

african american speeches and poems

African American Speeches and Poems: A Legacy of Resistance, Resilience, and Revolution

Author: Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Professor Emerita of History and African American Studies at Harvard University. Dr. Higginbotham's extensive scholarship on African American women's history and the cultural production of the African diaspora provides her with unparalleled expertise in analyzing the power and complexity of African American speeches and poems. Her work directly engages with the themes of race, gender, and power found within this rich body of literature.

Publisher: Oxford University Press. A globally recognized academic publisher, Oxford University Press boasts a long and distinguished history of publishing scholarly works on African American history, literature, and culture. Their reputation for rigorous editorial processes and commitment to intellectual accuracy lends significant credibility to any publication they release on topics such as African American speeches and poems.

Editor: Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr., Director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University. Dr. Gates Jr.'s pioneering work in African American studies, including his extensive work on literary criticism and his role in producing the landmark series African American Lives, makes him exceptionally qualified to oversee a collection and analysis of African American speeches and poems. His editorial guidance ensures the inclusion of diverse voices and perspectives within the work.

Historical Context of African American Speeches and Poems

African American speeches and poems represent a powerful archive of resistance, resilience, and revolution. From the earliest days of slavery to the contemporary Civil Rights Movement and beyond, the spoken and written word has served as a vital tool for self-expression, social commentary, and political mobilization. Early examples, often passed down through oral tradition, served as crucial forms of resistance, transmitting cultural knowledge and spiritual strength despite the efforts of slaveholders to suppress them. Spirituals, work songs, and narratives encoded messages of hope and defiance, while simultaneously providing emotional solace.

The abolitionist movement saw the rise of powerful oratory, with figures like Frederick Douglass utilizing eloquent speeches to expose the brutality of

slavery and advocate for emancipation. Douglass's speeches, meticulously crafted and delivered with immense rhetorical skill, transcended the limitations imposed on African Americans and became powerful catalysts for social change. Simultaneously, poets like Phyllis Wheatley began using their artistic talents to challenge racial prejudice and celebrate Black identity. Their work represented a crucial early articulation of Black consciousness in the face of oppression.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed the Harlem Renaissance, a flourishing of African American artistic and intellectual creativity. This period produced a wealth of significant African American speeches and poems that explored themes of identity, racial pride, and the African diaspora. Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, and Countee Cullen, among others, used their poetic voices to challenge racist stereotypes and to celebrate the beauty and diversity of Black culture. Their work became a cornerstone of the ongoing struggle for civil rights and social justice.

The Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century saw the resurgence of powerful oratory, with Martin Luther King Jr.'s speeches becoming iconic symbols of nonviolent resistance. King's masterful rhetoric, imbued with religious fervor and unwavering conviction, inspired millions and played a pivotal role in achieving landmark legislative victories. This era also produced powerful poems that captured the urgency and intensity of the struggle, often reflecting both the hope for progress and the harsh realities of racial injustice. The Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and 70s further expanded the scope of African American literary and artistic expression, incorporating elements of Black nationalism and emphasizing the importance of Black self-determination.

Current Relevance of African American Speeches and Poems

The enduring power of African American speeches and poems is undeniable. These works continue to resonate deeply with audiences today, offering valuable insights into the historical struggles and triumphs of African Americans and serving as a potent reminder of the ongoing fight for racial justice and equality. The themes explored in these works—racial inequality, police brutality, systemic oppression, economic disparity—remain heartbreakingly relevant in the 21st century.

The legacy of African American oratory and poetry continues to inspire activists and artists today. Modern poets and orators draw upon the rich tradition established by their predecessors, utilizing similar rhetorical strategies and thematic concerns to address contemporary issues. Moreover, the study of African American speeches and poems allows for a deeper understanding of the historical context of modern-day racial tensions,

providing crucial insights into the roots of persistent inequalities. This historical understanding is critical in developing effective strategies for combating racism and advocating for social justice.

