

## Dear Hamilton Musical Fan,

We're glad you're here and as big a fan of the Hamilton Musical as we are. If you've stumbled upon this bibliography and accompanying podcast and you aren't familiar with the Hamilton Musical, prepare yourself for us to blow you away!

Included in this bibliography are recommended books that do one of three things: they either **directly connect** to the Hamilton Musical and its biography of Alexander Hamilton the people who were in his life; or they are books whose **themes** include people or events that were referenced in the musical; or third, they are books that highlight either musical **influences** or are about life in the theatre.

As these are recommended titles this is not a full listing of any and all possible titles and themes that can be matched with the musical. Also, the age ranges for the books include Pre-Kindergarten to middle school. If there are titles or themes we should add let us know on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/cyapodcast>.

Bonus! Listen to parts one and two of the Hamilton podcast episodes where Karl, Kelly and I review and discuss talk about several of the books listed below on our **CYA: Children and Young Adult Podcast** which you can find here, <http://yalitlovers.oklibshare.org> and on iTunes, <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/cya-children-young-adults/id375600075>. Take a look at all of the other books we've discussed over the years, too!

You will find the soundtrack, if you haven't already purchased your own copy, on iTunes, or if you subscribe on Spotify or Amazon Prime. Some songs are rated explicit and these songs are NOT noted in the annotations. You will find a listing of songs rated explicit at the end of this document. The explicit rating is based on iTunes rating system. I strongly recommend due diligence for all of songs in the musical as they may not be explicit but the themes may be mature.

### Bibliography Legend:

**Title and Author; Book Annotation; Recommended Reading Level; Hamilton Musical References** includes specific songs that tie to the book; **Reference Source** includes websites that list books related to the musical; **Hamilton Musical Themes** includes those books who's subject or theme are referenced in the musical; **Hamilton Musical Influence** includes those books whose themes relate to the musical; **Further Reading** includes those books we could not get read in time for the podcast and there are no annotations but wanted to add them so you, you special cinnamon snowflake, would know about them.

So?  
Let's go!



## [Hamilton Books Directly Connected to the Musical](#)

### [Aaron and Alexander: The Most Famous Duel in American History](#)

Written by Don Brown

This is an overview of the lives and the relationship between Burr and Hamilton. A good starting point for younger fans of Hamilton who are listening and learning through their parent's obsession.

#### **Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** "Alexander Hamilton" "Aaron Burr, Sir" "Right Hand Man" "Non-Stop" "The Election of 1800" "Your Obedient Servant" "Best of Wives and Best of Women" "The World Was Wide Enough"

**Reference Source:** "Books for Kids Who Love Hamilton" by Cecilia and Ana. The Card Catalog: Ramblings of a Children's Literature Nerd. Posted October 26, 2015. Accessed June 10, 2016. <https://ccbooks.wordpress.com/2015/10/26/books-for-kids-who-love-hamilton/>

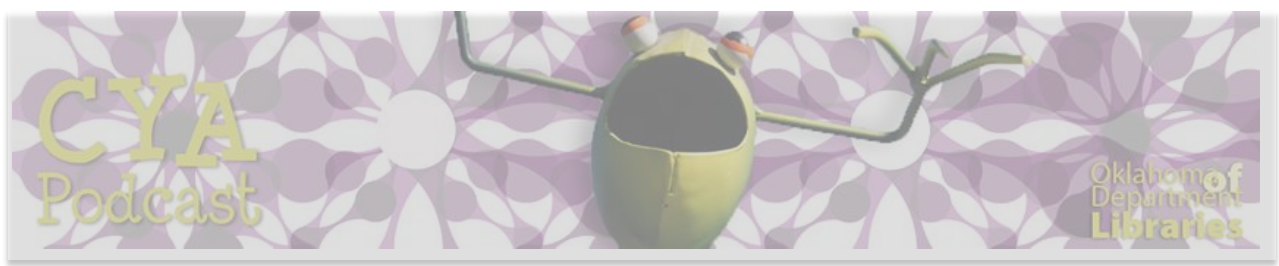
### [Founding Fathers! Those Horse-Ridin', Fiddle-Playin', Book-Readin', Gun-Toting' Gentleman Who Started America](#)

