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The Near East Section

African and Middle Eastern Division (AMED)
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
The Armenian Rarities Collection
Online Resources: A Selection

- Persian Language Rare Materials, Available Online | Library of Congress (loc.gov)
- Eltaher Collection, Available Online | Library of Congress (loc.gov)
- Armenian Rarities Collection, Available Online | Library of Congress (loc.gov)
The African Section
African & Middle Eastern Division

Selected Resources for Educators
The Omar Ibn Said Collection consists of 42 digitized documents in both English and Arabic, including an 1831 manuscript in Arabic on "The Life of Omar Ibn Said," a West African slave in America, which is the centerpiece of this unique collection of texts. [https://www.loc.gov/collections/omar-ibn-said-collection/about-this-collection/]
Samite was born and raised in Uganda, but left as a political refugee in 1982. He spent the following few years in Kenya where he studied African traditional musical instruments and rhythms. He mastered the kalimba (thumb-piano), marimba (wooden xylophone), litungu (seven-stringed Kenyan lyre) and various flutes, both traditional and western, and learned both traditional melodies and original compositions. In his concerts, Samite reflects on these experiences by performing songs and music from his and other African cultures.
Africana Digital Resources

Africana Collections: An Illustrated Guide

Africana Historical Postcard Collection

Conversations with African Poets and Writers
The Great Hall, Library of Congress
Torah scroll sheet from the Book of Exodus 10:10 – 16:15

Handwritten on vellum in the Middle East, 10th-11th c.
Commentary on Psalms
by David Kimhi
Bologna, 1477
The Book of Exodus

A Limited-Edition Book by Avner Moriah

5 of 100 copies signed and numbered by the artist

Jerusalem, 2016
The Washington Haggadah
Joel ben Simon
Italy-Germany, 1478

To view the entire Haggadah, please click here
Passover Haggadah

Silk Screen Prints
by
Eliyahu Sidi

Jerusalem, 2007
לְסֵביוֹת

To the Dreidel

Poems by Zalman Shneur / Pochoir illustrations by “A Band of Artists”

Moscow – Odessa: Omanut Press,

[1919]
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
in the Hebraic Section

Highlights include:

- **Hebrew Manuscripts**: approximately 230 manuscripts dating from the 11th to early 20th centuries, among them the **Washington Haggadah** of 1478, the chief jewel of the Hebraic Section. The collection is currently being digitized in its entirety.

- **Hebrew Incunabula**: 37 books printed before 1501. These rare Hebrew “cradle-books” span the three major centers of early Hebrew printing in Spain, Portugal, and Italy. For more information, please see the Finding Aid.

- **Sixteenth-Century Hebrew Books**: nearly 700 books printed in Italy, Europe, and the Ottoman Empire over the course of the sixteenth century, among them a number of first editions of classic works. For more information, please click on the Finding Aid.

- **Ladino Books**: books written in the language of the Sephardi Jews following the expulsions from Spain and Portugal. Its online Finding Aid was recently updated with approximately 200 titles.

- **Artist’s Books**: limited-edition books created at fine art presses. The Hebraic Section currently holds over 75 of these innovative books in Hebrew and Yiddish. For more information, please click on the Finding Aid.

- **Rare Children’s Books** a magnificent collection of some of the earliest illustrated books for children in Hebrew and Yiddish. Currently being digitized for onsite viewing. For more information, please click on the Finding Aid.
Shalom, and thank you for visiting today!

For questions and further information about the collections, please contact:

Ann Brener, Ph.D. at abrener@loc.gov

or

Sharon Horowitz at shor@loc.gov

The Hebraic Section
African and Middle Eastern Division
Library of Congress
Online Open House
August 4, 2021

Asian Division

Cameron Penwell
Japanese Reference Librarian

Yuwu Song
Chinese Reference Specialist
Asian Reading Room
Jefferson Building
1st Floor, Room 150
(202) 707-5426
Asian Collections at the Library of Congress: An Overview

The Asian collections (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Tibetan) comprise more than 4 million items in many Asian languages and dialects, all of which are accessible in the Library's Asian Reading Room.