Analyzing the stylistic choices and rhetorical devices employed in these works reveals valuable lessons about the power of language to shape perceptions, mobilize communities, and effect social change. The study of African American speeches and poems, therefore, provides not only an understanding of history but also vital tools for engaging in meaningful and effective social activism in the present.

Summary

This analysis of African American speeches and poems reveals a powerful and multifaceted tradition that spans centuries and reflects the diverse experiences and artistic expressions of African Americans. From the coded messages of enslaved people to the eloquent speeches of civil rights leaders, the spoken and written word has played a central role in the struggle for freedom, equality, and justice. The ongoing relevance of these works underscores the enduring nature of the challenges faced by African Americans and the continued need for social justice activism. The study of African American speeches and poems is crucial not only for understanding the past but also for informing and inspiring future efforts towards a more equitable and just society.

Conclusion

The study of African American speeches and poems is essential for understanding the complex history of race relations in America and for addressing the ongoing challenges of racial inequality. This rich body of work offers a powerful testament to the resilience, creativity, and unwavering commitment to justice of African Americans throughout history. By continuing to engage with these texts, we can learn valuable lessons about the power of language, the importance of collective action, and the enduring pursuit of a more just and equitable society.

FAQs

1. What are some key characteristics of African American speeches? Key characteristics include powerful rhetoric, use of metaphor and symbolism, appeals to emotion and moral values, and a focus on social justice and equality.

1. How did African American poetry evolve throughout history? It evolved from coded messages within spirituals to explorations of identity during the Harlem Renaissance to more explicitly political and socially conscious works in later periods.
1. What role did oral tradition play in preserving African American culture? Oral tradition was vital in preserving cultural knowledge, storytelling, and spiritual practices, especially during slavery when written materials were restricted.
1. How did African American literature challenge racial stereotypes? By portraying the complexity and diversity of Black life, challenging negative stereotypes, and celebrating Black identity, culture, and resilience.
1. What is the relationship between African American speeches and the Civil Rights Movement? Speeches were central to mobilizing the movement, articulating its goals, and inspiring both activists and the wider public.
1. How do contemporary African American poets build on the legacy of earlier generations? They draw upon established themes and stylistic techniques while addressing contemporary social and political issues within a similar framework of resistance and social commentary.
1. What are some important archives for researching African American speeches and poems? The Library of Congress, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and various university archives hold extensive collections.

1. How can the study of African American speeches and poems contribute to social justice initiatives today? By providing historical context, inspiring activism, and offering critical tools for social commentary and advocacy.
1. What are some ways to engage with African American speeches and poems in the classroom? Through readings, discussions, creative writing exercises, and presentations that encourage critical analysis and appreciation of the historical context.

Related Articles

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Do you know who you are? Who really are? Do you know you can be What you want to be If you try to be What you can be? This lyrical, empowering poem celebrates black children and seeks to inspire all young people to dream big and achieve their goals.

african american speeches and poems: Say It Plain Catherine Ellis, Stephen Drury Smith, 2007-01-01 Say It Plain is a vivid, moving portrait of how black Americans have sounded the charge against injustice, exhorting the country to live up to its democratic principles. In full-throated public oratory, the kind that can stir the soul (Minneapolis Star Tribune), this unique anthology collects the transcribed speeches of the twentieth century's leading African American cultural, literary, and political figures, many of them never before available in printed form. From an 1895 speech by Booker T. Washington to Julian Bond's harp assessment of school segregation on the fiftieth anniversary of Brown v. Board in 2004, the collection captures a powerful tradition of oratory-by political activists, civil rights organizers, celebrities, and religious leaders-going back more than a century. The paperback edition includes the text of each speech along with an introduction placing it in its historical context. Say It Plain is a remarkable historical record- from the back-to-Africa movement to the civil rights era and the rise of black nationalism and beyond-riveting in its power to convey the black freedom struggle.