Written by Jonah Winter and illustrated by Barry Blitt

The founding fathers were not a homogenous like-minded group. They came from different socioeconomic backgrounds and education, and had varying views on religion. Each founding father is given a brief overview history of their life, a few of their quotes and statistical information including height, views on slavery, political party and hobbies.

#### **Upper elementary and up.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** "Alexander Hamilton" "Right Hand Man" "History Has Its Eyes On You" "What'd I Miss" "Adams Administration"



## Big George: How a Shy Boy Became President Washington

Written by Anne Rockwell

This is a history of America's first president. The focus is mainly on his leading the Revolutionary War and the fight for Independence. Washington is painted as a reluctant hero, who, when called, stepped up and did what was needed.

**Early elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical Reference:** "Farmer Refuted" "You'll Be Back" "Right Hand Man" "Meet Me Inside" "Guns and Ships" "History Has It's Eyes On You" "Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)" "What Comes Next?" "Non-stop" "One Last Time" "I Know Him" "The World Was Wide Enough"

**Reference Source:** "Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids" by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library. Accessed June 10, 2016.  
<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>

## Thomas Jefferson: Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Everything

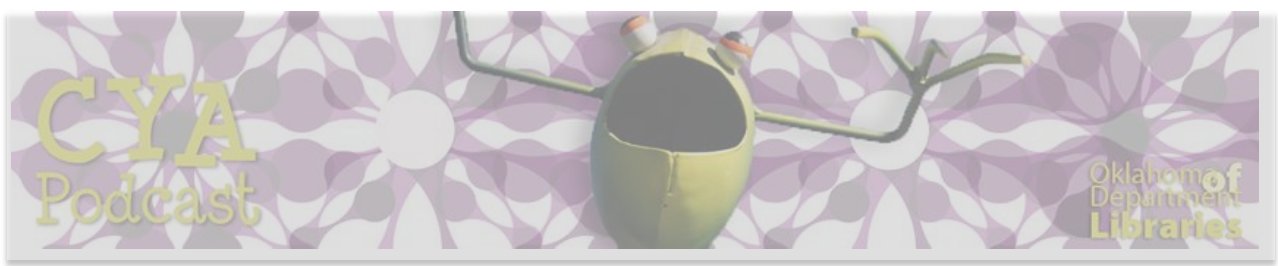
Written by Maria Kalman

It's Jefferson's turn. This is a biography of America's third president. Enumerated are his successes, his faults, his love of books and gardening. Kalman gives a rounded picture of Jefferson and doesn't shirk on his less attributable qualities.

**Early elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** "What'd I Miss" "Cabinet Battle #1" "Washington On Your Side" "One Last Time" "Adam's Administration" "We Know" "The Election of 1800" "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story"

**Reference Source:** "Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids" by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library. Accessed June 10, 2016.  
<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>



### **Worst of Friends: Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and the True Story of an American Feud**

Written by Suzanne Tripp Jurmain and illustrated by Larry Day

This is an informative picture book that is about the friendship and falling out between Jefferson and Adams. Those kids who are listening closely to the musical and are wondering how did Jefferson went from calling Adams his friend in “What’d I Miss” to referring to him very coldly in “The Election of 1800” can find out what happened to their relationship.

