Building a Diverse Asian American Library: A Toolkit

By Miriam Tuliao

Are you thinking of ways to build a diverse library through equity, diversity and inclusion? Not sure where to begin? In this toolkit, we will share some resources for you to consider to support your community of readers!

- **Guidelines for Building an Inclusive Library**

When thinking of building an inclusive library, consider reviewing these resources from the American Library Association on Diverse Collections, EDI and Intellectual Freedom:

**Resources**

- [AASL Standards Framework for Learners, American Association of School Librarians](#)
- [APALA Rubric to Evaluate Asian American and Pacific Islander Youth Literature](#)
- [Anti-Racism Resources for All Ages, A Project by the Augusta Baker Chair](#)
- [Assessing Community Needs and Resources, Community Tool Box, Center for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas](#)
- [Asian-American Writers, Wikipedia](#)
- "[Diverse Collections: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#)”, American Library Association
- [The Diversity Baseline Survey, Lee & Low Books](#)
- [Diversity Considerations in YA: Doing a Diversity Audit](#)
- [Doing a YA Collection Diversity Audit: Understanding Your Local Community, Teen Librarian Toolbox](#)
- “[Equity, Diversity, Inclusion: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#)”, American Library Association
- "[Intellectual Freedom Core Documents](#)", American Library Association
- [Picture This: Reflecting Diversity in Children's Book Publishing by Sarah Dahlen Park](#)
Selected Readings and Publications

- *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature (RDYL)*, St. Catherine University Master of Library and Information Science Program and University Library

**APALA Rubric to Evaluate Asian American and Pacific Youth Literature**

From the *Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)*, “this rubric is intended to function as a guide, not a checklist, while reviewing and evaluating Asian American and Pacific Islander American (APIA) youth literature for readers who are 0-18 years old. Throughout the rubric, some terms requiring context will be in boldface type and defined in the glossary attached. We use the term “APIA” throughout this rubric, though much of the criteria can be applied to the Asian diaspora, which is very diverse in terms of geography, culture, language, religion, and so on.” Read more [here](#).
When thinking of collection development policy in your library and/or class rooms, you may want to follow these steps outlined by KQED's Kara Newhouse.

**Booklists**
- [Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Reading List, New York Public Library](#)
- [Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association Literature Awards](#)
- [Asian American Pacific Islander Booklist, Children’s Book Committee, Bank Street College of Education](#)
- [BookDragon: Books for the Diverse Reader, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center](#)
- [Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) Booklists](#)
- [Gold House Book Club’s Children List](#)
- [KiBooka: Kids Books by Korean Americans](#)
- [Social Justice Books: Asian Americans](#)
- [Worlds of Words Booklists, University of Arizona](#)

**Organizations & Groups**
- [Asian Author Alliance](#)
- [Asian American Writers’ Workshop](#)
- [Cooperative Children’s Book Center](#)
- [Desi Books](#)
- [South Asian Writers](#)
- [We Need Diverse Books](#)

**Publishers/Imprints**
- [Kokila Books](#)
- [Lee & Low Books](#)
- [Tuttle Publishing](#)
- [UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press Collection](#)
- [University of Hawai’i Press](#)
- [University of Illinois Press](#)
- [University of Washington Press](#)