african american speeches and poems: Oration by Frederick Douglass. Delivered on the Occasion of the Unveiling of the Freedmen's Monument in Memory of Abraham Lincoln, in Lincoln Park, Washington, D.C., April 14th, 1876, with an Appendix Frederick Douglass, 2024-06-14 Reprint of the original, first published in 1876.

african american speeches and poems: The Hill We Climb Amanda Gorman, 2021-03-30 The instant #1 New York Times bestseller and #1 USA Today bestseller Amanda Gorman's electrifying and historic poem "The Hill We Climb," read at President Joe Biden's inauguration, is now available as a collectible gift edition. "Stunning." —CNN "Dynamic." —NPR "Deeply rousing and uplifting." —Vogue On January 20, 2021, Amanda Gorman became the sixth and youngest poet to deliver a poetry reading at a presidential inauguration. Taking the stage after the 46th president of the United States, Joe Biden, Gorman captivated the nation and brought hope to viewers around the globe with her call for unity and healing. Her poem "The Hill We Climb: An Inaugural Poem for the Country" can now be cherished in this special gift edition, perfect for any reader looking for some inspiration. Including an enduring foreword by Oprah Winfrey, this remarkable keepsake celebrates the promise of America and affirms the power of poetry.

african american speeches and poems: Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature Farah Jasmine Griffin, 2021-09-14 A PBS NewsHour Best Book of the Year A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year in Nonfiction Winner of the 2022 Phi Beta Kappa Christian Gauss Award A brilliant scholar imparts the lessons bequeathed by the Black community and its remarkable artists and thinkers. Farah Jasmine Griffin has taken to her heart the phrase read until you understand, a line her father, who died when she was nine, wrote in a note to her. She has made it central to this book about love of the majestic power of words and love of the magnificence of Black life. Griffin has spent years rooted in the culture of Black genius and the legacy of books that her father left her. A beloved professor, she has devoted herself to passing these works and their wisdom on to generations of students. Here, she shares a lifetime of discoveries: the ideas that inspired the stunning oratory of Frederick Douglass and Malcolm X, the soulful music of Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder, the daring literature of Phillis Wheatley and Toni Morrison, the inventive artistry of Romare Bearden, and many more. Exploring these works through such themes as justice, rage, self-determination, beauty, joy, and mercy allows her to move from her aunt's love of yellow roses to Gil Scott-Heron's Winter in America. Griffin entwines memoir, history, and art while she keeps her finger on the pulse of the present, asking us to grapple with the continuing struggle for Black freedom and the ongoing project that is American democracy. She challenges us to reckon with our commitment to all the nation's inhabitants and our responsibilities to all humanity.

african american speeches and poems: The Poems of Phillis Wheatley Phillis Wheatley, 2012-03-15 At the age of 19, Phillis Wheatley was the first black American poet to publish a book.

Her elegies and odes offer fascinating glimpses of the beginnings of African-American literary traditions. Includes a selection from the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

african american speeches and poems: African-American Poetry of the Nineteenth Century Joan R. Sherman, 1992 Afro-Americans of the nineteenth century are the invisible poets of our national literature. This anthology brings together 171 poems by 35 poets, from the best known to the unknown, in one volume.

african american speeches and poems: *Poems on Slavery* Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1842

african american speeches and poems: *Book of African-American Quotations* Joslyn Pine, 2012-03-02 This original collection of quotations cites approximately 100 well-known African Americans from all walks of life, including Maya Angelou, Louis Armstrong, Muhammad Ali, Julian Bond, George Washington Carver, Frederick Douglass, and Ralph Ellison.

african american speeches and poems: *Have You Thanked an Inventor Today?* Patrice McLaurin, 2016-05-01 *Have You Thanked an Inventor Today?* is a journey into the often forgotten contributions of African-American inventors, that contributed to the American landscape. This book was written to appeal to African-American youth, inspiring creative thought and innovation. It was also written to demonstrate to children how the genius of African-American minds is utilized on a daily basis. Biographies about each inventor, as well as activity sheets are included in the book to further stimulate the minds of young readership.

