

BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ Owned Independent Bookstores

We encourage you to share this list with others. Created in 2021 / 2022 by Arlene Sluchak with Blossom and Root. (Blossom and Root Home Education) www.blossomandroot.com

Alabama

Open to Recommendations

Alaska

Open to Recommendations

Arizona

Palabras Bilingual Bookstore
906 W Roosevelt St. Unit 2
Phoenix, AZ 85007
P: 602-595-9600

<https://palabrasbookstore.indiecommerce.com/welcome>

Specializes an amplifying diverse voices, community, and BIPOC authors.

Grassrootz Bookstore
1145 E Washington St #200
Phoenix, AZ 85034
P: 480-442-0293

<https://grassrootzbookstore.com/>

Black-owned bookstore. Purchases help fund activism efforts and economic development in Arizona.

Arkansas

Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing
1001 Wright Avenue

Little Rock, AR 72206
501-372-5824
<https://www.pyramid1988.com/about>

Diverse selection of literature, events , and art. Celebrating Black culture and art appreciation.

California

Ashay By The Bay (Black-owned)
1 (844) 543-7732
<https://ashaybythebay.com/>

Online since 2002, Ashay By The Bay is owned and operated by Deborah Day. As stated on their site, “Providing diverse selection of books that include positive images and that represent our culture.”

Tía Chucha's Centro Cultural and Bookstore
13197 Gladstone Ave.
Sylmar, CA , 91342
P: 818.939.3433
<https://www.tiachucha.org/>

Combining arts (various mediums), community literacy advocacy, with special focus on diversity and ancestral knowledge.

Colorado

Townie Books
414 Elk Ave, Crested
Butte, CO 81224-0311
970-349-7545
<https://towniebookscb.indielite.org/>

Diverse collection of children’s books, adults, and local book nerd events.

Shop At Matter
2134 Market St
Denver, CO

<https://www.shopatmatter.com/faqs/>

Specializing in rare finds and thought provoking literature across genres.

Connecticut

The Key Bookstore
1429 Park St, Suite 214,
Hartford, CT.
P: 860-341-2865

<https://keybookstore.com/about/>

Black-owned, with a “focus is to lead readers on a path to Self Mastery and the cultivation of connection on and offline with respect to the mission, ‘Divine liberation one page at a time.’” (from their website)

People Get Ready
119 Whalley Ave
New Haven, CT 06511
203-954-6678

Permanently closed.

Co-founders met and bonded over mutual concerns of education and community development. Special focus on children’s diverse titles with BIPOC authors, LGBTQ+ authors, bi/multilingual authors, local authors , and poets.

Delaware

Mejah Books
2083 Philadelphia Pike
Claymont, DE 19703
302-793-3424

<https://mejahbooks.com/about/>

Owned by Emlyn DeGannes, affectionally called, Ms. Em. The approach of this indie shop is a celebration of culture, literature, history, and promoting pride of people from African Diaspora.

Florida

Cultured Books
833 22nd St S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
727-328-5822
<https://www.culturedbooks.org/>

A children's bookstore, " with a mission to first foster a love of self by showing positive images and sharing great stories about people of color."

African Bookstore
7027 W Broward Blvd #261
Plantation, FL 33317
954-416-8164

First African American Bookstore in Broward County, FL. New book selections available online with a wide variety of titles across genres.

Tombolo Books
2153 1st Ave S
Saint Petersburg FL
USA, 33712
P: 727-755-9456
<https://tombolobooks.com/about>

LGTBQIA+ owned, curated titles with a diverse children's section that also features local authors.

Georgia

Black Dot Cultural Center and Book Store
6984 Main Street,
Lithonia, GA 30058
P: (770) 305-6373
<https://blackdotcc.com/>

The founder vision and mission is to promote Black positive messaging intentionally and with purpose.

44th and 3rd Booksellers
451 Lee Street, Unit B
SW Atlanta, GA 30310
(678) 692-6519

<https://www.44thand3rdbookseller.com/who-we-are>

Family-owned, with a focus on unbiased literature that elevates the Black community world wide.

Hawaii

Native Books
1164 Nu‘uanu Ave
Honolulu, HI 96817
P: (808) 548-5554

<https://www.nativebookshawaii.org/>

Indie bookstore and publisher of literature from Hawai‘i and the Pacific. Classic Hawaiian bilingual texts for children as well.

Idaho

Open to Recommendations

Illinois

Semicolon Bookstore
515 NORTH HALSTED STREET
CHICAGO, IL, 60642

<https://www.semicolonchi.com/>

Black women-owned gallery and bookstore. Focus on community literacy and efforts.