Introduction

The Asian Division of the Library of Congress has custody of more than 4 million items in many Asian languages and dialects. These materials in print, manuscript, microform, and digital formats are organized into the following collections: Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Tibetan. Visitors and researchers can access these collections and speak with reference librarians for the Asian collections in the Asian Reading Room.

This guide presents short overviews of the Asian-language materials in the Asian collections. Please be advised that there are important materials related to Asian countries and languages throughout the Library of Congress, such as the Law Library, the Prints and Photographs Division; the Geography and Map Division; the Serials and Government Publications Division; and the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division, among others. Books, journals, and other materials from and about Asian countries in English, as well as many European languages, are accessible in the Library's Main Reading Room. For help locating materials at the Library of Congress, please use Ask a Librarian.

http://guides.loc.gov/asian-collections
Asian Reading Room website: www.loc.gov/research-centers/asian

Located on the first floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, the Asian Reading Room is where the public and scholars alike may freely access more than 4 million physical items that make up the Asian collections housed at the Library of Congress. These materials encompass approximately 200 languages and dialects from across Asia, including Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Thai, Tibetan, Urdu, Vietnamese, and many others. In the Asian Reading Room, users can browse an encyclopedic, multilingual reference collection while making use of the vast and diverse collections of printed materials, rare books, and microform kept onsite and stored in remote facilities. Users will be greeted by knowledgeable and friendly reference librarians ready to assist with their research questions and general learning about the countries and peoples of East, South, and Southeast Asia while also directing them to Asian materials in other parts of the Library. The Asian Division serves users who wish to access the Asian American Pacific Islander collection as well.

Hundreds of Asian studies subscription databases and in-copyright digitized resources can only be accessed in the Asian Reading Room and on the Library of Congress campus. For those users not able to visit in-person, this Asian Reading Room website serves as a resource to explore the Asian Division's growing digital collections, curated web archives and freely available online resources on Asian studies. Research guides prepared by specialists with expertise in many Asian languages as well as humanities and social science fields will aid users as they navigate the rich and diverse Asian collections.
Asian Division
Digital Collections

Digital Collections

The Asian Division has an on-going effort, in cooperation with the Library’s digitization initiative and external partners, to digitize select items from its collections of high research value. Many items in the digital collections are rare materials, some of which are the most valuable titles and editions dating back to the 11th or 12th century and are the only extant copies in the world. Also included are contemporary materials in the public domain that cover all manner of topics and offer insights into the study of multiple facets of Asian countries and peoples.

COLLECTION
Ainu and Ezochi Rare Collection
This collection of rare materials brings together books, manuscripts, and maps produced during the 18th and 19th centuries that document Japanese exploration and observation of the island and prefecture now known as Hokkaido in Japan, as well as Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands in Russia. For several centuries these areas were inhabited primarily by Ainu peoples, who shared closely related languages, traditions, and modes...
Collection Items: View 67 Items

COLLECTION
Chinese Rare Book Digital Collection
The Chinese Rare Book Digital Collection draws from the 5,200 titles of Chinese rare books housed at the Asian Division of the Library of Congress. The online presentation includes nearly 2,000 digitized rare titles.
Collection Items: View 1,983 Items
This collection of rare materials brings together books, manuscripts, and maps produced during the 18th and 19th centuries that document Japanese exploration and observation of the island and prefecture now known as Hokkaido in Japan, as well as Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands in Russia.
The Chinese Rare Book Digital Collection draws from the 5,300 titles of Chinese rare books housed at the Asian Division of the Library of Congress. The online presentation includes nearly 2,000 digitized rare titles.
Social Media: Blogs and Facebook

Featured Blog Posts

The History of Printing in Asia According to Library of Congress Asian Collections – Part 2