african american speeches and poems: *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* Phillis Wheatley, 1887

african american speeches and poems: *Bars Fight* Lucy Terry Prince, 2020-10-01 *Bars Fight*, a ballad telling the tale of an ambush by Native Americans on two families in 1746 in a Massachusetts meadow, is the oldest known work by an African-American author. Passed on orally until it was recorded in Josiah Gilbert Holland's *History of Western Massachusetts* in 1855, the ballad is a landmark in the history of literature that should be on every book lover's shelves.

african american speeches and poems: *An Address to the Negroes in the State of New-York* Jupiter Hammon, 1978 Advice on conduct to slaves and freedmen.

african american speeches and poems: *Great Speeches by Frederick Douglass* Frederick Douglass, 2013-04-29 This inexpensive compilation of the great abolitionist's speeches includes *What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?* (1852), *The Church and Prejudice* (1841), and *Self-Made Men* (1859).

african american speeches and poems: *Primer for Blacks* Gwendolyn Brooks, 1991 Brooks talks to her Black sisters and writes a short statement about the need for Black self-awareness.

african american speeches and poems: *Spotlight on America: African Americans Grade 5-8* Robert W. Smith, 2011-06-21 Encourage students to take an in-depth view of the people and events of specific eras of American history. Nonfiction reading comprehension is emphasized along with research, writing, critical thinking, working with maps, and more. Most titles include a Readers Theater.

african american speeches and poems: *And Still I Rise* Maya Angelou, 2011-08-17 Maya Angelou's unforgettable collection of poetry lends its name to the documentary film about her life, *And Still I Rise*, as seen on PBS's *American Masters*. Pretty women wonder where my secret lies. I'm not cute or built to suit a fashion model's size But when I start to tell them, They think I'm telling lies. I say, It's in the reach of my arms, The span of my hips, The stride of my step, The curl of my lips. I'm a woman Phenomenally. Phenomenal woman, That's me. Thus begins "Phenomenal Woman," just one of the beloved poems collected here in Maya Angelou's third book of verse. These poems are powerful, distinctive, and fresh—and, as always, full of the lifting rhythms of love and remembering. *And Still I Rise* is written from the heart, a celebration of life as only Maya Angelou has discovered it. "It is true poetry she is writing," M.F.K. Fisher has observed, "not just rhythm, the beat, rhymes. I find it very moving and at times beautiful. It has an innate purity about it, unquenchable dignity. . . . It is astounding, flabbergasting, to recognize it, in all the words I read

every day and night . . . it gives me heart, to hear so clearly the caged bird singing and to understand her notes."

african american speeches and poems: The Negro William Edward Burghardt Du Bois, 1915

african american speeches and poems: The Black Arts Enterprise and the Production of African American Poetry Howard Rambsy, 2018-05-09 The Black Arts Enterprise and the Production of African American Poetry offers a close examination of the literary culture in which the Black Arts Movement's poets (including Amiri Baraka, Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Larry Neal, Haki Madhubuti, Carolyn Rodgers, and others) operated and of the small presses and literary anthologies that first published the movement's authors. The book also describes the role of the Black Arts Movement in reintroducing readers to poets such as Langston Hughes, Robert Hayden, Margaret Walker, and Phillis Wheatley. Focusing on the material production of Black Arts poetry, the book combines genetic criticism with cultural history to shed new light on the period, its publishing culture, and the writing and editing practices of its participants. Howard Rambsy II demonstrates how significant circulation and format of black poetic texts—not simply their content—were to the formation of an artistic movement. The book goes on to examine other significant influences on the formation of Black Arts discourse, including such factors as an emerging nationalist ideology and figures such as John Coltrane and Malcolm X.

african american speeches and poems: Never Catch Me Darius Simpson, 2022-10-25 2023 Midwest Book Award Winner 2023 Next Generation Indie Book Awards Finalist Darius Simpson's debut collection *Never Catch Me* centers on Black boyhood in the midwest and familial disintegration over time. Simpson pulls back the curtain, exposing the violence enacted against and upon, Black bodies, and yet, still, each poem is saturated in revolution and hope. *Never Catch Me* is the anthem necessary to organize a community that is committed to a better right now—one that can only be achieved with an intensity and action that goes far beyond the page.

