PICTURE BOOKS

The Secret Garden of George Washington Carver by Gene Baretta
Learn about George Washington Carver, the black man who developed over 300 products from the peanut and was a Tuskegee University professor who became one of the greatest agricultural scientists from the world. Born enslaved in 1864, as a boy tended to a "secret garden" where he learned to connect with nature. It was this connection that sparked his life-long passion for science. "When you do the common things in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world"-George W. Carver

Mr. Okra Sells Fresh Fruit and Vegetables by Lashon Daley
Freedom Soup by Tami Charles
Mmmmmm! Soup Joumou by Carline Smothers

FEATURED AUTHOR: Jerrelle Guy

Jerrelle Guy published her first cookbook, Black Girl Baking, just as she was graduating with a Master’s degree in Gastronomy from Boston University in the spring of 2018. She believes, food has always been what has shaped her—her body, her character, her experiences and her palate. Growing up as the sensitive, slightly awkward child of three in a race-conscious space, she decided early on that she’d rather spend her time eating cookies and honey buns than taking on the weight of worldly issues. Black Girl Baking earned a nomination from the James Beard Foundation as one of the best baking and dessert cookbooks of the year. “I’m excited to push convention if it means allowing hope for someone who wants to follow their passion but also make money doing it.”-Jerrelle Guy.

CHAPTER BOOKS

From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks
Everyone thinks Zoe’s worrying about doing a good job at her bakery internship and proving to her parents that she’s worthy of auditioning for Food Network’s Kids Bake Challenge. But with bakery confections on one part of her mind, and Marcus’s conviction weighing heavily on the other, this is one recipe Zoe doesn’t know how to balance. The only thing she knows to be true: Everyone lies.
AWARD-WINNING BOOK

Yummy: The Last Days of a South Side Shorty
Written by 2011 Coretta Scott King Award winner G. Neri
Roger is eleven years old and trying to make sense of the world around him. In this award winning graphic novel illustrated by Randy Duburke, Roger has to figure out the death of Robert “Yummy” Sandifer. Was Yummy the monster he was painted by society to be? Was Yummy just as sweet as his name sounds and simply a victim of Chicago gang life. The words and the pictures in this graphic novel depict a wonderful story you won’t be able to put down. Go with Roger on his Journey through Chicago Southside.

TEENS

With the Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevedo
Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni’s life has been about making tough decisions. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, turning her food into straight-up goodness. Even though she dreams of working as a chef, Emoni knows that it’s not worth her time to pursue the impossible. But once she starts cooking, her only choice is to let her talent break free.

NON-FICTION

Notes from a Young Black Chef: A memoir by Kwame Onwuachi
By the time he was twenty-seven, Kwame Onwuachi had competed on Top Chef, cooked at the White House, and opened and closed one of the most talked about restaurants in America. In this inspiring memoir, he shares the remarkable story of his culinary coming-of-age. Growing up in the Bronx and Nigeria (where he was sent by his mother to "learn respect"), food was Onwuachi’s great love. He launched his own catering company with twenty thousand dollars he made selling candy on the subway, and trained in the kitchens of some of the most acclaimed restaurants in the country. A powerful, heartfelt, and shockingly honest memoir of following your dreams—even when they don’t turn out as you expected.

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