



and the Friends of the Allen Public Library say
"Thank You"
to the people, organizations & businesses that made
this project possible for 2017!

family circle

Allen Arts Alliance ◻ Allen Public Library ◻ City of Allen
Foundation for Allen Schools ◻ HumanitiesTexas*

friendship circle

Allen ISD ◻ Allen Kiwanis Club
Allen Noon & Sunrise Rotary Clubs ◻ Barbara Buehler
Red Pepper Productions, Inc.

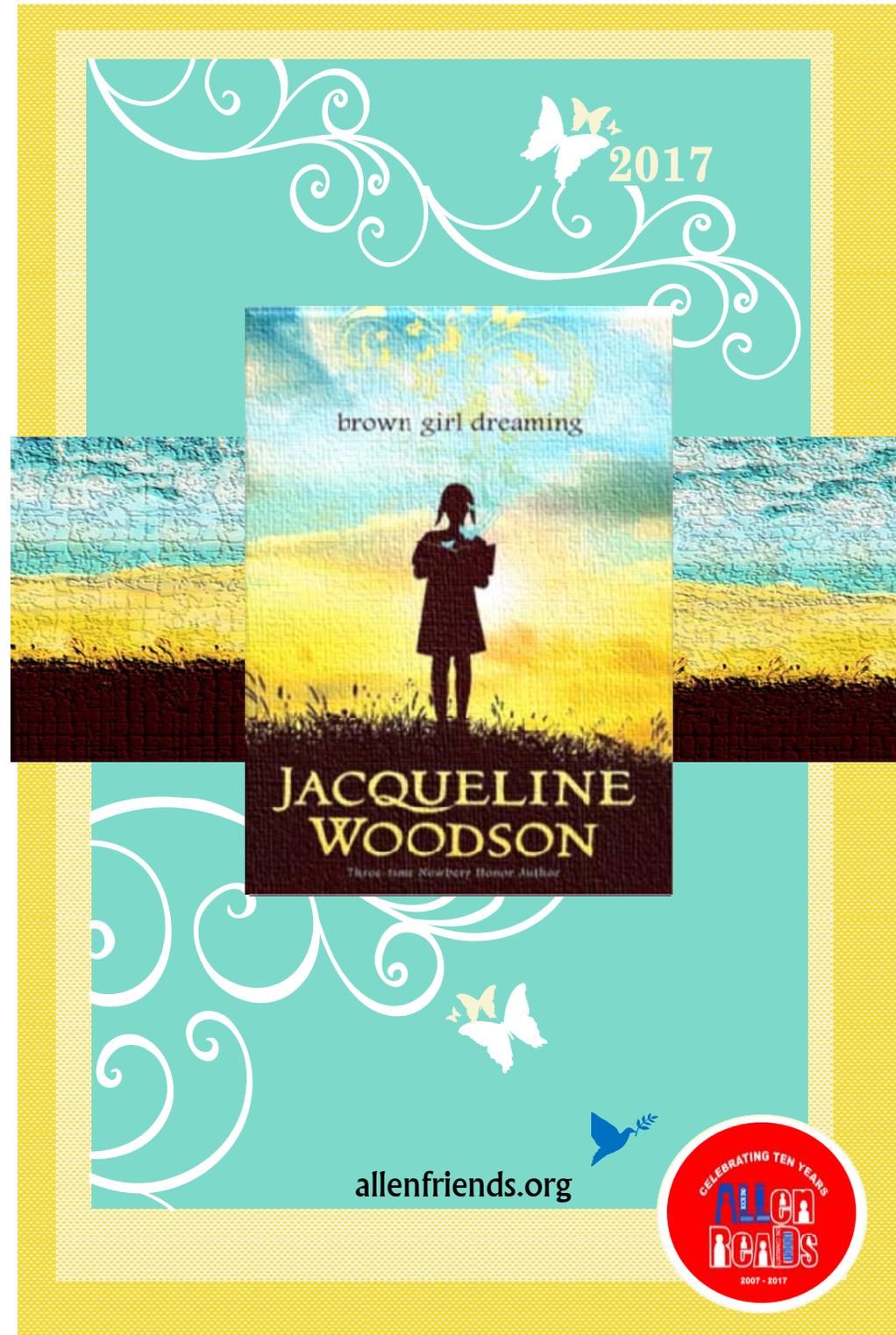
kindness circle

Allen High Noon Lions Club
Allen Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra
Barnes & Noble ◻ Food for Thought Café

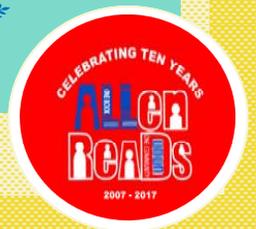
*"This project was made possible in part with a grant from
Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the
National Endowment for the Humanities."*



300 North Allen Drive ◻ Allen, Texas 75013
214.509.4911 ◻ AllenLibrary.org



allenfriends.org



save these dates

January 16	Family Celebration Day Crafts, Activities, Poetry Bash	10:30 a.m-11:30 a.m.	APL
January 21	Coffee with the Chief Police Chief Brian Harvey	3 p.m.	APL
January 28	Official Kick Off with E.B. Lewis 12:30-1:30 p.m. Meet & Greet 2 p.m. Talk & Book Signing		APL
February 16	"I Believe..." Interfaith Panel Roundtable on Religions	7:30 p.m.	APL

March Movies — 7 p.m. APL Aud.