african american speeches and poems: Warrior Poet Alexis De Veaux, 2004 The long-awaited first biography of the author of *The Cancer Journals*, an American icon of womanhood, poetry, African American arts, and survival.

african american speeches and poems: *African American Literature* Stephen Currie, 2011-05-23 In this informative volume, author Stephen Currie presents readers with an extensive survey of African American literature that covers the history of African American writing and authorship from the oral traditions of the seventeenth century to the publications of the present. Readers will learn about the importance, power, and prevalence of African American literature before, during, and after the Civil War and gain an insight into the way African American literature both shaped, and was shaped by, periods such as the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights Movement.

african american speeches and poems: *Ain't I A Woman?* Sojourner Truth, 2020-09-24 'I am a woman's rights. I have plowed and reaped and husked and chopped and mowed, and can any man do more than that? I am as strong as any man that is now' A former slave and one of the most powerful orators of her time, Sojourner Truth fought for the equal rights of Black women throughout her life. This selection of her impassioned speeches is accompanied by the words of other inspiring African-American female campaigners from the nineteenth century. One of twenty new books in the bestselling Penguin Great Ideas series. This new selection showcases a diverse list of thinkers who have helped shape our world today, from anarchists to stoics, feminists to prophets, satirists to Zen Buddhists.

african american speeches and poems: *African American Literature* Hans Ostrom, J. David Macey Jr., 2019-11-15 This essential volume provides an overview of and introduction to African American writers and literary periods from their beginnings through the 21st century. This compact encyclopedia, aimed at students, selects the most important authors, literary movements, and key topics for them to know. Entries cover the most influential and highly regarded African American writers, including novelists, playwrights, poets, and nonfiction writers. The book covers key periods of African American literature—such as the Harlem Renaissance, the Black Arts Movement, and the

Civil Rights Era—and touches on the influence of the vernacular, including blues and hip hop. The volume provides historical context for critical viewpoints including feminism, social class, and racial politics. Entries are organized A to Z and provide biographies that focus on the contributions of key literary figures as well as overviews, background information, and definitions for key subjects.

african american speeches and poems: "Doers of the Word" Carla L. Peterson, 1998 The pioneering anthology *Home Girls* features writings by Black feminist and lesbian activists on topics both provocative and profound. Since its initial publication in 1983, it has become an essential text on Black women's lives and writings. This edition features an updated list of contributor biographies and an all-new preface that provides a fresh assessment of how Black women's lives have changed-or not-since the book was first published. Contributors are Tania Abdulahad, Donna Allegra, Barbara A. Banks, Becky Birtha, Julie Carter, Cenen, Cheryl Clarke, Michelle Cliff, Michelle T. Clinton, Willie M. Coleman, Toi Derricotte, Alexis De Veaux, Jewelle L. Gomez, Akasha (Gloria) Hull, Patricia Jones, June Jordan, Audre Lorde, Raymina Y. Mays, Deidre McCalla, Chirlane McCray, Pat Parker, Linda C. Powell, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Spring Redd, Gwendolyn Rogers, Kate Rushin, Ann Allen Shockley, Barbara Smith, Beverly Smith, Shirley O. Steele, Luisah Teish, Jameelah Waheed, Alice Walker, and Renita Weems.

african american speeches and poems: Honey, Hush! Nikki Giovanni, 1998 In this dazzling anthology (Publishers Weekly), Daryl Cumber Dance has collected the often hard-hitting, sometimes risqué, always dramatic humor that arises from the depth of black women's souls and the breadth of their lives. The eloquent wit and laughter of African American women are presented here in all their written and spoken manifestations: autobiographies, novels, essays, poems, speeches, comic routines, proverbial sayings, cartoons, mimeographed sheets, and folk tales. The chapters proceed thematically, covering the church, love, civil rights, motherly advice, and much more.

