman. Lawyers, singer, actor, international civil rights and union rights activist from the 1930s ñ 1950s. \*921 Robeson Also DVD **Paul Robeson: HERE I STAND**.
- \*Jackie Robinson. **I NEVER HAD IT MADE, An Autobiography** by Jackie Robinson. \*796.357 First Black player in major league baseball in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (1947), baseball star in Negro League Baseball, civil rights protestor in the U.S. Army, raised in Pasadena, CA
- \*Carl Rowan. **BREAKING BARRIERS, A Memoir** by Carl Rowan. pioneer journalist in the mainstream media, writer. \*070.92 Rowan
- \*Bayard Rustin. **BAYARD RUSTIN: Behind the Scenes of the Civil Rights Movement** by James Haskins. Organizer of the 1963 March on Washington, non-violent strategist for the 1950s-70s civil rights movement. \*YA921 Rustin
- \*Arthur A. Schomburg. **ARTHUR ALFONSO SCHOMBURG, BLACK BILIOPHILE AND COLLECTOR, A Biography** by Elinor DesVerney Sinnette. Born in Puerto Rico in 1874. Activist in Caribbean Revolutionary struggles. Came to Harlem in the early 1900s. Amassed an unsurpassed collection of books and artifacts about African Americans which today is the basis of the Schomburg Collection and Center in Harlem, New York. \*921 Schomburg

- \*Horace Tapscott. **SONGS OF THE UNSUNG: THE MUSICAL AND SOCIAL JOURNEY OF HORACE TAPSCOTT** by Horace Tapscott. Jazz Musician. Los Angeles 1934 ñ 1999. \*781.65092 Tapscott.
- \*Vivien Thomas. **PARTNERS OF THE HEART, Vivien Thomas and His Work with Alfred Blalock** by Vivien Thomas. Laboratory researcher who pioneered cardiac surgical techniques with cardiologist Dr. Alfred Blalock at Johns Hopkins Hospital from 1940s-60s. \*921 Thomas
- \*Salome Thomas-El. **I CHOOSE TO STAY, A Black Teacher Refuses to Desert the Inner City** by Salome Thomas-El. Teacher, now a principal in Philadelphia schools. Coaches award winning inner city chess teams and motivates students to academic success. Also **THE IMMORTALITY OF INFLUENCE** by Salome Thomas-El. \*371.1 Thomas-El
- \*Dr. Howard Thurman. **WITH HEAD AND HEART, The Autobiography of Howard Thurman.** By Howard Thurman. Minister, philosopher, professor of theology at Howard University co-founder Fellowship Church in San Francisco, writer.
- \*Pierre Toussaint. **PIERRE TOUSSAINT, A Biography** by Arthur Jones. Successful entrepreneur in early 1800s in New York City. Born enslaved in Haiti, came to New York with his owners, emancipated in 1807, built very successful business as a hairstylist, helped found one of the first orphanages in N.Y., dedicated Catholic. He is presently a candidate for canonization by the Catholic Church. \*973.0496
- \*Judge Marcus O. Tucker. **THE HERITAGE OF AFRICAN AMERICANS IN LONG BEACH Over 100 Years** ed. Aaron Day et al. A short bio is included on Tucker, the first Black judge in the Long Beach Municipal Court, who successfully redirected juveniles toward success.
- \*James Milton Turner. **JAMES MILTON TURNER AND THE PROMISE OF AMERICA: The Public Life of a Post-Civil War Black Leader** by Gary Kremer. \*921 Turner. Born into slavery, sought education, became a civil rights leader & consul general to Liberia.
- \*Bishop Desmond Tutu. **NO FUTURE WITHOUT FORGIVENESS** by Desmond Tutu. Former Archbishop of Anglican Church in Cape Town, South Africa. Awarded 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for leading non-violent protest movement against South African apartheid laws.
- \*James Van DerZee. **JAMES VAN DERZEE, the Picture-takin' man** by James Haskins. Pioneer photographer of African American life. \*779 Van DerZee
- \*Booker T. Washington. **UP FROM SLAVERY, An Autobiography** by Booker T. Washington. \*921 Washington. Educator, founder of Tuskegee Institute in 1881 (now Tuskegee University) in Alabama, highly visible leader from 1895 to his death in 1915. Born into slavery. After 1865, worked in salt mines as a child, learned to read at 9, graduated from Hampton College. Founded Negro Business League in 1900, promoted education, saving, & entrepreneurship. Also **MY LARGER EDUCATION, Chapters from my Experience** by Booker T. Washington.
- \*Denzel Washington. **A HAND TO GUIDE ME** by Denzel Washington. Oscar winning actor. He narrates his own life and the people who mentored him along the way.
- \*George Washington Williams. **GEORGE WASHINGTON WILLIAMS, A Biography** by John Hope Franklin. Univ. of Chicago 1987. Pioneer historian about African American experience and achievement in the late 1800s.
- \*Paul Williams. **PAUL R. WILLIAMS, ARCHITECT: A Legacy of Style** by Karen Hudson. \*720.973 Williams (Reference). **THE WILL AND THE WAY: Paul R. Williams, Architect** by Karen Hudson. \*921 Williams. Outstanding Los Angeles architect 1930s ñ 1960s. Designed the LAX theme building, commercial and public buildings, & homes of movie stars. DVD: **PAUL WILLIAMS: A Legend in Architecture.**