**Early elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** "What'd I Miss" "Cabinet Battle #1" "The Room Where it Happens" "Cabinet Battle #2" "Washington On Your Side" "I Know Him" "The Adams Administration" "The Election of 1800" "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story"

**Reference Source:** “Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids” by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library. Accessed June 10, 2016. <http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>

### **Duel! Burr and Hamilton’s Deadly War of Words**

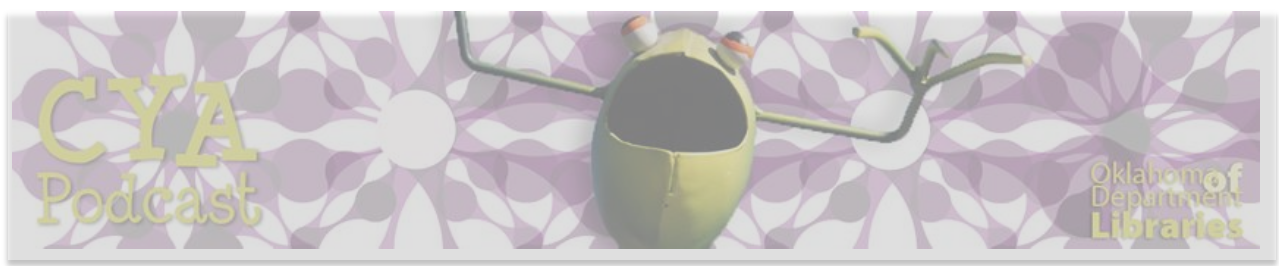
Written by Dennis Brindell Fradin and illustrated by Larry Day

Hamilton fans can practically sing along with this story. Burr and Hamilton lives are shown to parallel and diverge. Their disagreements are highlighted leading up to the fateful duel. Fradin includes a summary history of the practice of dueling in America.

**Early elementary and up.**

**Hamilton Musical Reference:** (seriously, you can sing the musical when reading this book) "Alexander Hamilton" "Aaron Burr, Sir" "Right Hand Man" "Stay Alive" "Yorktown (The World Turned Upside)" "Non-Stop" "Schuyler Defeated" "The Election of 1800" "Your Obedient Servant" "Best of Wives and Best of Women" "The World Was Wide Enough"

**Reference Source:** “Books for Kids Who Love Hamilton” by Cecilia and Ana. The Card Catalog: Ramblings of a Children’s Literature Nerd. Posted October 26, 2015. Accessed June 10, 2016. <https://ccbooks.wordpress.com/2015/10/26/books-for-kids-who-love-hamilton/>



### **The Duel: The Parallel Lives of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr**

Written by Judith St. George

Told in alternating viewpoints between Hamilton and Burr there is a lot of history packed into eighty-nine pages. One interesting note is that neither made much money either as lawyers or working as public servants. Highly recommended.

**Middle school and up.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** the entire soundtrack.

**Reference Source:** "Books for Kids Who Love Hamilton" by Cecilia and Ana. The Card Catalog: Ramblings of a Children's Literature Nerd . Posted October 26, 2015. Accessed June 10, 2016. <https://ccbooks.wordpress.com/2015/10/26/books-for-kids-who-love-hamilton/>

### **Battle for a New Nation: Causes and Effects of the Revolutionary War**

Written by Cassandra Radomski

A very precise and clearly written history of England's King George III's and Parliament's decisions leading up to the colonies revolt and resulting Revolutionary War. This account widens the scope of the events in detail but does not overwhelm the reader. Highly recommended reading.

**Middle school and up.**

**Hamilton Musical References:** "My Shot" "The Story of Tonight" "The Farmer Refuted" "You'll Be Back" "Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)" "Non-Stop" "Cabinet Battle #1"