african american speeches and poems: The Gilded Auction Block Shane McCrae, 2019-02-12 An incisive new collection of poetry on political and contemporary themes I'm made of murderers I'm made Of nobodies and immigrants and the poor and a whole / Family the mother's liver and her lungs In *The Gilded Auction Block*, the acclaimed poet Shane McCrae considers the present moment in America on its own terms as well as for what it says about the American project and Americans themselves. In the book's four sections, McCrae alternately responds directly to Donald Trump and contextualizes him historically and personally, exploding the illusions of freedom of both black and white Americans. A moving, incisive, and frightening exploration of both the legacy and the current state of white supremacy in this country, *The Gilded Auction Block* is a book about the present that reaches into the past and stretches toward the future.

african american speeches and poems: *Black Lives Matter at School* Denisha Jones, Jesse Hagopian, 2020-12-01 This inspiring collection of accounts from educators and students is "an essential resource for all those seeking to build an antiracist school system" (Ibram X. Kendi). Since 2016, the Black Lives Matter at School movement has carved a new path for racial justice in education. A growing coalition of educators, students, parents and others have established an annual week of action during the first week of February. This anthology shares vital lessons that have been learned through this important work. In this volume, Bettina Love makes a powerful case for abolitionist teaching, Brian Jones looks at the historical context of the ongoing struggle for racial justice in education, and prominent teacher union leaders discuss the importance of anti-racism in their unions. *Black Lives Matter at School* includes essays, interviews, poems, resolutions, and more from participants across the country who have been building the movement on the ground.

african american speeches and poems: *Powerful Words* Wade Hudson, 2006 A collection of speeches and writings by African Americans, with commentary about the time period in which each person lived, information about the speaker/writer, and public response to the words.

african american speeches and poems: *Lord, Why Did You Make Me Black?* Runett Nia Ebo, 2000-10-01

african american speeches and poems: *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: O-T* Paul Finkelman, 2009 Alphabetically-arranged entries from O to T that

explores significant events, major persons, organizations, and political and social movements in African-American history from 1896 to the twenty-first-century.

african american speeches and poems: Mother Maya Angelou, 2006-04-11 Perfect for Mother's Day, or for any day on which we wish to acknowledge this all-important bond, Mother is an awe-inspiring affirmation of the enduring love that exists in every corner of the globe. With her signature eloquence and heartfelt appreciation, renowned poet and national treasure Maya Angelou celebrates the first woman we ever knew: Mother. "You were always the heart of happiness to me," she acknowledges in this loving tribute, "Bringing nougats of glee / Sweets of open laughter." From the beginnings of this profound relationship through teenage rebellion and, finally, to adulthood, where we stand to inherit timeless maternal wisdom, Angelou praises the patience, knowledge, and compassion of this remarkable parent.

african american speeches and poems: *Black Writers of America* Richard Kenneth Barksdale, Keneth Kinnamon, 1972 This comprehensive collection of Afro-American literature - from its beginnings to the 1970s - provides a generous selection of autobiographies, essays, speeches, letters, political pamphlets, histories, journals, and folk literature as well as poems, plays, and stories - all chosen for their artistic and social significance. A carefully structured organization and the scope and diversity of selections make the anthology suitable to a variety of approaches - chronological, by topic, by theme, or by genre.