Women & Children First
5233 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60640
P: 773.769.9299

<https://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com/wcf-history-and-purpose>

Intersectional trans-inclusive feminists owned indie shop, providing one of the largest selections by and about women, and children's books.

Indiana

Beyond Barcodes Bookstore

108 N. Main St.

Kokomo, Indiana 46901

P: 765-201-0383

<https://beyondbarcodesbookstore.square.site/>

Multicultural Black-owned indie bookstore with diverse selections for all ages.

Brain Lair Books

South Bend

IN , 46617

P: 574-400-5572

<https://www.brainlairbooks.com/about-us>

Black-owned indie bookshop focused on uplifting marginalized voices with inclusive titles, where children especially can see themselves through literature and community.

Iowa

Soul Book Nook Book Store

110 East 4th Street

Waterloo, Iowa 50703

P: 319-883-3065

<https://www.soulbooknook.com/about-us>

Iowa first known Black-owned book store, building a historical legacy via inclusive and diverse literature.

Kansas

Bliss Books & Wine
KANSAS CITY (Online only; Storefront coming 2021)
(816) 226-7720
<https://www.blissbooksandwine.com/about-us>

Owned and operated by sisters looking to build a community of introverted readers while sipping their favorite wines. New and Used books.

Kentucky

WILD FIG COFFEE & BOOKS
726 N Limestone,
Lexington, KY 40508
P: 859-739-3207
<https://www.wildfigbooksandcoffee.com/about/>

Kentucky's only Black-owned bookshop with a collection of inclusive titles across genres.

Louisiana

Tubby & Co's
432 N. Anthony St., Suite 305C,
New Orleans, LA 70119
Phone: (504) 345-8491
<https://tubbyandcoos.com/aboutus/>

"Queer-owned, progressive, nerdy, independent book shop in Mid-City New Orleans focused on science fiction and fantasy, queer, and diverse books." (from their website)

Community Book Center
2523 Bayou Rd
New Orleans, LA 70119
P: 504-948-7323
<https://bookshop.org/shop/readcbc>

Nearly 40 years as the oldest and only Black-owned bookstore in NOLA, featuring African-centered books, art, fabric, jewels, and more.

Maine

Open to Recommendations

Maryland

Loyalty Bookstore
823 Ellsworth Dr
Silver Spring, MD 20910
<https://www.loyaltybookstores.com/aboutloyalty>

A Black and Queer Bookseller working to diversify available literature and uplifting underrepresented voices.

Massachusetts

Womencrafts
376 Commercial Street
Provincetown, MA 02657
508-487-2501

“Lesbian-owned and operated since 1976, with a mission to promote the work of female artisans, authors, and musicians...one of Provincetown’s oldest shops and one of only thirteen remaining feminist bookstores in the country.”

<https://womencraftsptown.com/about/>

Frugal Bookstore
57 Warren Street
Roxbury, MA 02119
P: 617-541-1722
<https://frugalbookstore.net/pages/about-us>

Promoting literacy to children, teens , and adults with a community feel.

Michigan

Black Stone Bookstore & Cultural Center
214 W. Michigan Ave
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
<https://www.blackstonebookstore.com/>

Specializing in African American literature but with a diverse collection across genres.

27th Letter Books
3546 Michigan Ave
Detroit, MI 48216-1007
P: 313-652-1552
<https://www.27thletterbooks.com/>

AAPI and Black owned bookshop with a large collection of diverse and inclusive titles.

Minnesota

Birchbark Books and Native Arts
2115 West 21st Street
Minneapolis, MN 55405
(612) 374-4023
<https://birchbarkbooks.com/ourstory>

Native-owned, special emphasis on Native American titles.

Babycake's Book Stack
P: 651-321-3436
<https://babycakesbookstack.indielite.org>

“Babycake’s Book Stack is a MOBILE bookstore that carries a highly curated inventory of books designed to include the culture and/or

languages of the indigenous, immigrants, refugees, African American and many other backgrounds!” (from their website)

Mississippi

Violet Valley Bookstore
303 N Main St
Water Valley, Mississippi 38965
<https://www.violetvalley.org/about>

“Mississippi's Only Queer Feminist Transinclusive Bookstore.” New and used inclusive and diverse titles.

Wonders of the World Book and Toy Store
1520 29th Ave Suite 3
Gulfport, MS 39501
<https://wowbookandtoy.com>

An online multicultural children's book store for or by people of color.

