Newark’s Literary Lights

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Introduction

Newark has different connotations to different people. America’s third oldest major city evokes images of a 17th century Puritan settlement, an 18th century farm town, a 19th century industrial and commercial center and a 20th century metropolis dealing with all the complexities of a modern and changing world. Newark has hosted a dozen major immigrant ethnic groups and contributed outstanding men and women to varied fields of endeavor. Its sons and daughters have helped weave part of the American mosaic.

From its very beginning Newark has valued the printed word. Robert Treat carried books with him up the Passaic River to that tiny settlement long ago, and a variety of mercantile libraries preceded the 19th century Newark Library Association. The present Newark Public Library was established in 1888 and opened its present structure as one of the City’s first important public buildings in 1901. Soon it was filled with a wealth of information for both the curious and the serious.

The purpose of this publication is to bring to you some names of writers associated with Newark who have produced books, short stories, plays, monographs, and poetry as well as periodicals and newspaper columns and articles. World-famous writers include Washington Irving, Stephen Crane, Mary Mapes Dodge, Philip Roth, and poet laureate of New Jersey Amiri Baraka. While not a comprehensive listing, many historic and contemporary figures of Newark’s literary landscape are highlighted. I hope that you will set aside time to get to know some of these authors.

Charles F. Cummings
Assistant Director for Special Collections, The Newark Public Library
And Newark City Historian
Allison, Hughes (1908–1974)
Author, playwright, and journalist.

Allison was born in Greenville, South Carolina on March 29, 1908 and his family moved to Newark in 1919. Allison attended Bergen Street Grammar School, Barringer High School, and Upsala College. His first short story was published in Challenge Magazine in 1935. By 1937, Allison’s first play, The Trial of Dr. Beck was being produced on Broadway, starring William Bendix. Also throughout the 1930s, Allison worked as a reporter for True Story Magazine. Later he authored a series of articles about school segregation for the Newark Evening News. He wrote over 2,000 radio scripts. Allison’s most famous character is African-American detective Joe Hill, who was modeled after the real Newark Police Homicide Detective Carlton B. Norris. Allison was married to Elitea Bulkley Allison, a children’s librarian at the Newark Public Library. Allison died on August 26, 1974 at Presbyterian Hospital in Newark.

PLAYS INCLUDE: The Trial of Dr. Beck (1937), Panyared (1939), Midnight Over Newark (1941), and Corollary (1948).

Ashby, William (1881–1991)
Author, social worker, teacher, and civil rights leader.

William Ashby was born in Newport News, Virginia in 1881. Ashby came to Newark in 1911 to work as a waiter after his graduation from Lincoln University. He then left Newark and graduated from Yale with a degree in social work. In 1917, he returned to Newark to establish the Negro Welfare League of New Jersey (later known as the Essex County Urban League). He was the first Black social worker in New Jersey. From 1932 to 1944 he was director of the Springfield, Illinois Urban League and from 1944 to 1954 he served as the director of the Eastern Union County League in Elizabeth. After retiring, he was active on the Newark Human Rights Commission and on the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights. Ashby died in 1991. His papers are at the New Jersey Information Center of the Newark Public Library.


Atkinson, Joseph (1846–1924)
Editor, writer, and public official.

Atkinson was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland on November 9, 1846. Soon after coming to America he became a reporter and the Newark correspondent for the New York Herald. Atkinson embraced America, becoming a member of the Union Navy during the Civil War and serving as the City Clerk of Newark. In 1893, Atkinson joined the Prudential Insurance Company as an author of an agency publication, The Weekly Record. He continued his public service and from 1890 to 1897 he was Clerk of the Board of Freeholders for Essex County. Atkinson was also editor at various times of the Free Press and Sunday Standard and Newark Journal. He also helped to develop the Orange Chronicle. Atkinson retired from Prudential in 1921. He died in Newark on December 18, 1924.

WORKS INCLUDE: The History of Newark New Jersey: Being a Narrative of its Rise and Progress, from the Settlement in May 1666 by Emigrants from Connecticut to the Present Time, Including a Sketch of the Press of Newark 1791-1878 (1878).
Baraka, Amiri (1934– )
Poet, author playwright, teacher, theater director and editor.
Also known as: LeRoi Jones, Everett LeRoi Jones, Imamu Baraka, Imamau Amiri Baraka.
Born Everett LeRoi Jones in Newark on October 7, 1934. He changed his name to Imamu Ameer Baraka in 1968 and later modified it to Amiri Baraka. During his early childhood, he wrote science fiction stories. Baraka was an excellent student and graduated from high school at age fifteen. He attended Rutgers University and later transferred to Howard University. After serving in the Air Force, Baraka studied at Columbia University and at the New School for Social Research in New York City. He also founded the Beat poetry magazine Yugen in 1958. Throughout the 1950s, Baraka worked as a jazz critic for Downbeat and the Jazz Review, and produced his own volumes of poetry. Baraka then received a great deal of acclaim for his play, Dutchman, including an Obie Award as the Best American Off-Broadway Play in 1964. Baraka opened the Black Arts Repertory Theatre/School (BART/S) in Harlem in 1965. After BART/S closed, Baraka founded Spirit House (Heckalu) in Newark in 1967. Spirit House, located on Stirling Street, was a building devoted to the African-American community of Newark. By 1974, Baraka was becoming more influenced by Marxism and he turned away from his Black Nationalist stance. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Baraka continued to write plays and poetry influenced by Marxism and Leninist thought. Having taught and lectured at a number of colleges and universities, he is Professor Emeritus, Department of Africana Studies, Stony Brook University. In 2001, he was inducted into the National Academy of Arts & Letters. In 2002 Baraka was named the Poet Laureate of the State of New Jersey. Baraka and his wife, poet Amina Baraka, live in Newark.

Boyd, Alex (1939– )
Author, librarian, and community leader.

Alex Boyd was born in South Carolina and grew up in New York. After serving three years in the Air Force he settled in Chicago. He earned degrees in teacher education and English from the University of Illinois. Boyd received his master’s degree in library science from the University of Illinois in 1968 and his doctorate from Rutgers University’s School of Communications, Information and Library Science in 1980. Before becoming director of the Newark Public Library in 1988, Boyd worked as the Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Development at the Chicago Public Library. He has served as a member of the Schomburg Cooperation, a group that advises the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Boyd is a Past-President of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and a Past-President of the New Jersey Library Association. Dr. Boyd is on the Advisory Council of the New Jersey Center for the Book and was appointed by Mayor Sharpe James to co-chair the Special Events Committee for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Works include: Guide to Multicultural Resources (editor).
Brown, Claude (1937–2002)
Author and musician.

Claude Brown was born in Harlem on February 23, 1937. After a difficult childhood filled with crime, pain, and fear, he began his literary career by writing an article about Harlem for the journal Dissent. In 1963, he finished his first book, Manchild in the Promised Land. Published in 1965, this work brought a great deal of attention to the sad conditions of urban youth. Brown also wrote for various magazines including the Saturday Evening Post, The New York Times Magazine, and Esquire. He also attended Howard University and later law school at Stanford University and Rutgers University. Brown lived in Newark and died on February 2, 2002.

WORKS INCLUDE: Manchild in the Promised Land (1965) and The Children of Ham (1976).

Condict, Jemima (1754–1779)
Diarist.

“A Transcript of the Diary of an Essex County Maid During the Revolutionary War” is a seventy-three-page account of Newark and Essex County residents during the break between Great Britain and her colonies. Jemima Condict’s diary was written when she was a young girl living in Newark Township. She lived in an area that today is about a mile west of Eagle Rock, which was called Pleasantdale. Her family resided at the intersection of what we now know as Eagle Rock Avenue and Pleasant Valley Way in West Orange. According to her diary, Condict rode with her father to Newark to see several militia companies being trained. At this stage she wrote, “All hopes of Conciliation Btwen Briten and her colonies are at an end—Both the King and his Parliament have announced our Destruction, fleet and arms are Preparing with the utmost diligence for that Purpose.” Condict died on November 14, 1779, “cut off in the flower of her youth,” but her diary was passed down through her descendants. Eventually it was given to the New Jersey Historical Society and in 1930 the Carteret Book Club reprinted it in a limited edition version. This charming window into the 18th century is a unique chapter in the city’s literary history.

WORKS INCLUDE: Jemima Condict Her Book: Being a Transcript of the Diary of an Essex County Maid During the Revolutionary War (reprint, 1930).

Connolly, Louise (1862–1927)
Author, editor, education expert, teacher, and civic leader.

Connolly was born and raised in Washington, DC. She earned degrees from George Washington University and took courses in teaching at New York University and the Teacher’s College of Columbia University. Connolly became a teacher, principal, and eventually supervisor of schools for the City of Newark. In 1906, Connolly became the Supervising Principal for the Summit School System. In 1910, she lost that position because the Summit School Board chose to hire a male teacher. Connolly joined the staff of the Newark Public Library and Newark Museum in 1912 and was appointed the education expert. In this capacity she spoke about the importance of a visual education both through exhibits and films. Connolly also became a leader in the Better Film Movement of the 1920s. She spoke against the use of censorship in films and advocated the creation of more enlightened films. Connolly also was a strong supporter of women’s right to vote. She died in Portland, Maine on July 17, 1927.

WORKS INCLUDE: The Educational Value of Museums (1915), How to Use the Library: A Course of Study for Those Who Wish Instruction That Will Help Themselves (1917), Tibet: the Country, Climate People, Customs, Religion, Resources (1921), The Venus of Milo (1926), Mrs. Chatterbox and Her Family (1927), and Thomas Crawford, Sculptor: a Short History of His Life (1926).
Crane, Stephen (1871–1900)
Author, journalist, and poet.
Also known as Stephen Townley Crane and Johnston Smith.

Stephen Crane was born to an old Newark family on November 1, 1871. His ancestor, Jasper Crane was one of the founders of the city of Newark. While still a college student Crane began his career writing articles for the Detroit Free Press, Syracuse Daily and the New York Tribune. He wrote his first novel, Maggie, a Girl of the Streets, under the pseudonym Johnston Smith. In 1895, The Red Badge of Courage, his most famous book was published. After achieving fame with this work, Crane wrote for various newspapers and magazines, often as a war correspondent. Some of these publications included The World, The New York Journal, and McClure’s Magazine. During the last years of his life, Crane worked in Greece, Cuba, and London. At age of 28, Crane died from tuberculosis in Badenweiler, Germany. Today his papers are located at Syracuse University Library, the Special Collections of Columbia University Library, New York Public Library, and Alderman Library at the University of Virginia.

Works Include: Maggie, a Girl of the Streets (1893), The Red Badge of Courage (1895), The Black Raiders and Other Lines (1895), The Little Regiment and Other Episodes of the Civil War (1896), “An Experiment in Misery” (1896), The Open Boat and Other Tales of Adventure (1898), “The Open Boat” (1898), “The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky” (1898), “The Blue Hotel” (1898), War is Kind (1899), Wounds in the Rain (1900), and “The Upturned Face” (1900).

Crews, Donald (1938– )
Author, illustrator, graphic designer, artist, soldier, and photographer.

Crews was born in Newark on August 30, 1938. He attended Arts High School in Newark. He graduated from New York’s Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in 1959. In 1962, he entered the Army. After serving for eighteen months in Germany, Crews created his first children’s book, We Read: A–Z. After his return to the United States, he worked as a freelance artist and illustrator. We Read; A–Z was published in 1967. During the 1970s, Crews continued to work as an illustrator for other authors. His own works, Freight Train (1978) and Truck (1980) were named as Caldecott Honor Books. Throughout the following decades Crews has continued to produce award winning children’s books. Inside Freight Train was published in 2001. His wife Ann Jonas and his daughter, Nina Crews, both work as author-illustrators as well.


Cunningham, John T. (1915– )
Author, journalist, historian, teacher, and lecturer.
Also known as “Mr. New Jersey.”

Cunningham was born in Newark on June 26, 1915 but later relocated with his family to Brookside, New Jersey. He graduated from Morristown High School and Drew University. Cunningham taught American literature at Morris County Junior College. Meanwhile, he was beginning his writing career as a journalist with the Morristown
In 1940, he accepted a position with the Newark News. During World War II, Cunningham served in the United States Army Air Corps, eventually achieving the rank of Captain. From 1947 his articles were a feature of the Newark Sunday News Magazine. A seventeen-part series of articles became Cunningham’s first book, Railroading in New Jersey. Another of his early books, This is New Jersey, from High Point to Cape May, was also based on a series of articles that he had written for the Newark News. Cunningham left the Newark News in 1963 to lecture and write full time. His volume, You, New Jersey and the World has sold over 400,000 copies and became a commonly used textbook in New Jersey schools. Cunningham has written over 2,000 articles and 38 books. Cunningham is a Past-President of the New Jersey Historical Society and Past-President the Friends of the Newark Public Library. He served as Chairman of the New Jersey Historical Commission and was named Vice-Chairman of the New Jersey Bicentennial Commission. Cunningham has received five Awards of Merit by the American Association for State and Local History. Cunningham’s film Dreams of Distant Shores won an Emmy Award for best-written documentary film in 1986. Many New Jersey colleges and universities, including Rutgers, Drew, Fairleigh Dickinson, Monmouth, Kean, Caldwell and Centenary have presented him with honorary degrees. He has also received the Governor’s Medal and the New Jersey Historical Society’s John A. Booth Memorial Award from the Schumann Foundation.


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**Dana, John Cotton** (1856–1929)

*Author, librarian, editor, museum director, lawyer, public servant, civil engineer, and printer.*

Also known as “the first citizen of Newark.”

Library legend John Cotton Dana was born in Woodstock, Vermont. Dana graduated from Dartmouth University in 1878 and then began to study law. Due to poor health Dana traveled to Colorado. After recuperating he returned to the East Coast and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1883. From 1883 to 1888, Dana married and also took on a number of jobs such as newspaperman and civil engineer. With no formal training, Dana was offered a librarian position at the Denver Public Library in 1889. It was while working at the Denver Public Library that Dana created the first library branch for children and established himself as a leader in library public relations. Due to these types of advancements, members of The American Library Association elected Dana as their President in 1895. After serving as the Library Director of the Springfield Library in Massachusetts, Dana came to Newark in 1902. Among his innovations as Director of the Newark Public Library, were establishing the first business branch in the nation, which opened in 1903, and the development of extensive foreign language collections. Dana was also the Founding Director of the Newark Museum and believed that museums were established to promote the appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of the arts and sciences. Together with a group of public officials, prominent businessmen, and local collectors, he established the Newark Museum Association in 1909 at the Newark Public Library. The Museum later moved to its own building in 1926. Dana died at St. Vincent’s Hospital in New York on July 21, 1929.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** Public Library Handbook (1895), Library Primer (1899), Library Problems (1902), Literature of Libraries in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries (editor) (1906), Notes on Bookbinding for Libraries (1906), The Pomfret Library, Vermont in the Abbott Memorial.
De Talleyrand-Pèrigord, Charles Maurice (1754–1838)
Diplomat, clergyman, politician, and writer.
Also known as Talleyrand, Charles Maurice de Talleyrand, Duc de Talleyrand-Pèrigord, and Prince de Benevent.

