



Summer 2026 Reading List

These reading lists will serve as a resource throughout the commemoration, guiding individuals and book groups to diverse and enriching literary works that promote knowledge and critical thinking centered around Colorado and US History, authors, and illustrators. Many, but not all, of these titles may be found at your local public library. *Please note: The suggested reading list is provided exclusively as a courtesy, and readers should note that not all books will be appropriate for all readers.*

Nonfiction

Chief Left Hand: Southern Arapaho by Margaret Coel

Black Cowboys of the Old West: True, Sensational, And Little Known Stories from History by Tricia Martineau Wagner

Tomboy Bride by Harriet Fish Backus

Women of the Colorado Gold Rush Era by Jan Gunia and J. V. L Bell

Colorado's Japanese Americans by Bill Hosokawa

Black Smoke by Adrian Miller

West of the Revolution: An Uncommon History of 1776 by Claudio Saunt

Nothing Like it in the World: The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad 1863-1869 by Stephen Ambrose

The Life and Times of Richard Castro by Richard Gould

The Rediscovery of America by Ned Blackhawk

Fiction

The Song of the Lark by Willa Cather

Youth

All the Impossible Things by Lindsay Lackey



Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer and Monique Gray Smith