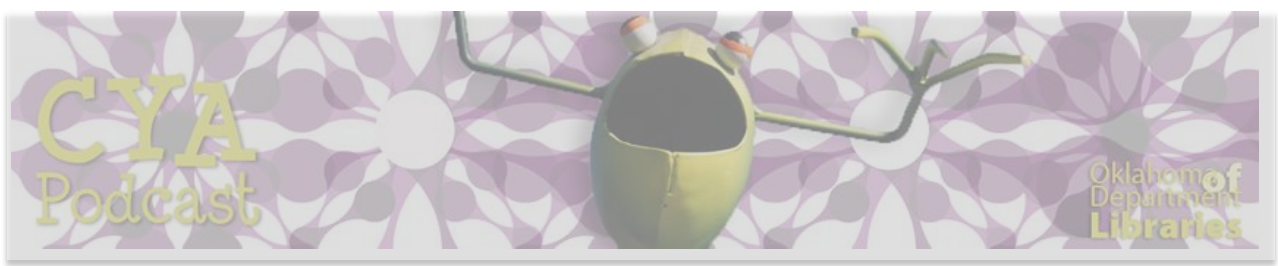
#### **Further Reading:**

**A Primary Source History of U.S. Independence** written by Krystyna Poray Goddu

**The Untold Story of the Black Regiment** written by Michael Burgan

**A Timeline of Presidential Elections** written by Barbara Krasner

**The U.S. Constitution: Introducing Primary Sources** written by Kathryn Clay



## Hamilton – Themes Referenced in the Musical

### **A Timeline of Presidential Elections**

Written by Barbara Krasner

This is basically just a timeline of all of the US Presidents from Washington to Obama. Included for each president is a snippet of facts that includes the highs and lows of their administrations.

**Upper elementary and up.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** presidents, challenges faced by presidential administrations, history

**Hamilton Musical References:** “Non-Stop” “What’d I Miss” “Cabinet Battle#1” “Cabinet Battle #2” “Washington On Your Side” “One Last Time” “I Know Him” “The Adams Administration” “The Election of 1800”

### **The Revolutionary War: A Chronology of America’s Fight for Independence**

Written by Danielle Smith-Lera

A much fuller picture of the events leading up to and the battles fought for America's Independence. Hamilton is not mentioned but for those who are seeking a more historical account of that time in our history and this book will get them started.

**Upper elementary and up.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** revolutionary war, independence

**Hamilton Musical References:** "My Shot" "Farmer Refuted" "You'll Be Back" "Stay Alive" "Guns and Ships" "Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)" "What Comes Next?"

### **Lady Liberty’s Holiday**

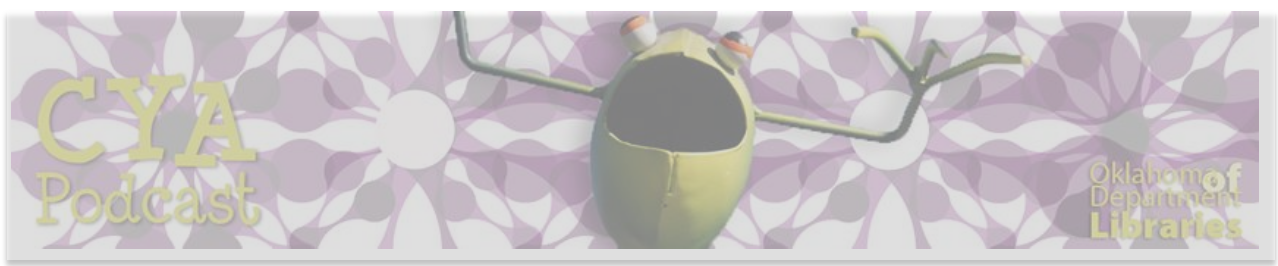
Written by Jen Arena and illustrated by Matt Hunt

This is a cute book about the Statue of Liberty taking a “liberty” and exploring the continental US. The back matter includes a brief historical overview of the Statue of Liberty.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** France, independence

**Hamilton Musical References:** “My Shot” “The Story of Tonight” “The Story of Tonight (Reprise)” “Stay Alive” “Guns and Ships” “Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)” “Cabinet Battle #2”



### **We Came to America**

Written by Faith Ringgold

Told in a poem and accompanying pictures Ringgold highlights the diversity of the US from those who called this land their home to those who came from abroad.