A Japanese American Journey: Kazue Mizumura

Mysticism and Prophecy in “Tui bei tu” 推背圖 (Back-pushing Pictures)

4 Corners of the World: International Collections Blog

International Collections Facebook Page

See more blog posts
The “Shan hai jing” 山海經, or “Classic of Mountains and Seas,” is one of the most famous of ancient Chinese classics. Featuring some content that predates the Qin dynasty (221-206 BC), it brings together a variety of mythological accounts and provides fantastic descriptions of geography, animals, plants, minerals, witchcraft, religion, history, medicine, folklore, and ethnic groups. The Asian Division holds a richly illustrated 18-volume edition of this work, likely published sometime between 1628 and 1644, that is also included in the Chinese Rare Book Digital Collection. Depicted here is a scene of exotic animals from the opening pages of volume one. View the entire work online at https://go.usa.gov/xF3rV.

Today marks the Japanese national holiday known as “Meine Day” or “Ocean Day” (Umi no hi 海の日). Observed annually on the third Monday of July, this holiday affords the opportunity to rest amid the summer heat and to give thanks for the blessing of the ocean, an important resource for an island country like Japan. To celebrate, we present this exquisite woodblock print, “Sakura zukushi” (A Collection of Faux), by Urasumoto Joan that depicts a lively variety of sea creatures a... See More

Bound between two animal-bone boards, this “pustaha,” or accordion-folded manuscript, comes from the homeland of the Batak peoples in North Sumatra, Indonesia, and was probably produced during the 19th century. Often described as a calendar, the item was an instrument used by ritual specialists called “datu” for divination and identifying auspicious days. The manuscript is recorded in a variant of Batak writing, a group of scripts which were once used to write several languages spoken by various Batak ethnic groups but fell out of widespread use in the 20th century. The calendar’s small size facilitates portability, which suggests it was intended for daily use by a datu or other community spiritual leader. The majority of Batak manuscripts in public and private collections deal with magic and divination, including this and others held in the Asian Division. Questions about this or other Southeast Asian collection materials can be directed to Ask a Librarian: https://ask.loc.gov/asia?oclr=fbint.
Asian Studies: Subscription Databases and Free Electronic Resources

The Library of Congress provides access to over 1,700 electronic databases through its E-Resources Online Catalog (EROC). This research guide provides guidance for selecting and accessing those resources focused on Asian Studies.

Introduction

The Library of Congress provides access to a wide variety of databases and electronic resources through its E-Resources Online Catalog (EROC). The purpose of this resource guide is to focus on both free and subscription resources of particular interest to those doing research in the field of Asian Studies. Access to the subscription databases marked with a padlock are available to researchers on-site at the Library of Congress, and in some cases, only in the Asian Reading Room. If you are unable to visit the Library, you may be able to access these resources through your local public or academic library.

This guide is divided into sections that correspond to collections found in the Library’s Asian Division:

- Chinese Studies E-Resources
- Japanese Studies E-Resources
- Korean Studies E-Resources
- Mongolian Studies and Tibetan Studies E-Resources
- South Asian Studies E-Resources
- Southeast Asian Studies E-Resources

https://guides.loc.gov/asian-eresources
South Asian Studies E-Resources

The following subscription and free electronic resources are recommended for researching the subject of South Asian Studies. Additional assistance is available in the Asian Reading Room.

Subscription databases and e-resources marked with a padlock are available to researchers on-site at the Library of Congress. If you are unable to visit the Library, you may be able to access these resources through your local public or academic library.

Free databases and e-resources are freely accessible online. While this list is not exhaustive of all free resources, it highlights the breadth and depth of what is available today.