- \*Jimmy Winkfield. **WINK, The Incredible Life and Epic Journey of Jimmy Winkfield** by Ed Hotelling. Born in 1880 in Kentucky, last Black winning jockey in Kentucky Derby, forced out of racing horses in US, went to Europe in the early 1900s and became highly successful jockey all over Europe. \*798.4 Winkfield
- \*Tiger Woods. **PLAYING THROUGH: Straight Talk on Hard Work, Big Dreams, and Adventures with Tiger** by Earl Woods. Golf champion, most successful player in golf world today. \*796.352 Woods.
- \*Dr. Carter G. Woodson. **CARTER G. WOODSON, A Life in Black History** by Jacqueline Goggin. Scholar, writer, publisher, founded Negro History Week in 1926 which became today's African American History Month, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (1915). His home in Washington D.C. is a national historic site. \*921 Woodson
- \*Richard Wright. **RICHARD WRIGHT, The Life and Times** by Hazel Rowley. Writer, novelist Wright's fiction illuminated the obstacles facing African Americans in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. His talent opened doors to an international life among major writers. \*921 Wright
- \*Malcolm X. **THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X** by Alex Haley. Transformed himself in prison, became a leading spokesman for the Nation of Islam in the 1960s but broke with their separatist philosophy before his death. \*921 X
- \*Andrew Young. **AN EASY BURDEN, The Civil Rights Movement and the Transformation of America** by Andrew Young. Activist minister in the 1950s-70s. Worked closely with Dr. King and churches, U.S. representative to the United Nations, Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia. \*323.4 Y
- \*Charles Young. **BLACK CADET IN A WHITE BASTION: Charles Young at West Point** by Brian Shellum. 3<sup>rd</sup> African American graduate of West Point in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century who went on to a long career in the U.S. Army. \*355.07 Young, C

## II. CAREER AREAS.

### *Architecture*

**AFRICAN AMERICAN ARCHITECTS, A Biographical Dictionary 1865 – 1945** ed. Dreck Wilson. Profiles over 150 architects, including several in Los Angeles. \*720.922 African.

### *Art & Literature*

**THE HARLEM LITERARY RENAISSANCE** by Lois Brown 810.9 Brown

### *Business*

**AFRICAN AMERICAN BUSINESS LEADERS AND ENTREPRENEURS**

by Rachel Kranz. Facts on File publishers 2004 (150 profiles) \*338 Kranz

**AGAINST ALL ODDS: Ten Entrepreneurs Who Followed Their Hearts and Found Success** by Wendy Harris. Profiles 10 successful African American entrepreneurs.

**BLACK BUSINESS: African American Entrepreneurs and Their Amazing Success** by Carole Marsh.

**CRACKING THE CORPORATE CODE: The Revealing Success Stories of 32**

**African-American Executives** by Price M. Cobbs. \*658.409 Cobbs

**TAKE A LESSON: Today's Black Achievers on How They Made It and What They Learned Along the Way** by Caroline Clark.

### *Explorers*

**AGAINST ALL OPPOSITION: Black Explorers in America** by James Haskins.

Profiles 6 intrepid explorers from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

*Selected internet resources*

***www.aahslb.org*** - Reading/video guides for the collections in the African American Resource Center at Burnett Public Library, 560 E. Hill St., Long Beach.

***www.thehistorymakers.com*** - An outstanding archive with biographies and video excerpts from interviews with living pioneers and African American achievers from all over the country.

***www.thebannekerinstitute.org*** - A new resource for profiles of *current* African American scientists who are making new discoveries and contributions to modern science. Also includes information on scholarships and grants to study math and science.

**Google “Blacks in Science”** for referral to “Minorities in Science: Guide to Reference Resources” located at Louisiana State University.

**<http://www.smpl.org/websource/marcustucker/index.htm>** - Access books in the Marcus Tucker Collection at the Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA.