June 9, 2022

Anti-Racist Summer Reading List

Happy Thursday, Mount Sinai Community,

The weather is getting warmer and summer is only a few weeks away. In that spirit, this week we’re excited to share a curated “summer reading list” that touches on the themes we discuss each week: the history of race in America, the lived experience of people of color, and what it means to be anti-racist.

Unlike a traditional school reading list, this one acknowledges that not everyone consumes media the same way—or has time to read a 300-plus-page book—so we’ve included movies and podcasts on the list, too. We hope you enjoy some of these recommendations. And if you have a favorite movie, television show, book, or podcast that touches on these topics, please let us know!

Watch

13th—Directed by Ava DuVernay, this film is “an in-depth look at the prison system in the United States and how it reveals the nation's history of racial inequality.”

Listen

Color Code Podcast by STAT—“Hosted by award-winning journalist Nicholas St. Fleur, Color Code weaves together stories and experiences of physicians, patients, historians, and other experts to illuminate the history of racism in the health care system and how it has impacted—and continues to impact—people of color and underserved communities.”

Read
Read

*The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson—“In this beautifully written masterwork, the Pulitzer Prize winner and bestselling author of *Caste* chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of Black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.”

*True: The Four Seasons of Jackie Robinson* by Kostya Kennedy—“*True* is a probing, richly detailed, unique biography of Jackie Robinson, one of baseball's—and America's—most significant figures.”

*Trauma and Recovery* by Judith Lewis Herman, MD—“*Trauma and Recovery* is revered as the seminal text on understanding trauma survivors. By placing individual experience in a broader political frame, Harvard psychiatrist Judith Herman argues that psychological trauma is inseparable from its social and political context.”

For more summer reading material, we encourage you to check out the New York Public Library (NYPL) lists, including the Schomburg Center’s Black Liberation Reading List, the Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Reading List, and the NYPL’s Essential Reads on Feminism. It also has a series of sundry Pride-related media.

To find your local library, visit NYPL locations (for Manhattan, the Bronx, and Staten Island) or the Queens or Brooklyn Public Libraries.

We’d also like to remind everyone of the United in Solidarity Resource Guide that includes a number of books, movies, podcasts, and other anti-racist resources.

We hope you’ll consider our summer reading list over the next few months—whether on your daily commute, on an overnight trip, or wherever you choose. If you like what you read, listen to, or watch, we encourage you to share it with a friend or two so that others can learn about anti-racist education and expand their knowledge of equity and inclusion.

As always, we invite you to attend an upcoming event.

All the best,

Angela and Shawn

Upcoming Events

*Celebration of Juneteenth*—Visit information tables throughout the Health Sciences North campus to learn about the history of Juneteenth and explore relevant resources.

*Native American Awareness Week*—Join a panel discussion on the history and significance of Native American culture in the United States. Includes a traditional drumming performance and interactive activities for all ages.

*Black History Month*—Museums and libraries across the city host special exhibitions and programs celebrating the contributions of African Americans in history.

*Women's History Month*—Hosted by the Women’s Resource Center, this month-long event features workshops, lectures, and screenings dedicated to the achievements of women in various fields.
System on **Monday, June 13**, to learn about Juneteenth, which recognizes the day in 1865 when enslaved Black Americans in Galveston, Texas, found out that they had been officially freed two years earlier by the Emancipation Proclamation.

- Corporate Services Center, Fourth Floor Dining Area, noon-2 pm
- Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Linsky Lobby, 10 am-noon
- Mount Sinai Brooklyn, Cafeteria Lobby, 1-2 pm
- Mount Sinai Hospital/Heart, Guggenheim Pavilion Lobby, 11:30 am-2 pm
- Mount Sinai Morningside, Hospital Lobby, 11 am-2 pm
- Mount Sinai Queens, Café Lobby, noon-1 pm
- Mount Sinai West, Cafeteria Lobby, 11 am-3 pm
- Mount Sinai South Nassau, Hospital Atrium, noon-2 pm

We’ve added another tabling event on **Wednesday, June 15**:

- New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai, outside Cafeteria, 11:30 am-1 pm

This [link](#) includes registration details for all of our upcoming Juneteenth events. Hope to see you there!

- **Reflections of Healing and Hope**—Join us on **Tuesday, June 14, at 1 pm** as we reflect on recent racial and ethnic tragedies and share stories and experiences of strength and resilience as we approach Juneteenth.

- **Juneteenth Jeopardy**—Watch BLACC ERG teams from Mount Sinai Morningside, Mount Sinai Queens, and Mount Sinai West compete in a Jeopardy game on **Wednesday, June 15, at noon**! Come cheer on your colleagues and maybe learn something new.

- **A Conversation with Black Leaders**—Learn more about several of our Black Health System leaders as they share critical moments that impacted their careers on **Thursday, June 16, at noon**.

- **Juneteenth Poetry Open Mic Night**—Recite your own poems or recite one or two from a favorite Black poet during Open Mic night on **Thursday, June 16, at 5:30 pm**. Words and knowledge are powerful.

- **Juneteenth Dance Performance by the Edge School of the Arts (ESOTA)**—On **Friday, June 17, at noon**, view a special dance performance in celebration of Juneteenth.

**Deeper Dive: Responding to Racist Patient Behavior**—How can we support our colleagues when responding to racist patient behaviors? Join us on **Tuesday, June 14, from noon to 1 pm** as we continue to discuss strategies to build trust among colleagues and our patients. [Register on Zoom](#).