Example:

List of free databases and e-resources for South Asian Studies

1947 Partition Archives

The 1947 Partition Archive is a people-powered non-profit organization dedicated to documenting, preserving and sharing eye witness accounts from all ethnic, religious and economic communities affected by the Partition of British India in 1947. The site provides a platform for anyone anywhere in the world to collect, archive and display oral histories that document not only Partition, but pre-Partition life and culture as well as post-Partition migrations and life changes. The 1947 Partition Archive is dedicated to bringing knowledge of Partition into widespread public consciousness through creative and scholarly expression. The Archive’s collected works are being made available in limited capacity via their online Story Map. The full works will soon be made available for educational purposes to academic researchers, students and the public. Interviews are conducted in the language that the interviewee is most comfortable with. Languages include: English, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati, Sindhi and others.

Abhilekh Patal

Abhilekh Patal is a full-featured web-portal to access the National Archives of India's reference media and its digitized collections through the internet. The National Archives of India is the repository of the non-current records of the Government of India and is holding them in trust for the use of records creators and general users. It is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Digital collections include Cartographic Records, Defence, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Education and Health, Home Education, Home Index, Home Political, Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Mahatma Gandhi, Ministry of Education, Oriental Records, P.K. Malaviya, Private Papers, Public Records, and S.C. Dixit.
Ask a Librarian

Have a question? Need assistance? Our librarians and program specialists are here to help you.

Ask a Specialist  Ask a General Question  Browse Frequently Asked Questions

We encourage you to ask a specialist using one of the links below. To ask a general question or browse our FAQs use the tabs above. Areas offering chat service are indicated using the “chat” icon.

Subjects & Formats
- Business
- Film, TV, Video
- Genealogy, Local History
- History, Humanities, Social Sciences
- Law
- Manuscripts
- Map, Geography
- Newspapers, Periodicals, Comic Books
- Performing Arts
- Prints and Photographs
- Rare Books, Special Collections
- Recorded Sound, Audio
- Science, Technical Reports

Regions & Languages
- Africa, Middle East
- Asia
- Caribbean, Iberia, Latin America
- Europe

Programs & Services
- American Folklife Center
- Congress.gov
- Copyright
- Loan, Reserves, Accounts
- Services for the Blind and Print Disabled
- Poetry, Literature
- Preservation
- Teacher Resources
- Veterans History Project

http://ask.loc.gov/asia
Conservation

at the Library of Congress

Elmer Eusman, Chief Conservation Division
LOC Conservation
What do we do?
LOC Conservation
What do we do?
LOC Conservation

What do we do?
LOC Conservation

What do we do?
LOC Conservation

What do we do?
LOC Conservation

What do we do?
LOC Conservation

What do we do?
LOC Preservation Resources

Preservation Website
- Examples of conservation treatments
- Educational resources
  - Printable bookmarks
  - Paper and Book arts
  - Time capsules
- Video of conservation treatments

Other LOC websites
- Story Maps
- Make a Mini Book
- LOC Preservation Blog
LOC Preservation Resources

Preservation Website
- Examples of conservation treatments
- Educational resources
  - Printable bookmarks
  - Paper and Book arts
  - Time capsules
- Video of conservation treatments

Other LOC websites
- Story Maps
- Make a Mini Book
- LOC Preservation Blog
LOC Conservation
FAQs

• What is the difference between preservation and conservation (and restoration)?
• How does one become a conservator?
• How do I take care of my treasured collection items?
• I think this collection item needs treatment. How do I locate a conservator?
LOC Conservation

Contacts:

- Ask a Librarian: [https://ask.loc.gov/preservation](https://ask.loc.gov/preservation)
- Amelia Parks: [ampar@loc.gov](mailto:ampar@loc.gov)
- Elmer Eusman: [eeus@loc.gov](mailto:eeus@loc.gov)
Online Resources for Preservation

Preservation Website

- Examples of Conservation Treatments
- Videos of conservation treatments
  - The Diary of IBN Said
  - The Howland Album (contains the Harriet Tubman portrait)
  - Armenian Traditional Endbands
- Educational Resources
  - Printable bookmarks
  - Paper and Book arts
  - Time capsules

Other LOC Preservation resources

- Story Maps
  - Japanese Woodblock Prints
  - 19th Century Roots of Instagram
  - Mesoamerican Red Colorant Cochineal
- Blog: Guardians of Memory
- Make a Mini Book
An Introduction to the Geography and Map Division at the Library of Congress

Our map ladies welcome you!
Approximately how many collection items do you think are in the Geography and Map Division? Write your guess in the chat while we wait to get started!
The Geography and Map Division

- Maps have been collected from the beginning of the Library in 1800. A separate Hall of Maps and Charts was established in 1897.