#### **Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** immigration

**Hamilton Musical Reference:** "Alexander Hamilton" Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)" "Adam's Administration" "Guns and Ships"

### **Chasing Freedom: The Life Journeys of Harriet Tubman and Susan B Anthony**

Written by Nikki Grimes and Michele Wood

Interesting premise having two very prominent and memorable women sit down for afternoon tea and discuss their lives. Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony reminisce over the events and paths their lives have taken.

#### **Early elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** suffrage, slavery

**Hamilton Musical Reference:** "The Schuyler Sisters" "The Election of 1800" "My Shot" "Stay Alive" "Cabinet Battle #1" "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story"

### **Abe Lincoln: His Wit and Wisdom from A-Z**

Written by Alan Schroeder and John O'Brien

Lincoln's life told non-chronologically using the alphabet as guide. Included are images, and quotes from Lincoln along with bits of history about his life and career.

#### **Upper elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** slavery

**Hamilton Musical Reference:** "My Shot" "Stay Alive" "Cabinet Battle #1" "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story"



## **Lillian's Right to Vote: A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965**

Written by Jonah Winter and Shane W. Evans

This is an inspiring story of 100 year old Lillian going to cast her vote. As she walks to the voting place she remembers family and activists who came before her enabling and ensuring her legal right to vote. Author includes a sobering note on the loss of federal oversight of states' election processes and the rise of voter identification laws which are viewed as hindering the poor and elderly from voting.

**Early elementary and up.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** voting rights, slavery

**Hamilton Musical References:** "Schuyler Sisters" "The Election of 1800" "Alexander Hamilton" "Stay Alive" "Yorktown (The World Was Wide Enough)" "Cabinet Battle #1"

## **Juneteenth for Mazie**

Written by Floyd Cooper

Mazie learns about the Juneteenth celebration that happens each year. "Juneteenth" is June 19, 1865 when the abolishment of slavery was announced in Texas by Union soldiers a full two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. The story moves through history to include the civil rights struggle to the election of President Obama.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Themes:** slavery

**Hamilton Musical References:** "Alexander Hamilton" "My Shot" "Stay Alive" "Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)" "Cabinet Battle #1"

## **Further Reading**

**The Election of 1860: A Nation Divides on the Eve of War** written by Jessica Gunderson

**A Primary Source of History of the U.S. Civil War** written by John Micklos, Jr

**The Statue of Liberty: Introducing Primary Sources** written by Tamra B. Orr

**The U.S. Civil War: A Chronology of a Divided Nation** written by Amanda Peterson

**Yankees and Rebels: Stories of U.S. Civil War Leaders** written by Steven Otfinoski





## Hamilton - What Influenced the Musical

### **When the Beat Was Born: DJ Kool Herc and the Creation of Hip Hop**

Written by Laban Carrick Hill and Theodore Taylor, III

This is a fictional account witnessing the very early days of hip-hop and rap music by watching the kids in Bronx, NY. Author includes a bibliography of his discovery of hip-hop and rap while working in the boroughs of New York City. A hip-hop and rap timeline from 1973 to 1986 is included in the back of the book.

**Early elementary.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** music - the musical includes many, many musical styles with the most notable is its inclusion of hip-hop and rap.

**Reference Source:** "Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids" by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library. Accessed June 10, 2016.  
<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>

### **Amandina**

Written by Sergio Ruzzier

Shy talented Amandina overcomes her stage fright by producing her own one-dog show. When no one comes she performs anyway and draws a crowd. Sweet book about facing one's fears, determination, stage fright, and behind-the-scenes stage production.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage performance, back stage production, stage fright

**Reference Source:** "12 Picture Books About Theatre for Kids" by Erica. What We Do All Day, June 2, 2014. Accessed June 10, 2016.  
<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2014/06/books-about-theater-for-kids.html>  
[There are more titles listed on this blog than are included on this list. --adrienne]



### Rifka Takes a Bow

Written by Betty Rosenberg Perlov

Backstage look at New York's Yiddish Theatre through the eyes of a young girl and her actor parents. Author includes a note on the history of Yiddish theatre and her childhood experiences.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage, stage production, acting

**Reference Source:** "12 Picture Books About Theatre for Kids" by Erica. What We Do All Day, June 2, 2014. Accessed June 10, 2016.

<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2014/06/books-about-theater-for-kids.html>

[There are more titles listed on this blog than are included on this list. --adrienne]

### You're Doing That in the Talent Show?!

Written by Lynn Plourde and Sue Cornelison

Two friends, Penelope and Tiny, have very different ideas about what to do in the upcoming school talent show. Penelope is outgoing while Tiny is reserved causing the two to disagree. Penelope ideas for what the two friends can do for their talent is simply delightful.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage, performance, talent, imagination

### The Boy, the Bear, the Baron, the Bard

Written by Gregory Rogers

This is a wordless picture panel story about a boy who time travels to Elizabethan London and has Shakespeare chasing him throughout the city. Soon a bear and a Baron join the fray.

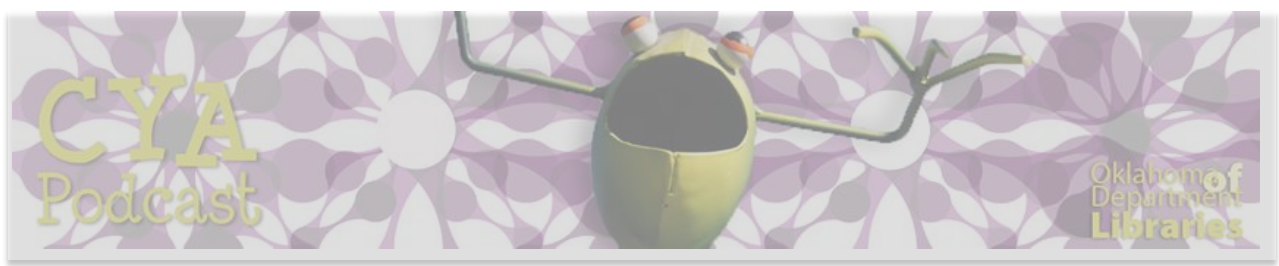
**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage, imagination

**Reference Source:** "12 Picture Books About Theatre for Kids" by Erica. What We Do All Day, June 2, 2014. Accessed June 10, 2016.

<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2014/06/books-about-theater-for-kids.html>

[There are more titles listed on this blog than are included on this list. --adrienne]



### **Moses Sees a Play**

Written by Isaac Millman

Moses and his class get a visit from the local deaf acting troupe. As the troupe prepares their show, Moses makes friends with a hearing boy and they become friends by learning how to communicate with each other. Added bonus is ASL signs are included in the story.

**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage performance

**Reference Source:** “12 Picture Books About Theatre for Kids” by Erica. What We Do All Day, June 2, 2014. Accessed June 10, 2016.

<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2014/06/books-about-theater-for-kids.html>

[There are more titles listed on this blog than are included on this list. --adrienne]

### **Amazing Grace**

Written by Mary Hoffman and illustrated by Caroline Binch

Imaginative and lover of stories Grace wants to play Peter Pan in the school play but other students disagree. With the help and encouragement of her family she auditions anyway. This is the first book in a series.

