

# Book by Book

## A Century of Social Justice



Shannon Hitchcock

[www.shannonhitchcock.com](http://www.shannonhitchcock.com)

Rob Sanders

[www.robsanderswrites.com](http://www.robsanderswrites.com)

# Description

Two authors discuss how their books and books by other authors can be used with students of all ages to supplement the study of the suffragist movement, the Civil Rights Era, LGBT rights, and the struggle for immigrants' rights, to encourage empathy, support activism, and celebrate diversity.

# Outcomes

Participants will:

- discover how events in the early twentieth century still affect us,
- examine books that can help students better understand how we got where we are today, and appreciate how far we still have to go,
- discuss ways to encourage empathy, support activism, and celebrate diversity with students.

# Social Justice Education—The Why

“By teaching social justice in your classroom, you afford your students the opportunity to engage in authentic examination of their world and make positive changes. Your classroom, regardless of the content you teach, can be an incubator for social justice discussions.”

—*Matthew Lynch*

# Social Justice Education—The How

- Ground learning in the lives of students
- Promote critical thinking
- Develop multicultural, anti-racist, pro-justice curriculum
- Create participatory, experiential lessons
- Establish a helpful, joyful, kind, visionary environment
- Grow truth-tellers and change-makers—aka: activists
- Focus on rigorous academics
- Remain culturally sensitive

Adapted from: *Rethinking Our Classrooms*  
“Creating Classrooms for Equity and Social Justice”  
By Wayne Au, Bill Bigelow, and Stan Karp

# From My Viewpoint as an Author and a Teacher

- Question I most frequently ask myself:  
How can I make a difference in my world and in  
the lives of my students?

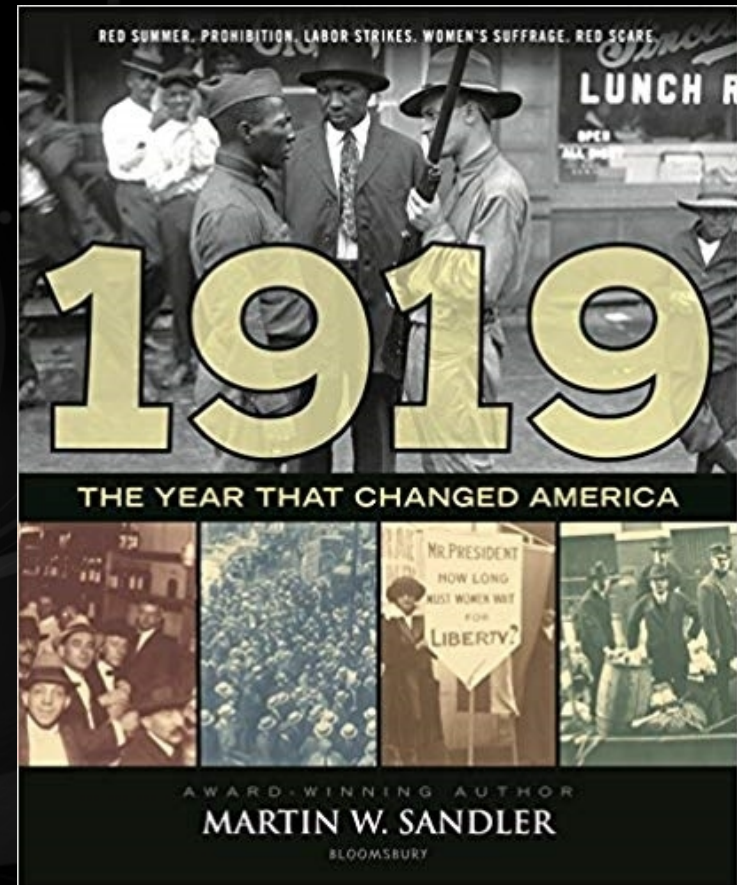
Answer: Books

# From My Viewpoint as an Author and a Teacher

- Question I'm most frequently asked as an author of nonfiction: Why do you write books about controversial topics?

Answer: History is not controversial. Not teaching history *is* controversial.

