

Call for Reviews
The Reservoir: A Chronicle for Collective Change

“It is in collectivities that we find reservoirs of hope and optimism.”
— Angela Y. Davis, *Freedom Is a Constant Struggle*

In the transformative spirit of the groundbreaking *Interracial Books for Children Bulletin*, and in honor of Augusta Baker, Charlemae Rollins, and the library ancestors who fought for inclusivity and representation in children’s literature, Dr. Nicole A. Cooke (The Augusta Baker Endowed Chair in Childhood Literacy at the University of South Carolina) announces a new online publication, *The Reservoir: A Chronicle for Collective Change*. Beginning in 2022, *The Reservoir* will publish **critical reviews of youth books that prominently feature characters and people from historically marginalized communities**. Initially, publication will be biannual (May and November).

Reviews fall into two categories:

- 1) Current Publications: Books initially published between May 2020 and April 2022.
- 2) Revisiting the Classics: Books initially published at least 25 years prior to the date of review submission.

Reviewed books can be fiction, nonfiction, or auto/biography. Reviews of books written by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and otherwise marginalized authors and/or featuring BIPOC and otherwise marginalized characters/people and/or from small/independent presses are particularly encouraged.

Reviews should be submitted via attachment to TheReservoirNews@gmail.com **before midnight EST, December 15, 2021.**

All reviews must meet the following guidelines:

- All reviews should be of books originally published for youth (ages birth to 18).
- Length of 250-300 words in four paragraphs:
 - Citation (see format below)
 - Brief summary of book (no more than 50 words)
 - Critique of book (see details below)
 - **Recommendation** (see details below)
- Citation format:
Authorlastname, Authorfirstname Authormiddlename. *Title*. Illus. Illustratorfullname. (if applicable) ## pages. Publicationyear: Publisher (Publishercity, Publisherstate). Ages #-#.

Example:

Brown, Monica. *Waiting for the Biblioburro*. Illus. John Parra. 32 pages. 2011: Tricycle Press (Berkeley, CA). Ages 5-8.

- Critique should be analytical in nature. Reviews should address authenticity and accuracy of the cultures and/or communities represented. Include details on the style and effectiveness of illustrations/images (if applicable), the relevance of backmatter (if applicable), etc.
- Recommendations should be in bold-faced type. *The Reservoir* uses the following levels:
 - **Highly Recommended.**
 - **Recommended.**
 - **Recommended with Reservations.**
 - **Not Recommended.**
- Submissions should be via MS Word documents (.doc or .docx) formatted as follows:
 - Double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman.
 - One-inch margins
 - Embedded accent marks (as applicable)
 - One space after periods
- Include full name, title, and affiliation within the body of the email.
- Reviewers are encouraged to *avoid* reading other reviews of the same title.