- Over 5.6 million items in the collection

- Collect material covering over 173 countries

- Earliest original map is from 1320-1350
Types of Material

- Single Maps/Title Collection
- Atlases
- Set Maps
- Vault Material
- Globes and 3D Objects
- Reference Books
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

• Our most used collection

• The Sanborn map collection consists of a uniform series of large-scale maps, mostly dating from 1880s to the 1950s. They depict to the building level the commercial, industrial, and residential sections of some twelve thousand cities and towns in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

• All public domain Sanborn map sheets are online (with a few exceptions, sheets from 1923-1925)
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky, 1909

An index is on the [G&M Homepage](https://www.gmhomepage.com) and digitized images on [LOC digital collections](https://loc.gov).
Digital Collection: Railroad Maps of the 19th Century

• A digital collection of 623 maps chosen from more than 3,000 railroad maps and about 2,000 regional, state, and county maps, and other maps which show "internal improvements" of the past century.

• The railroad maps represent an important historical record, illustrating the growth of travel and settlement as well as the development of industry and agriculture in the United States.

• Also includes an extensive essay on the history of railroads and maps

• https://www.loc.gov/collections/railroad-maps-1828-to-1900/about-this-collection/
Digital Collection: Railroad Maps of the 19th Century

Colton's rail-road and military map of the United States, Mexico, the West Indies, &c, 1862
Digital Collection: Discovery and Exploration

• A curated collection of maps that reflect the European Age of Discoveries, dating from the late 15th century to the 17th century when Europeans were concerned primarily with determining the outline of the continents as they explored and mapped the coastal areas and the major waterways.

• Also included are 18th and 19th century maps documenting the exploration and mapping of the interior parts of the continents, reflecting the work of Lewis and Clark and subsequent government explorers and surveyors.

• https://www.loc.gov/collections/discovery-and-exploration/about-this-collection/
Digital Collection: Discovery and Exploration

Universalis cosmographia secundum Ptholomaei…Martin Waldseemuller, 1507
Using the Library’s Website to Find Maps

https://www.loc.gov/maps

https://catalog.loc.gov/vwebv/searchAdvanced

http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/
Social Media

https://twitter.com/LOCMaps

http://blogs.loc.gov/maps
Questions?
Exploring the Library of Congress’ Luso-Hispanic Collections and Services
The Hispanic Reading Room

- His foresight provided for the establishment of the Hispanic Division, originally called the Hispanic Foundation.
- He (and Congress) also provided the capital for the construction of the Hispanic Reading Room.

Founded in 1939
The Portinari Murals

- Painted by renowned 20th c Brazilian Painter Candido Portinari in 1941

- Comprised of four panels that represent iconic imagery of the Spanish and Portuguese conquest in the Americas.

- [Portinari murals’ StoryMap](#)
Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS)

https://hlasopac.loc.gov/
The PALABRA Archive – Audio available for streaming

https://www.loc.gov/collections/archive-of-hispanic-literature-on-tape/about-this-collection/
The PALABRA Archive
or Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape (AHLOT)
How to search our collections

• LC Everything
  • All digital content in one place
From the Library’s main page search for Hispanic (Everything)

Refine your search by:

• Available online
• Format (Film, video)
• Part of: Event Videos
• Part of: Hispanic Division
• View in Gallery Mode + Date
LC Research Guides (https://guides.loc.gov)