**“The current events holding our attention right now are always preceded by history.” Martin W. Sandler**





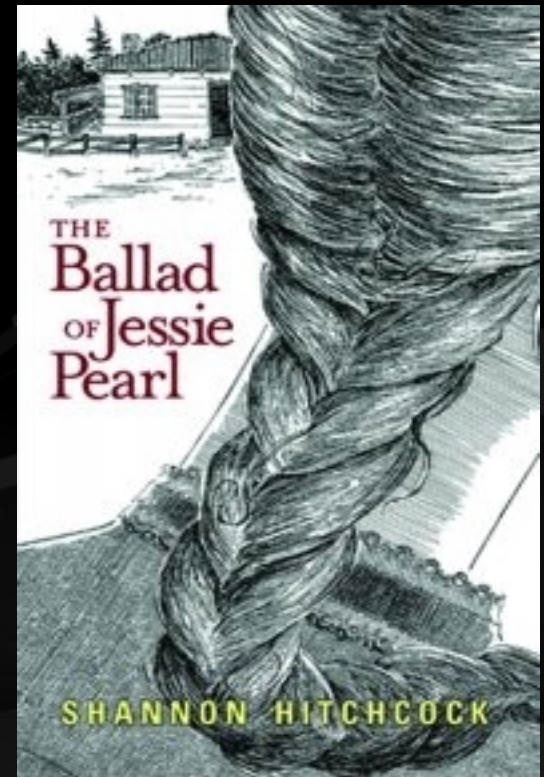
# The Suffragists!



# The Suffragists

- American women fought for more than 70 years for the right to vote. They:
- Marched
- Picketed the White House
- Were thrown in prison
- Beaten
- Went on hunger strikes

# The Ballad of Jessie Pearl



# The Struggle Continues

- “In 2017, Women in the U.S. earned 80% of the amount earned by men.” American Association of University Women
- Women are not guaranteed equal rights under the U.S. Constitution. (ERA was only ratified by 35 of the 38 required states)

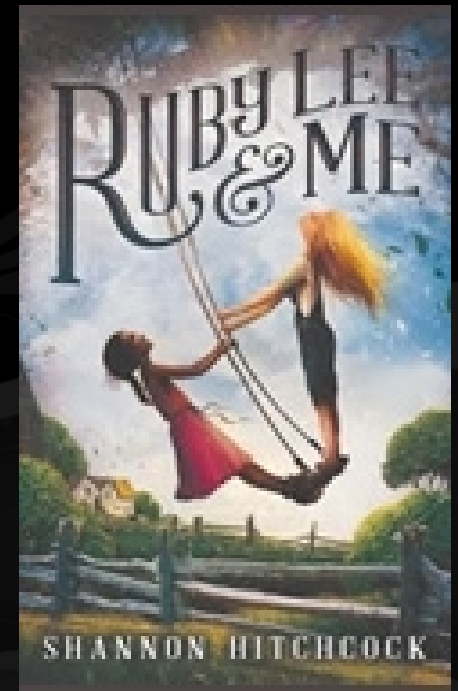
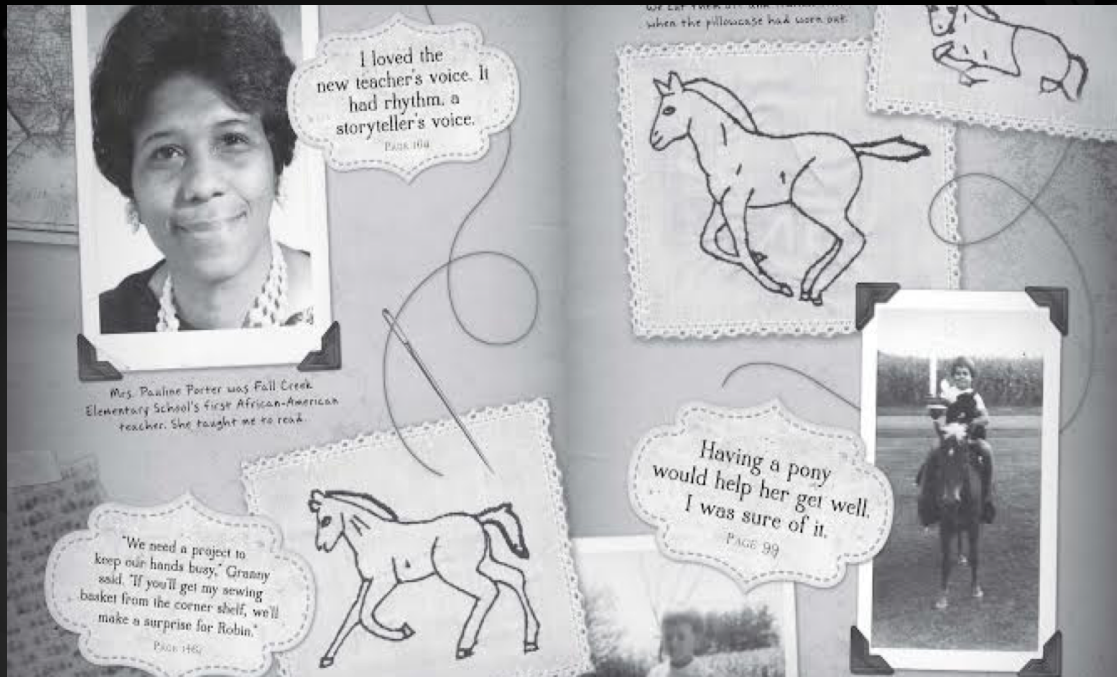
# The Red Summer April-November 1919



# The Red Summer

- For the first time black Americans mounted armed resistance against mobs of whites. The summer of 1919 sewed the seeds for:
  - 1954--Brown v Board of Education
  - 1955—Rosa Parks
  - 1963—March on Washington
  - 1965—Voting Rights Act

# Ruby Lee & Me



# The Struggle Continues

- Voter Suppression
- Trayvon Martin
- Michael Brown
- Philando Castile
- Walter Scott
- And many more...
- #BlackLivesMatter

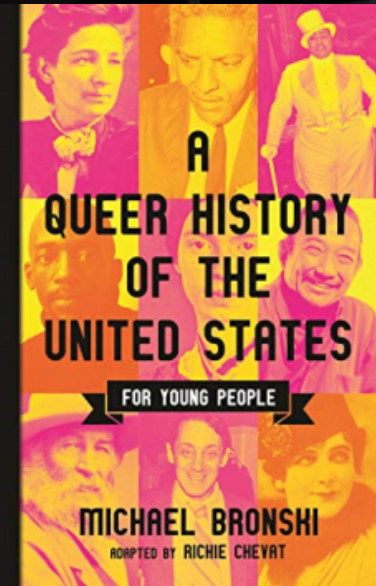
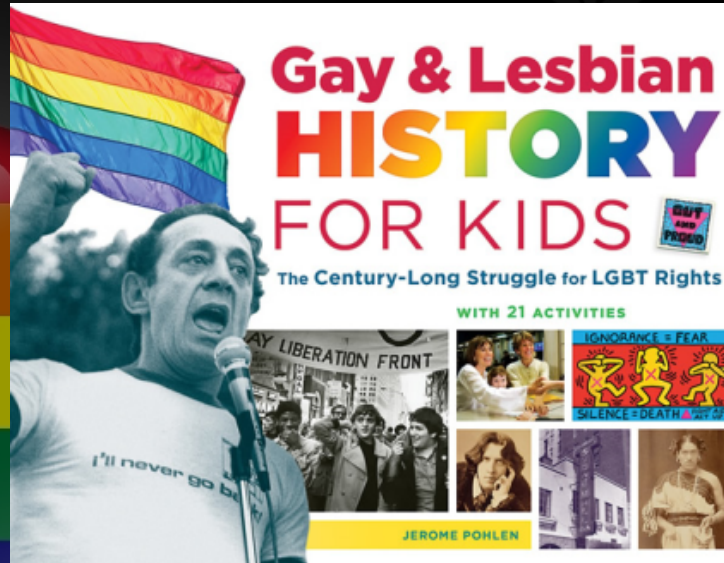
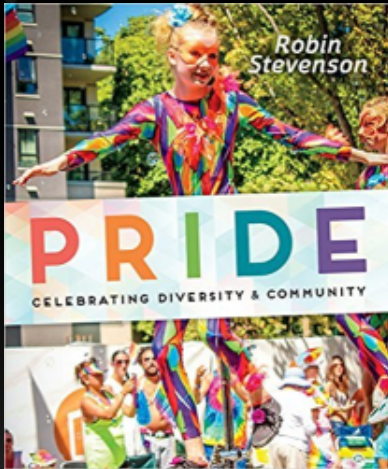


# LGBTQIA+ HISTORY

“History is filled with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. We know this through rare published histories, personal letters, court transcripts, and other sources. For years, much of this history was hidden, ignored, or erased by those who would rather not discuss it.”