Missouri

EyeSeeMe
6951 Olive Blvd
University City, MO 63130
P: (314) 349-1122
<http://EyeSeeMe.com>

“African American Children's Bookstore was created in order to help bridge the cultural divide, so that African American children can benefit from exposure to literature that respectfully mirrors themselves, their culture and their families.” (from their website)

Willa's Books & Vinyl
Address: 1734 E 63rd St
Kansas City, MO 64110
P: (816) 419-1051
<https://www.willasbookskc.com>

“Specializes in used and rare African-American books, first editions, as well as the works of a wide variety of main-stream authors.”

Montana

Montana Book Co.
331 N Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 443-0260
<https://mtbookco.indielite.org/>

LGBTQ+ owned. Books for all ages in a diverse inclusive environment.

Nebraska

Aframerican Bookstore
3226 Lake Street
Omaha, NE 68111
P: 1-402-455-9200
<http://aframericanbookstore.com/about.shtml>

Established in 1990, discovering emerging Black authors and diverse voices.

Nevada

Open to Recommendations

New Hampshire

Open to Recommendations

New Jersey

Source of Knowledge
867 Broad Street / Kenneth a. Gibson Blvd
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 824-2556
<https://sourceofknowledgebookstore.com/about-us>

“A community center that centers Black art, Black literature, culture, and community.”

The Little BOHO Bookshop

164a Broadway

Bayonne NJ 07002

Phone: 201.258.4499

https://thelittlebohobookshop.com/?q=p.our_story

Black-owned indie shop specializing in children’s literature. New and Used books.

New Mexico

Red Planet Books & Comics

1002 Park Ave SW

Albuquerque NM 87102

<https://redplanetbooksncomics.com/pages/about-1>

Native-owned, books and comics.

New York

The Drama Book Shop

266 W. 39th Street

New York, NY 10018

212-944-0595

<https://www.dramabookshop.com/about/>

Established in 1917 by the Drama League, with a long standing history and greatest collection of theatrical works. One of the new proprietors is the one and only, Lin-Manuel Miranda. Committed to acknowledge the ancestral land of the Lenape People and accessibility of resources to the BIPOC, LGBTQIA+ and disabled communities. New and Used books.

Cafe Con Libros

724 Prospect Pl

Brooklyn, NY 11216

<https://www.cafeconlibrosbk.com/>

Afro-Latin owned intersectional Feminist indie bookstore. Diverse collection of new books.

North Carolina

Shelves

Charlotte, NC 28215

<https://shelvesbookstore.com/our-story/>

Mobile pop up Black-owned indie shop focusing on community and diverse rich literature.

Epilogue: Books Chocolate Brews

109 E. Franklin St Suite 100

Chapel Hill, NC, 27514

<https://epiloguebookcafe.com/about>

A multicultural indie shop with a unique flair and atmosphere.

North Dakota

Open to Recommendations

Ohio

A Cultural Exchange

12624 Larchmere Boulevard

Cleveland, Ohio 44120

Phone: (216) 229-8300

<https://www.aculturalexchange.org/about>

Website may have moved.

Nubian Knowledge, Ltd.

3802 Ashton Road
Columbus, OH 43227
P: 614-236-2796
<https://www.nubian-knowledge.com/info.html>

“On a mission to educate, inform, and sell products that will bridge the gap of knowledge, lost and stolen, throughout the African Diaspora.”

Oklahoma

Fulton Street Books & Coffee
210 W Latimer St
Tulsa, OK 74106
<https://www.fultonstreet918.com/why>

“At Fulton Street at least 70% of our books are written by or featuring BBIPOC and/or marginalized communities.” (from their website)

Nappy Roots Books
3705 SPRINGLAKE DRIVE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73111
P: 405.896.0203
<https://www.nappyrootsbooks.com/about>

New and used books for and about African people throughout the diaspora. Website may have moved—try their Facebook page.

Oregon

Waucoma Bookstore
212 Oak Street
Hood River, OR 97031
P:541.386.5353
<https://www.waucomabookstore.com/history>

AAPI owned indie bookstore with long standing history of children literature selection. Specializing in the Pacific Northwest.

Pennsylvania

Philly AIDS Thrift @ Giovanni's Room
345 S. 12th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

<https://www.queerbooks.com/mission/about-us/>

“The Oldest LGBTQ and Feminist Bookstore in the Country.” A not for profit with charitable donations towards AIDS/HIV and more.

HAKIM’S PHILADELPHIA BOOKSTORE
210 S 52nd St
Philadelphia, PA 19139-4002
P: (215) 474-9495

<https://hakimsbookstore.com/about/>

The oldest Black-owned bookstore in the state with a mission to facilitate cultural identity through representation and history. Also ships books to prisons.