• Index of LC Research Guides
Ideas for the classroom

- Historic documents + linguistics + paleography
  - Herencia: Centuries of Spanish Legal Documents

- Historic newspaper articles + immigration
  - Chronicling America

- The PALABRA Archive + listening comprehension
  - Teaching with AHLOT: A Spanish teacher shares her classroom experience

- 4 Corners of the World: International Collections
  - Luisa Capetillo: A Puerto Rican Changemaker

- Teaching with the Library of Congress
  - Comparing Primary Sources Depicting Border Spaces

Diego Rivera [Trails of the Hero Twins], 1931. The Jay I. Kislak Collection, Geography and Map Division.
Questions...

Contact us

Catalina Gómez cgom@loc.gov

Carlos Olave cola@loc.gov

• Subscribe to our mailing list
• Subscribe to the 4 Corners of the World Blog
• Follow us on Facebook
The mission of the Law Library of Congress is to provide authoritative legal research, reference and instruction services, and access to an unrivaled collection of U.S., foreign, comparative, and international law. To accomplish this mission, the Law Library has assembled a staff of experienced foreign and U.S. trained legal specialists and law librarians, and has amassed the world's largest collection of law books and other legal resources from all countries, now comprising more than 2.9 million items.
Congress.gov – Front Page

Current Legislative Activities
117th Congress (2021-2022)

House of Representatives
Next Meeting: July 13, 2021 at 9:00 AM EDT
Previous Meeting: July 9, 2021

Senate
Next Meeting: July 13, 2021 at 3:00 PM EDT
Previous Meeting: July 9, 2021

Senate Links
On the Senate Floor
Communications to the Senate
Nominations
Treaty Documents

Recent
Yesterday in Congress
Bill Texts
Committee Schedule
Floor Calendars
Committee Reports
Roll Call Voting
Presented to President

The Congressional Record
Daily Digest of latest legislative activity
Browse by Date

Library of Congress Reports
Search CRS Reports
Congressional Research Service Reports are available to the public.
The Law Library of Congress Reports are produced primarily for Members of Congress.

The Constitution Annotated
Official Senate Print providing comprehensive legal analysis of the U.S. Constitution

News from the Law Library

“Search the Help Center” found under “Support”

New Constitution Annotated and CRS Reports pages linked via the Congress.gov homepage!
Historical Research: A Century of Lawmaking (1774 to 1875)

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html
Collection: John Adams and the Boston Massacre Trial of 1770


About this Collection

Expert Resources
John Adams: A Resource Guide

As noted in the 2008 HBO mini-series chronicling the life and career of John Adams (1735-1826), as a young lawyer the future president served as counsel for the defense in the trial of eight British soldiers accused of murder during a riot in Boston on March 5, 1770, that came to be known as the Boston Massacre.
Collection: Slaves and the Courts, 1740 to 1860

Questions?

- Contact the Law Library Reference Desk
  - Use the Law Library’s “Ask A Librarian” service: https://ask.loc.gov/law/
  - Call us at (202) 707-5080
Literary Initiatives Division:

Poetry and Literature Resources for Educators

Peter Armenti, Literature Specialist
About This Program

Poet Laureate Joy Harjo Launches “Living Nations, Living Words”

Explore her signature project, which features contemporary Native poets from across the United States.

The Library of Congress promotes poetry and literature year-round through our online and in-person programs, our honors and prizes, and our ambassadors.

Source: https://www.loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/about-this-program/
United States Poets Laureate Research Guides

Appointed by the Librarian of Congress, the Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry serves as the nation’s official poet. Access here a growing collection of research guides on U.S. Poets Laureate and Consultants in Poetry.

Introduction

Poetry and Literature

Ask a Librarian

Have a question? Need assistance? Use our online form to ask a librarian for help.

