

WTS International

What We're Reading: Black History Month 2024

- [*Travelling Black: A Story of Race and Resistance* by Mia Bay](#)
WTS International Distinguished Speaker Dr. Mia Bay tackles the complicated history of race and travel in the United States, including rail, aviation, and automobile.
- [*Inclusive Transportation: A Manifesto for Repairing Divided Communities* by Veronica O. Davis, PE](#)
WTS International members and Distinguished Speaker Veronica O. Davis, PE calls for new thinking and more diverse leadership to create transportation networks that connect people to jobs, education, opportunities, and to each other.
- [*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 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.
- [*Overground Railroad: The Green Book & Roots of Black Travel in America* by Candacy Taylor](#)
WTS International Distinguished Speaker Dr. Mia Bay tackles the complicated history of race and travel in the United States, including rail, aviation, and automobile.
- [*Black Wings: Courageous Stories of African Americans in Aviation and Space History* by Von Hardesty](#)
Featuring approximately 200 historic and contemporary photographs and a lively narrative that spans eight decades of U.S. history, *Black Wings* offers a compelling overview of this extraordinary and inspiring saga.
- [*The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein](#)
The book documents the history of state sponsored segregation stretching back to the late 1800s and exposes racially discriminatory policies put forward by most presidential administrations in that time, including liberal presidents like Franklin Roosevelt.
- [*Black in Place: The Spatial Aesthetics of Race in a Post-Chocolate City* by Brandi Thompson Summers](#)
Summers focuses on the continuing significance of blackness in a place like the nation's capital, how blackness contributes to our understanding of contemporary urbanization, and how it laid an important foundation for how Black people have been thought to exist in cities.

- [*Rights in Transit: Public Transportation and the Right to the City in California's East Bay* by Kafui Ablode Attoh](#)

Drawing on a detailed case study of the various struggles that have come to define public transportation in California's East Bay, *Rights in Transit* offers a direct challenge to contemporary scholarship on transportation equity.

- [*Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital* by Chris Myers Asch and George Derek Musgrove](#)

Washington often has served as a national battleground for contentious issues, including slavery, segregation, civil rights, the drug war, and gentrification. But D.C. is more than just a seat of government, and authors Chris Myers Asch and George Derek Musgrove also highlight the city's rich history of local activism as Washingtonians of all races have struggled to make their voices heard in an undemocratic city where residents lack full political rights.

- [*The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee](#)

Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy--and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a root problem: racism in our politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all.