March 7	Akeelah and the Bee
March 14	Spare Parts
March 21	Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry
March 28	The Rosa Parks Story

March 16	Tell Your Story Everyone has a story...	7:30 p.m.	APL
April 1	Bravo! PAC Allen Civic Ballet Dance Performance – PAC; Orchestra/Drama mini-presentation	7:30 p.m.	PAC
April 2	Orchestra/Drama Interpretations: LFC Drama Students and Orchestra <i>brown girl dreaming</i>	3:00 p.m.	APL

All activities are at the Allen Public Library, unless otherwise noted. More detailed descriptions of all these events are in your brochure. Continue to check our website for additions and changes, AllenFriends.org.

Book Discussions about *brown girl dreaming* at the Library

Wednesday, February 1	Noontime Pageturners	12 p.m.	APL
Wednesday, February 15	Ladies Night Out	7 p.m.	APL
Thursday, February 21	Let's Talk Dewey	7 p.m.	APL

All take place in the 2nd Floor Program Room.

Brochure design-DEBRA PRESTON
EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY SEDONA KAUFMAN

thought-provoking programs



Coffee with the Chief
Saturday, January 21 • 3 p.m.
Library Auditorium

Come visit with Allen Police Chief Brian Harvey. Listen to Chief Harvey share his philosophy and that of Allen's police department. Ask questions you have about Allen and about what's been happening with citizens and police around our country.

I Believe... Interfaith Panel
Thursday, February 16
7:30 p.m. • Library Auditorium

Learn from a roundtable of leaders from the three main world religions: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. Discover the similarities as well as the differences. Then participate in a Q&A afterwards. Express your thoughts on this program - if we find there is interest, we'll continue this in the Friends' Back to Book series with other great world religions.



Tell Your Story
Thursday, March 16
7:30 p.m. • Library Auditorium

Please join us as we explore unique paths to the United States. After all, we were all immigrants at one time. You will hear from community members why they or their ancestors chose to make America their home and what that has meant to them. Q & A will follow.





for the whole family

Family Celebration Day

Monday, January 16
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Children's Program Room

Fun for the whole family on Martin Luther King Day. Enjoy crafts, activities, and a poetry bash. There's something to interest all ages.



Orchestra Drama Performance

Sunday, April 2 ◦ 3 p.m. ◦ Library Auditorium ◦ *reception to follow*

The Lowery Freshman Center drama students and orchestra combine to present their interpretation of *brown girl dreaming*. Readings from the book will be enhanced by music from Negro spirituals through jazz and rock and roll, a tribute to black contributions to American music. A reception sponsored by the Allen Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra will follow the performance.

For a sneak preview to this performance, go to Allen Civic Ballet's "Bravo!" at the Allen High School Performing Arts Center on April 1 at 7:00 PM.

ALLEN Reads kickoff

E.B. Lewis, Illustrator of *Each Kindness* and *The Other Side*

Saturday, January 28

Talented artist and imaginative illustrator of picture books, Mr. Lewis will talk about his work and his subject matter. Bring your books to be signed or buy books that day at the Library. *(more on pgs. 4 and 5)*

MEET AND GREET WITH THE ILLUSTRATOR

12:30-1:30 p.m.
1st Floor Meeting Room

PRESENTATION BY E.B. LEWIS

2 p.m.
Library Auditorium

BOOK SIGNING

3 p.m.

Books will be available for purchase or bring your own.

welcome to the ALLEN Reads program



For the 10th year, Allen joins cities across the country participating in a community "One Book" project that involves everyone reading and discussing the same book.

The 2017 selection is *brown girl dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. The companion books, *Each Kindness* and *The Other Side* by Ms. Woodson, communicates a similar theme to younger readers.

Everyone in Allen can have "one book" to share and discuss with their family and friends.



come be part of the fun

The programs for this year are planned and funded, and we are already starting to think about next year's book!

It's our volunteers that make all this happen: grants, book selection, celebrity readers, author visits, other speakers, family celebration day, publicity, and more.