Authors:
Maura Byrne, Intern, Poetry and Literature Center
Anne Holmes, Digital Content Manager, Poetry and Literature Center
Peter Armenti, Reference Specialist, Researcher and Reference Services

The highest poetry office in the country belongs—both literally and symbolically—to the U.S. Poet Laureate. Headquartered at the Library’s Poetry Office in the attic of the Thomas Jefferson Building, the poet laureateship is the primary national position dedicated to raising awareness and appreciation of poetry among the American public.

The Library of Congress is in the process of developing research guides for each U.S. Poet Laureate (1986-present) and Consultant in Poetry (1937-1985) to the Library of Congress. Each guide offers an overview of the activities of the poet laureate during his or her tenure, and provides access to press releases, webcasts, blog posts, and a wealth of other resources through the Library’s website and elsewhere on Web documenting the laureate’s work. To facilitate research on each laureate at the Library of Congress and through other libraries, each guide also includes a bibliography of each poet’s works and suggestions for locating scholarship on each laureate’s life and writing. Guides currently available are linked below; new guides will be added upon completion.

Consult the Library’s main Poet Laureate pages for detailed information about the history of the position. If you need additional assistance, contact the Library of Congress.

Source: https://guides.loc.gov/poets-laureate/
Poet Laureate Projects

Since the Poet Laureateship was created by an act of Congress in 1985, nearly half of the laureates have taken on a signature project to raise the national appreciation of poetry. Learn about and explore these dynamic projects—with a digital presence—here.

Living Nations, Living Words

Created in 2020 by Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, this project gathers a sampling of work by 47 contemporary Native poets from across the nation to show that Native people and poets have vital and unequivocal roots in the United States. The project features an Interactive Story Map and a newly developed audio collection.

American Conversations: Celebrating Poems in Rural Communities

During 2018, Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith visited rural communities around the country and gave away copies of her anthology, American Journal: Fifty Poems for Our Time, to spark conversations about the power of poetry.
In this map, you can begin anywhere.

Each location marker reveals a Native Nations poet and features an image, biography, and a link to hear the poet recite and comment on an original poem.

This body of work forms the foundation of a "Living Nations, Living Words" online collection in the Library of Congress's American Folklife Center.

Source: https://www.loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/poet-laureate/poet-laureate-projects/living-nations-living-words/
About this Collection

This collection—part of Poet Laureate Joy Harjo's "Living Nations, Living Words" signature project—contains audio recordings of 47 contemporary Native American poets reading and discussing an original poem. Listen to Joy Harjo, Louise Erdrich, Natalie Diaz, Ray Young Bear, Craig Santos Perez, Sherwin Bitsui, Layli Long Soldier, and other featured voices.

Created in 2020, Harjo's project gathers a sampling of work by contemporary Native poets from across the nation to show, through poetry, that Native people and poets have vital and unequivocal roots in the United States. The poets included in "Living Nations, Living Words" chose their poem and commentary based on the theme of place and displacement, and with four touchpoints in mind: visibility, persistence, resistance, and acknowledgment.

Source: https://www.loc.gov/collections/living-nations-living-words/about-this-collection/
Welcome to Poetry 180. Poetry can and should be an important part of our daily lives. Poems can inspire and make us think about what it means to be a member of the human race. By just spending a few minutes reading a poem each day, new worlds can be revealed.

Poetry 180 is designed to make it easy for students to hear or read a poem on each of the 180 days of the school year. I have selected the poems you will find here with high school students in mind. They are intended to be listened to, and I suggest that all members of the school community be included as readers. A great time for the readings would be following the end of daily announcements over the public address system.

Poem 001: Introduction to Poetry

I ask them to take a poem
and hold it up to the light
like a color slide

or press an ear against its hive.

I say drop a mouse into a poem
and watch him probe his way out,
or walk inside the poem's room
and feel the walls for a light switch.

I want them to waterski
across the surface of a poem
waving at the author's name on the shore.

Teaching with Amanda Gorman’s “The Hill We Climb”

January 26, 2021 by Peter Amenti

The following guest post, part of our “Teacher’s Corner” series, is by Rebecca Newland, a Fairfax County Public Schools Librarian and former Teacher in Residence at the Library of Congress.

