Nonfiction Picture Books

**Trombone Shorty**
by Troy Andrews
Grammy-nominated Jazz musician Troy Andrews describes his childhood in Tremé, how he got his nickname, and how he became a bandleader by age six. Call#: 788.9 Andrews

**Preaching to the Chickens**
*The Story of Young John Lewis*
by Jabari Asim
A fascinating glimpse into the childhood of Civil Rights leader John Lewis, who practiced preaching by using the chickens he cared for as his stand-in congregation. Call#: BIO: Lewis, John

**Whoosh!**
*Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions*
by Chris Barton
Chronicles the life and achievements of the NASA engineer and inventor, from his childhood to his accidental invention of the Super-Soaker water gun. Call#: BIO: Johnson, Lonnie

**He's Got the Whole World in His Hands**
by Kadir Nelson
Gorgeous illustrations portray the folk song's message, capturing the beauty and joy of living in and engaging with the world through the eyes of a child. Call#: 782.42 Nelson

**Just Like Me**
by Vanessa Brantley-Newton
A collection of poetic mini-stories explores the feelings and experiences of everyday girls from diverse perspectives and backgrounds. Call#: 811.54 Newton

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**Ella Fitzgerald**
*The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa*
by Andrea Davis Pinkney
Scat Cat Monroe, a fictional feline fan, tells the inspiring story of the Queen of Scat. Call#: BIO: Fitzgerald, Ella

**Shades of Black**
*A Celebration of Our Children*
by Sandra L. Pinkney
A collection of full-color photos with lively read-aloud text celebrates the beauty and diversity of African-American children. Call#: 305.8 Pinkney

**Radiant Child**
*The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*
by Javaka Steptoe
This introduction to Basquiat's early life describes how as a boy he saw art in all things and ultimately used his unique collage-style paintings to depict New York City. Call#: 740.92 Steptoe

**Schomburg**
*The Man Who Built a Library*
by Carole Boston Weatherford
Describes Afro-Puerto Rican legal clerk Arturo Schomburg's efforts to curate a collection of African books, letters, music, and art. Call#: BIO: Schomburg, Arturo

Black Books Matter: Picture Books Starring Protagonists of Color
Crown : An Ode to the Fresh Cut by Derrick D. Barnes Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

Hair Love : A Celebration of Daddies and Daughters Everywhere by Matthew A. Cherry A little girl's daddy steps in to help her arrange her curly, coiling, wild hair into styles that allow her to be her natural, beautiful self.

The Ring Bearer by Floyd Cooper This sweet celebration of blended families finds Little Jackson diligently preparing for his role as ring-bearer at his mother's wedding, while supporting his new stepsister, who is struggling with her duties as flower girl.

Firebird by Misty Copeland Professional ballerina Misty Copeland encourages an insecure young girl to believe in herself and achieve her dreams through hard work and dedication.

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

Mixed Me! by Taye Diggs Rhyming text shares a day in the life of a mixed-race child named Mike as he answers questions about being mixed race.

In Plain Sight : A Game by Richard Jackson A young girl and her ailing grandfather play a daily game of lost-and-found that leads them through layers of memory and family history.

Violet's Music by Angela Johnson Music obsessed Violet is desperate to find a friend with whom she can share her passion. After a long search, she finds the perfect one.

Double Bass Blues by Andrea J. Loney After school orchestra practice, young Nic carries his double bass home on the bus to his grandfather's house, where they play jazz music together.

Sulwe by Lupita Nyong’o Sulwe’s beautiful, midnight-colored skin makes her feel different from everyone until a magical journey in the night sky transforms her perspective.

Going Down Home With Daddy by Kelly Starling Lyons Alan loves the annual family reunion at the farm where his Daddy grew up, but he is worried that he can't think of anything special to share.

Hands Up! by Breanna J. McDaniel A young girl lifts her hands up in a series of everyday moments before finally raising her hands in resistance at a protest march.

What Is Given from the Heart by Patricia C. McKissack Despite their own poverty since Daddy died, Mama tells James Otis they need to help little Sarah, whose family lost everything in a fire.

Saturday by Oge Mora When a specially planned mother-and-daughter Saturday is upended by a series of disappointments, the daughter comforts her mother, saying that being together is the most important thing.

Hey Black Child by Useni Eugene Perkins A celebration of the wonder and potential of black children, told through poetic text and beautiful illustrations.

Astro Girl by Ken Wilson-Max A little girl and her father role-play their dream of becoming an astronaut by pretending to be in zero gravity, eating food from a tube and doing cookie-sheet science experiments. When her mother arrives, the inspiration for her ambitions become clear.