—*Jerome Pohlen*

# LGBTQ+ HISTORY



# Inspiration from Delving Into History



JOSÉ JULIO SARRÍA, Candidate for Supervisor  
City and County of San Francisco  
November 7, 1961



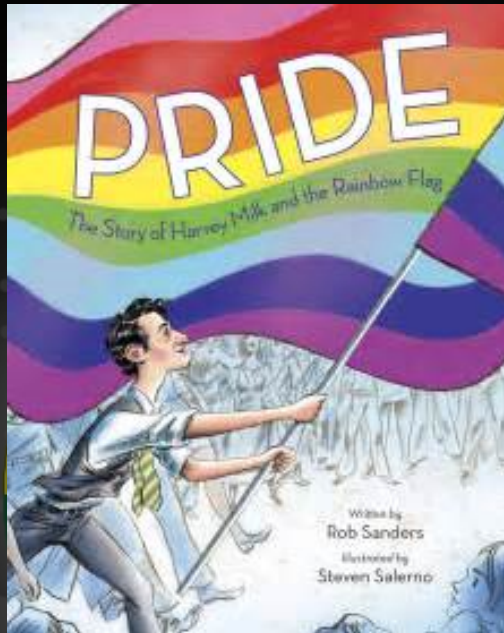
# A Pivotal Moment in LGBTQ+ History

**June 26, 2015**



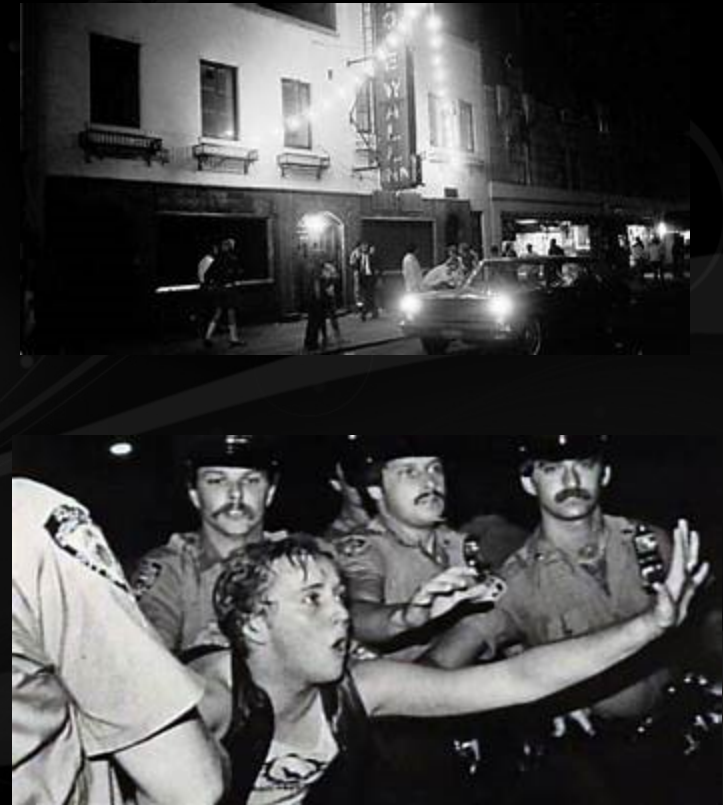
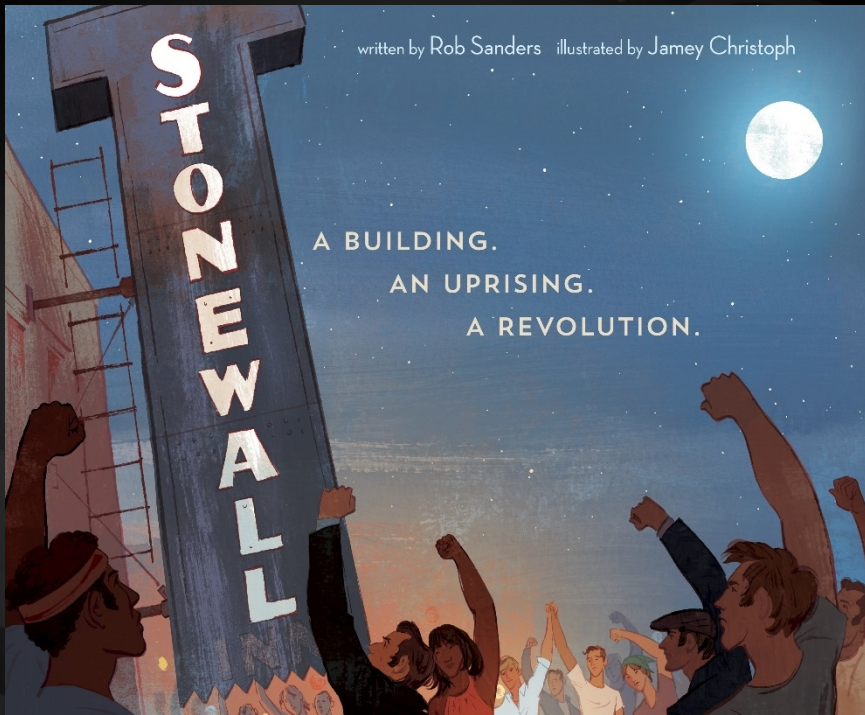
# PRIDE: THE STORY OF HARVEY MILK AND THE RAINBOW FLAG