Presidential inaugurations are always historic events. This year Amanda Gorman mesmerized us with the reading of her poem “The Hill We Climb” in the final moments of the ceremony. As the youngest inaugural poet in history, her reading was no doubt inspirational for many young people who watched or listened to the inauguration. This offers an opportunity for educators to engage a new generation of students with the beauty and power of poetry.

For this activity:

- Use one of the visual recordings of Gorman’s recitation. Ask students to watch and listen only. (A transcript of the poem, with unofficial line breaks, can be found here.)
- For a second reading, ask students to only listen, without watching.
- Ask students how the visuals change the experience of the poem.
- Provide a copy of the text of the poem for a third experience. Encourage students to watch and listen, or just listen. Guide students to take note of specific words, phrases, or segments of the poem they are drawn to.
- Place students in small groups to discuss their impressions, thoughts, and feelings about the poem. Ask them to share their preferred way of experiencing the poem. (Survey students anonymously or by a show of hands. It may be useful for later readings to know how students prefer to experience poetry.)
- Post copies of the poem around the room for students to annotate. If you teach more than one class, encourage students to read and interact with the thoughts of others. In this way, discussion of the poem does not end at the end of class.

Source: https://blogs.loc.gov/catbird/2021/01/teaching-with-amanda-gormans-the-hill-we-climb/
Write a Newspaper Headline

Watch the Entire “Write. Right. Rite.” Series:

- **Imagine a New Writing Device**

- **Create a Bobble Head**
  Jason Reynolds, seventh National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, challenges kids to describe who in their family is a bobble head in the 28th installment of the “Write. Right. Rite.” video series. August 18, 2020. 1 minute, 49 seconds.

Source: [https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/wrr](https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/wrr)
Webinars and Workshops

Online workshops and conferences facilitated by Library of Congress education specialists

The Library of Congress offers educator webinars and workshops facilitated by education resource specialists. As sessions are added, we will post them here. Educators may also access materials and recordings from previously held webinars.

If you have questions or comments regarding Library of Congress educator webinars and workshops, please email us at: teachinglcsummer@loc.gov.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 24, 2021</td>
<td><strong>Teaching Poetry: A Conversation with Rita Dove</strong></td>
<td>Join us for a conversation with former US Poet Laureate Rita Dove. Dove will discuss her own approach to writing, share and discuss specific poems, and dedicate ample time for Q&amp;A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- Watch the Recording 🎧

Source: https://www.loc.gov/programs/teachers/professional-development/webinar/
Ask a Librarian: Poetry and Literature

We provide answers to queries regarding poetry and literature collections, events and programs at the Library of Congress, including the Poet Laureate and Poetry 180 site. We will provide a response to your question within 5 business days.

Your Contact Info

Name *

Email *

Receive an email confirmation of your submission.

Your Question

Please provide as much detail as possible, including information on resources you have already consulted.

Question *

Source: https://ask.loc.gov/poetry-literature
Literary Resources at the Library of Congress: Starting Points

- Poetry & Literature Home Page: [https://www.loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/about-this-program/](https://www.loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/about-this-program/)


- Jason Reynolds GRAB THE MIC Project: [https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/](https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/)

- From the Catbird Seat poet and literature blog: [https://blogs.loc.gov/catbird/](https://blogs.loc.gov/catbird/)

- “Teacher’s Corner” blog posts: [https://blogs.loc.gov/catbird/category/teachers-corner/](https://blogs.loc.gov/catbird/category/teachers-corner/)

- Educator Webinars and Workshops (browse for poetry programs): [https://www.loc.gov/programs/teachers/professional-development/webinar/](https://www.loc.gov/programs/teachers/professional-development/webinar/)

- Ask a Librarian: [https://ask.loc.gov/poetry-literature/](https://ask.loc.gov/poetry-literature/)