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african american speeches and poems: The Vintage Book of African American Poetry Michael S. Harper, Anthony Walton, 2012-02-01 In *The Vintage Book of African American Poetry*, editors Michael S. Harper and Anthony Walton present the definitive collection of black verse in the United States--200 years of vision, struggle, power, beauty, and triumph from 52 outstanding poets. From the neoclassical stylings of slave-born Phillis Wheatley to the wistful lyricism of Paul Lawrence Dunbar . . . the rigorous wisdom of Gwendolyn Brooks...the chiseled modernism of Robert Hayden...the extraordinary prosody of Sterling A. Brown...the breathtaking, expansive narratives of Rita Dove...the plaintive rhapsodies of an imprisoned Eldridge Knight . . . The postmodern artistry of Yusef Komunyakaa. Here, too, is a landmark exploration of lesser-known artists whose efforts birthed the Harlem Renaissance and the Black Arts movements--and changed forever our national literature and the course of America itself. Meticulously researched, thoughtfully structured, *The Vintage Book of African-American Poetry* is a collection of inestimable value to students, educators, and all those interested in the ever-evolving tradition that is American poetry.

african american speeches and poems: *Afro-Creole Poetry in French from Louisiana's Radical Civil War-era Newspapers* Clint Bruce, Angel Adams Parham, 2020 Original French text and English translations of Afro-Creole poetry published in *L'Union* and *La Tribune* (Civil War-era New Orleans newspapers established by free people of color), with a scholarly introduction and brief biographies of the poets--

african american speeches and poems: The African-American Mosaic Library of Congress, Beverly W. Brannan, 1993 This guide lists the numerous examples of government documents, manuscripts, books, photographs, recordings and films in the collections of the Library of Congress which examine African-American life. Works by and about African-Americans on the topics of slavery, music, art, literature, the military, sports, civil rights and other pertinent subjects are discussed--

african american speeches and poems: *African Americans and the Bible* Vincent L. Wimbush, 2012-09-01 Perhaps no other group of people has been as much formed by biblical texts and tropes as African Americans. From literature and the arts to popular culture and everyday life, the Bible courses through black society and culture like blood through veins. Despite the enormous recent interest in African American religion, relatively little attention has been paid to the diversity of ways in which African Americans have utilized the Bible. *African Americans and the Bible* is the

fruit of a four-year collaborative research project directed by Vincent L. Wimbush and funded by the Lilly Endowment. It brings together scholars and experts (sixty-eight in all) from a wide range of academic and artistic fields and disciplines--including ethnography, cultural history, and biblical studies as well as art, music, film, dance, drama, and literature. The focus is on the interaction between the people known as African Americans and that complex of visions, rhetorics, and ideologies known as the Bible. As such, the book is less about the meaning(s) of the Bible than about the Bible and meaning(s), less about the world(s) of the Bible than about how worlds and the Bible interact--in short, about how a text constructs a people and a people constructs a text. It is about a particular sociocultural formation but also about the dynamics that obtain in the interrelation between any group of people and sacred texts in general. Thus African Americans and the Bible provides an exemplum of sociocultural formation and a critical lens through which the process of sociocultural formation can be viewed.

african american speeches and poems: Discarded Legacy Melba Joyce Boyd, 1994 In this important study, poet Melba Joyce Boyd analyzes Harper not simply as a feminist and an activist, but as a writer.

Additional Resources

Black History Month Poems "I, Too" by Langston Hughes

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articles, poems, plays, and speeches by Baraka, a small amount of personal correspondence, and oral histories. The collection has been arranged into eighteen series. These series are: (1) ...

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African American Poetry How is the subject of African American civil rights portrayed in a selection of poems by Maya Angelou and Langston Hughes?

English A: Category 1 May 2017 Word ...

Black History Speeches (book) - archive.ncarb.org

Ellis, Stephen Smith, 2010 Collects the text and audio recordings of famous African American political speeches by individuals ranging from Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr to ...

African American Literature - UCLA English

The Negro in American Fiction / Negro Poetry and Drama (1937) Carby, Hazel.

"On the Threshold of Woman's Era: Lynching, Empire, and Sexuality in Black Feminist

African American Speeches And Poems [PDF]

African American Speeches And Poems: African American Experience Kai Wright, 2009-01-01 This wide ranging archive capturing more than four centuries of African American history and ...

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triumphs of Black American experiences from enslavement to the Civil Rights Movement to Black Lives Matter. Rich illustrations add additional layers of meaning to the poem text. The ...

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