by Rob Sanders and Steven Salerno

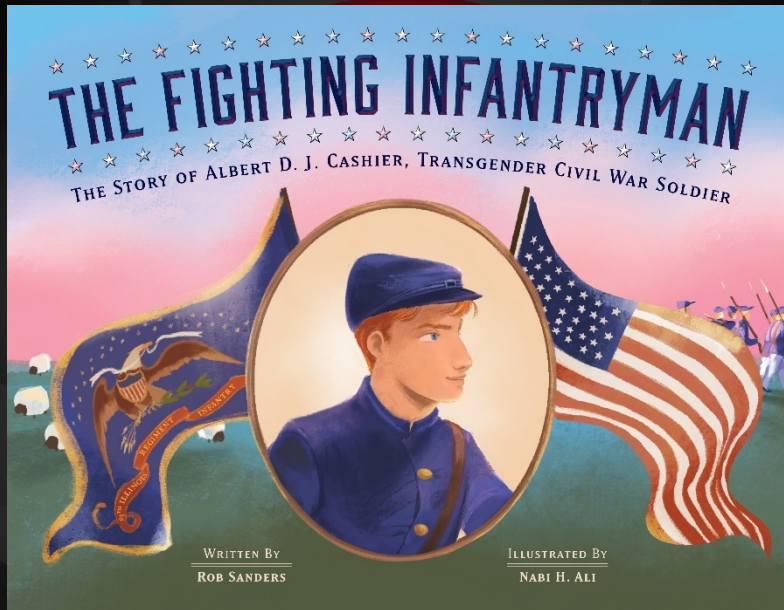


# STONEWALL: A BUILDING. AN UPRISING. A REVOLUTION.

by Rob Sanders and Jamey Christoph



# 150+ Years of LGBTQ+ History Coming in 2020



# The Struggle Continues

- The census (removal of references to LGBT)
- Transgender rights
- Violence against LBTQIA+ individuals
- Ban on HIV-positive service members
- Workplace discrimination
- Housing discrimination
- LGBT adoption
- Healthcare access
- Religious freedom laws



# The Red Scare



# The Palmer Raids

- Series of raids in November 1919 and January 1920.
- Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer ordered that communists agitators be rounded up and deported.
- Those arrested were denied food, forced to sleep in filthy cells, and often had inadequate bathroom facilities.

# Flying Over Water



Andrea Pinkney at Scholastic Press has acquired world rights to *Flying Over Water* by **N.H. Sensai** (*Escape from Aleppo*) (l.) and **Shannon Hitchcock** (*One True Way*), a dual narrative contemporary middle-grade novel set in 2017 during the Muslim ban and its aftermath. Publication is slated for fall 2020; Michael Bourret at Dystel, Goderich

& Bourret represented Sensai, and Deborah Warren at East/West Literary represented Hitchcock.

# The Struggle Continues

- Nativism—favoring native inhabitants as opposed to immigrants.
- Since 2016:
  - The U.S. has limited the influx of refugees
  - Increased immigration arrests
  - Proposed building a wall
  - Instituted a Muslim Ban

# BOOKS WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE THEMES

Do you have favorite Social Justice-themed books to use with students?

What are they?

Look for our posts on Facebook and Twitter and comment with a favorite title. Let's grow the canon!



“Be the change you  
wish to see in the  
world.”

—*Mahatma Gandhi*



# Inspiration for Your Journey