If you have enjoyed participating in ALLEN Reads and would like to be involved in planning for 2018, contact Jane Bennett, jane@jrbennett.net.



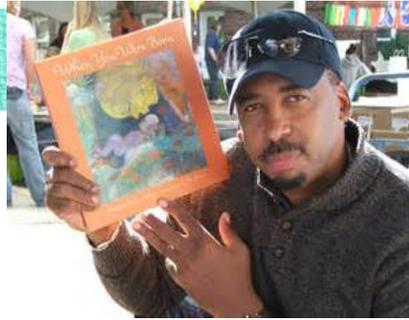
get involved...

Check out AllenFriends.org for updates and links to discussion questions for our main ALLEN Reads book selection and activities. Share the book with others and join a discussion group.

Attend one of many special events at the Allen Public Library and throughout the city.



e.b. lewis illustrator



Born in Philadelphia, PA, E.B. Lewis was inspired by two artist uncles. As early as the third grade, Lewis displayed artistic promise. Lewis attended the Temple University Tyler School of Art. There he discovered his medium of preference was watercolor. After graduating, he taught art in public schools for twelve years. Presently, Lewis teaches at the University of Arts in Philadelphia, continues to paint and illustrate, and is a member of The Society of Illustrators in New York City.

"Mr. Lewis's work has been described by reviewers as: *extraordinarily accomplished, authentic, luminous, unforgettable, eye-catching, evocative, and exquisite... His ability to interpret the human experience allows his illustrations to work fluidly across different periods in history, depicting them with poignancy and depth for young readers...*

ALLEN Reads kickoff

Saturday, January 28
2 p.m. ▫ Library Auditorium

Illustrator Talk

Meet & Greet—12:30 p.m.

Book signing follows presentation-

Bring your own book(s) or purchase books at the library.

What truly distinguishes E.B. Lewis's work is his ability to use the medium of watercolor to evoke emotional response across picture book genres... In diverse settings, through diverse characters, and embedded in diverse experiences, E.B. Lewis offers us his lens on the landscape of human emotions. As we, as a society, work toward greater inclusivity and connection, this perspective on our common humanity is truly a powerful offering." – Erika Thulin Dawes, Ed.D. Associate Professor of Language and Literacy, Lesley University

E. B. Lewis has written and/or illustrated over 70 books. His outstanding illustrations and fine art are displayed in galleries around the country. In 2003, The Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota purchased a collection of original watercolors from Lewis's first twenty-five children's books. His awards include a Coretta Scott King Award for Illustrators in 2003, the Caldecott Medal in 2005, and the 2006 Charlotte Zolotow Award for his illustrations of *My Best Friend* by Mary Ann Rodman. Lewis is currently a resident of Folsom, New Jersey.

book clubs and movies

library book clubs

Discussions about *brown girl dreaming*

Wednesday, February 11 ▫ 12 p.m. ▫ Noontime Pageturners

Wednesday, February 15 ▫ 7 p.m. ▫ Ladies Night Out

Thursday, February 21 ▫ 7 p.m. ▫ Let's Talk Dewey

The meetings will all be in the 2nd Floor Program Room.

movies

7 p.m. ▫ Library Auditorium

March 7 **Akeelah and the Bee** (2006) (PG)

Starring Angela Bassett, Laurence Fishburne, Keke Palmer
Akeelah participated in a spelling bee to avoid detention for her many absences. Much to her surprise and embarrassment, she wins. As the possibility of making it all the way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee looms, Akeelah could provide her community with something to rally around and be proud of.

March 14 **Spare Parts** (2015) (PG-13)

Starring George Lopez, Jamie Lee Curtis, Marisa Tomei
Four Hispanic high school students form a robotics club and go up against the country's reigning robotics champion, MIT.

March 21 **Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry** (1978) (TV movie, not rated)

Starring Claudia McNeil, Janet MacLachlan, Robert Christian
With the land to hold them together, nothing can tear the Logans apart. Why is the land so important to Cassie's family? It is the land that gives the Logans their courage and pride—no matter how others may degrade them, the Logans process something no one can take away.

March 28 **The Rosa Parks Story** (2002) (PG)

Starring Angela Bassett
A seamstress recalls events leading to her act of peaceful defiance that prompted the 1955 bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.

jacqueline woodson author

"I used to say I'd be a teacher or a lawyer or a hairdresser when I grew up but even as I said these things, I knew what made me happiest was writing."