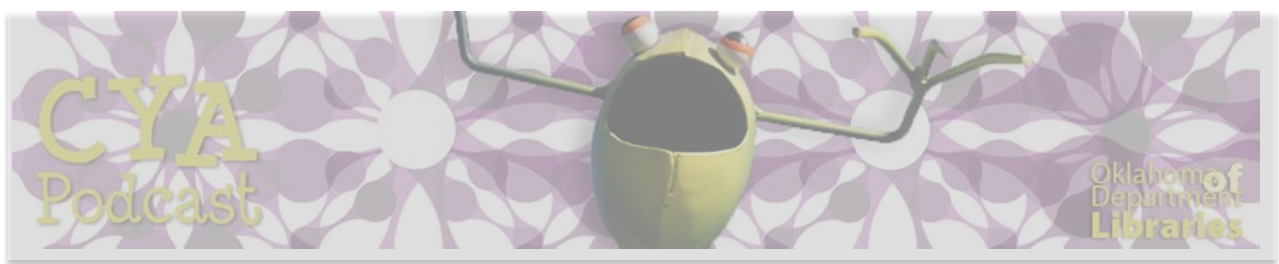
**Picture book.**

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** stage, performance, auditioning, acting, perseverance

**Reference Source:** “12 Picture Books About Theatre for Kids” by Erica. What We Do All Day, June 2, 2014. Accessed June 10, 2016.

<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2014/06/books-about-theater-for-kids.html>

[There are more titles listed on this blog than are included on this list. --adrienne]



**Further Reading**

**Jay-Z: Hip-Hop Icon** by Jessica Gunderson

**Hamilton Musical Influence:** hip-hop music, rap

**Reference source:** “Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids” by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library <http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>

**Wu-Tang Clan**

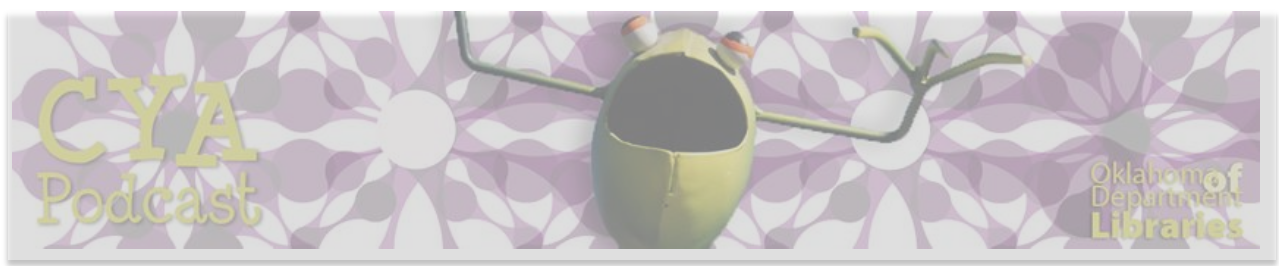
Written by Janice Rockworth

**Hamilton Musical Influence** – hip-hop music, rap

**Reference Source:** “Six Picture Books for #Hamilkids” by Gwen Glazer, Librarian, Readers Services, April 14, 2016. New York Public Library <http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/04/14/picture-books-hamilkids>

**Backstage Cat** written by Harriet Ziefert

**Hamilton Musical Influence** – stage, theatre



**Hamilton songs rated explicit by iTunes:**

"My Shot"  
"Right Hand Man"  
"The Story of Tonight"  
"Stay Alive"  
"Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down)"  
"Cabinet Battle #1"  
"Washington On Your Side"  
"Blow Us All Away"  
"The Election of 1800"

Not listed as explicit but probably for mature audiences: "A Winter's Ball" "Say No to This" "Adam's Administration" "We Know"

We, the CYA Podcast group, hope you find this list as fun and interesting and a resource for all of your Hamilton related activities and programs. You can listen to the podcast on our blog, <http://yalitlovers.oklibshare.org> or by going directly to iTunes, <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/cya-children-young-adults/id375600075>. Share us with your friends and colleagues. You can talk to us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/cyapodcast> and on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/cyapodcast>.

And, as Alexander Hamilton, the ten-dollar founding father says as he takes us out, "Don't be shocked when your hist'ry book mentions me"

Have fun!

Made with love and librarianship by the CYA Podcast group,  
Kelly Bayles, Karl Siewert, Jenny Stenis, Emily Williams, and Adrienne Butler