Rhode Island

Open to Recommendations

South Carolina

Turning Page Bookshop
216 Saint James Ave #F
Goose Creek, SC 29445

P: (843) 501-7223

<https://turningpagebookshop.com>

“AA woman owned Bookstore , history, non-fiction, fiction, teens, kids, murder mystery, children’s room, and more.” (from their website)

South Dakota

Bird Cage Book Store and Mercantile

524 7th Street

Rapid City SD, 57701

Tel: 605-431-8231

<https://www.wordcarrier.com/about>

“Native American Woman-owned and operated Book Store. Specializing in Native American Books of the Northern Plains.”

Tennessee

Open to Recommendations

Texas

BLACK PEARL BOOKS

4803 Burnet Rd.

Austin, TX 78756

512-902-9717

<https://blackpearlbookstore.com/?q=p.about>

A multicultural collection of diverse reads.

The Dock Bookshop

6637 Meadowbrook Dr.

Fort Worth, TX 76112

P: (817) 457-5700

<https://www.thedockbookshop.com/about-us>

Largest African American-owned full service bookstore in Texas.

Utah

Open to Recommendations

Vermont

Open to Recommendations

Virginia

Books and Crannies
50 E. Church Street
Suite 4
Martinsville, VA 24112
P: 276-403-4380

<https://www.booksandcranniesva.com/about-us>

Black woman-owned indie bookstore, diverse collection across genres.

Harambee Books & Artworks
1132 Prince Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
P:(703) 299-2591

<https://harambeebooks.org/about-us>

“A 'Core' selection of literature and artwork focusing on African culture from ancient civilization to modern society, and other subject categories such as Brothers and Sisters, Race & Culture, Street Life, and Autobiography.” (from their website)

Washington

Main Street Books Monroe, LLC
110 E Main Street, Suite 100
Monroe, WA 98272
(360) 794-2976

An LGBTIA+ owned indie shop with diverse used and new bookstore.

King's Books
218 St Helens Ave
Tacoma, WA 98402
253.272.8801
<https://www.kingsbookstore.com/about>

An LGBTIA+ owned indie shop with diverse used and new bookstore.

Washington, D.C.

Loyalty Bookstores Petworth
843 Upshur Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

“Founded by Hannah Oliver Depp, a Black and Queer Bookseller who has spent her career working to diversify the book industry in order for it to better serve the powerful communities of color and queerness.”
Specializing on selections that highlight diverse voices.

<https://www.loyaltybookstores.com/aboutloyalty>

MahoganyBooks
1231 Good Hope Rd., S.E.
Washington, DC 20020
P: (844) 279-6239
<https://www.mahoganybooks.com/about-us/>

Black owned indie shop with two locations with a mission to ensure, “Black Books are accessible to anyone eager to read about Black culture.”

West Virginia

Open to Recommendations

Wisconsin

Outwords Books, Gifts & Coffee
2710 N Murray Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 963-9089
<https://outwordsbooks.com>

LGBTQ+ owned, a full service bookstore with an extensive selection of diverse literature across genres.

Wyoming

Open to Recommendations

UK

New Beacon Books
76 Stroud Green Road
London, England, N4 3EN, United Kingdom
P: +44 20 7272 4889
<https://www.newbeaconbooks.com/about-us>

Black-owned long standing indie bookstore with “poetry, literature, non-fiction, history and children’s books from Africa, Caribbean, Asia, African America, Europe, South America and Black Britain.”

Canada

Massy Books
229 E. Georgia St
Vancouver BC V6A 1Z6
P: 604-721-4405
<https://www.massybooks.com/about/>

Massy Books is 100% Indigenous owned. Specializing in rare books around the world

Strong Nations Warehouse
Suite 1 - 1970 Island Diesel Way
Nanaimo, BC, Canada V9S 5W8
Phone: 250.758.4287
<https://www.strongnations.com>

“Strong Nations is an online retailer and a publishing house located in Nanaimo, BC, specializing in Indigenous literature and art.”

Australia

Open to Recommendations

Online:

African Bookstore
7027 W Broward Blvd #261
Plantation, FL 33317
(954) 316-8164
<https://www.africanbookstore.net/about.asp>

“We are pleased to provide books online about the African world wide experience and the African American experience.”

Recommendations for additions and corrections may be emailed to [kristina\(at\)blossomandroot\(dot\)com](mailto:kristina@blossomandroot.com) or [arleneandcompany\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:arleneandcompany@gmail.com). Thank you!