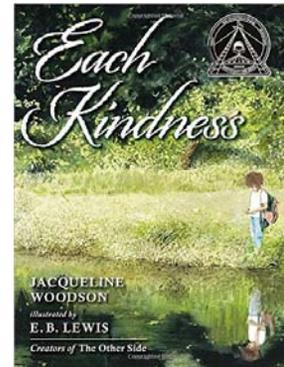
Lots and lots of books later, I am still surprised when I walk into a bookstore and see my name on a book or when the phone rings and someone on the other end is telling me I've just won an award. Sometimes, when I'm sitting at my desk for long hours and nothing's coming to me, I remember my fifth grade teacher, the way her eyes lit up when she said "This is really good." The way, I — the skinny girl in the back of the classroom who was always getting into trouble for talking or missed homework assignments — sat up a little straighter, folded my hands on the desks, smiled and began to believe in me."



Growing up in South Carolina and New York, Jacqueline Woodson lived in two very different worlds. This is reflected in her stories, which address universal questions, such as "Who am I?" "Where do I belong?" "What shall I do with my life?"

She has earned many awards for her children's and young adult books including three Newbery Honors, a Coretta Scott King Award, and three Coretta Scott King Honors, two National Book Awards, a Margaret A. Edwards Award, and an ALAN Award—both for Lifetime Achievement in YA Literature. Currently, she is the author of more than two dozen books for children and young adults. She lives with her family in Brooklyn, New York.

the companion books



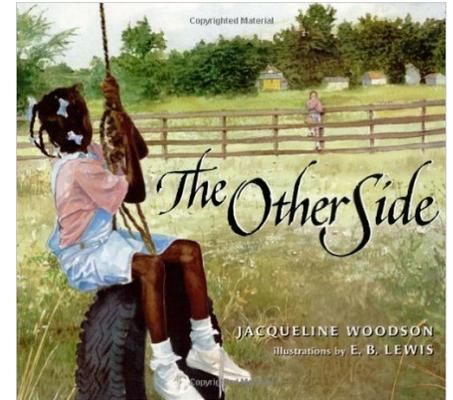
Each Kindness

Each kindness makes the world a little better.

Chloe and her friends won't play with the new girl, Maya. Every time Maya tries to join Chloe and her friends, they reject her. Eventually, Maya stops coming to school. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya.

Recommended for Grades 3-4.

Talking points available online at allenfriends.org



The Other Side

Clover's mom says it isn't safe to cross the fence that segregates their African-American side of town from the white side where Anna lives. However, the two girls strike up a friendship and get around the grown-ups' rules by sitting on top of the fence together. Parents will recognize the symbolism of the fence between the yards.

Children will love the story of how a new friendship is built and the beauty of the watercolor illustrations.

Recommended for Grades K-2.

Talking points available online at allenfriends.org

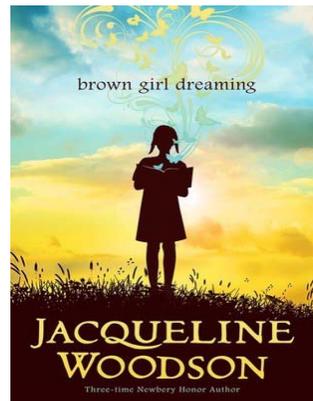
brown girl dreaming

In vivid poems, Woodson shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow laws and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world and joyfully finds her voice through writing stories, even as she struggled to read as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

Recommended for Grade 5-Adult.

ALLen Reads is looking forward to discussions of the many themes that arise from Woodson's work:

We all have a story
Find your gifts
Celebrate diversity
Accept differences
What good can I do
Meet challenges and move past them
Listen
Love and Family
Home - what is home? where is home?



We hope you will enjoy the conversations and insights these bring forward in your neighborhood book clubs, at the Library, and talking with friends.

1. Did you enjoy this book, written in free verse? or would you have preferred it as a standard autobiography/novel? Why?
2. Even though each chapter is short, do you feel you got a good sense of the moment or place the author was trying to convey? Explain.
3. In the chapter "Stevie" the author talks about being excited to find a book where people look like her. Do most books you read have people like you? from other races/cultures? Why is this something to think about?
4. What do you know/recall of the Civil Rights movement? How did it affect Woodson's life? Yours?
5. Woodson says "Diversity is about all of us, and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together." Have you thought about this? What have you figured out?
6. "The idea of feeling isolated is scary to me - to walk through the world alone would be heartbreaking." We all feel alone at times. How do you deal with that when it occurs?
7. "Even the silence has a story to tell you. Just listen. Listen." What is Woodson saying here?
8. We are assigned many identities as we grow, so it takes time to explore within ourselves and define who we are and who we want to be. This book is Woodson's search. What does she discover? What discoveries have you made?
9. Do we define ourselves one time or do we continue to redefine ourselves through the years? How does the world around us and our experiences in it influence this?
10. Do you think this book is relevant in today's social climate, over 50 years after the Civil Rights movement of the 60's? Why?

Something else to think about:

Why did Woodson choose to use all lower case letters in her title?