Prince Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Pèrigord was born on February 3, 1754 in Paris, France. In 1775, Talleyrand was trained as a priest and accepted Holy Orders after studying at College d’Harcourt and Saint Sulpice Seminary. In 1780, Talleyrand was named as a general agent for the assembly of the French clergy and his appointment as Bishop of Autun followed in 1788. He spent much time in Paris with Voltaire, Comte de Mirabeau, and Charles Alexandre de Calonne. On the cusp of the Revolution, Talleyrand was elected to the Estates General as a deputy of the clergy. Here he helped to write a petition that called for the establishment of a representative government and the abolition of the feudal system. He also proposed using church funds and placing church properties into the hands of the State, in exchange for salaries to be paid by the State. For these controversial views Pope Pius VI excommunicated him in 1791. As a layperson, Talleyrand traveled to London, in the hopes of keeping England neutral in the war between Austria and Prussia. When France invaded the Austrian Netherlands (now Belgium) Talleyrand was expelled by England in 1794. Talleyrand spent approximately thirty months in the United States, including a six-month stay in Newark from the fall of 1794 to the spring of 1795. While in Newark he lived at what is commonly known today as the David Alling House on Broad Street. In 1794, though, it was called the “Frenchman’s Place” because French boarders continually stayed at it. During Talleyrand’s visit to Newark he wrote the essay “Une memoire Sur Les Relations Commerciales des Etats-Unis Vers 1797.” He also amused himself with dances, foxhunts and social affairs with the gentry of the city. In 1796, Talleyrand returned to France. During his absence, he was elected to the Institute of Arts and Sciences. He continued his career in politics, as well, being named minister of foreign affairs in July 1797. Talleyrand supported the expansion of the French empire into Egypt and cultivated a friendship with Napoleon I. In 1799, Talleyrand resigned his post and retired, only to be called to serve as foreign minister again under Napoleon I. He remained the foreign minister and was rewarded with the posts of grand chamberlain (1804) and the title Prince de Benevento (1806). By 1808 Talleyrand and Napoleon disagreed about the future of France and Talleyrand was dismissed the following year. Talleyrand retired into private life until 1814 when he helped restore the government of King Louis XVIII. He was named minister of foreign affairs (1814) and was finally forced by nobles to resign this post in 1815. Talleyrand received the title Duc de Dino in 1815 and in 1817 he became Duc de Talleyrand-Pèrigord. In 1830, Talleyrand again was offered the position of foreign minister, which he turned down to become the French Ambassador to Great Britain (1830-1834). Talleyrand died on May 17, 1838 in Paris, France.

WORKS INCLUDE: L’Assemblée Nationale aux Francais (1790), Memoir Concerning the Commercial Relations of the United States with England (1809), Carta, escripta á Pio. (1826).

Dodge, Mary Mapes (1830–1905)
Author and editor.
Also known as Mary Elizabeth Mapes Dodge and Mary Dodge.

Mary Mapes Dodge was born in New York City on January 26, 1830 and her family moved to Waverly (in Newark) in 1847. In 1851, Mapes married her father’s friend William Dodge, a New York lawyer. William Dodge died in 1858 leaving his wife to care and support their two sons. After her husband’s death Dodge went to live on her family’s farm. She created a retreat for herself...
and her young sons out of an abandoned building and began writing stories. Dodge also started to edit sections of her father’s newspaper, The Working Farmer. She contributed stories to magazines such as Harper’s Weekly, Atlantic Monthly, and Century. Her first book, Irvington Stories, was published in 1864. Dodge’s next work, Hans Brinker, achieved great success and worldwide fame. In 1873, Dodge founded and became editor of the children’s magazine St. Nicholas. She died in Onteora Park, New York on August 21, 1905.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** The Irvington Stories (1864), Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates; a Story of Life in Holland (1865), Along the Way (1879), When Life is Young: A Collection of Verse for Boys and Girls (1894), and The Golden Gate (1903).

**Douglas, Amanda (1831–1916)**
Author.

Amanda Minnie Douglas was born July 14, 1831 in New York City. She began her writing career by contributing stories to various periodicals, including the *Saturday Evening Post* and the *New York Ledger*. Her first book, *In Trust*, was published in 1866. Many of them were part of the *Kathie* series, the *Little Girl* series, and the *Helen Grant* series. Douglas eventually produced over seventy titles, mostly historical fiction for girls. She died on July 18, 1916 in Newark at her home at 480 Summer Ave.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** In Trust (1866), Foes of Her Household (1887), Hannah Ann (1897), A Little Girl in Old Philadelphia (1899), and Red House (1913).

**Eldridge, H. Douglas (1935– )**
Author, journalist, historian, and community activist.
Also known as Henry Douglas Eldridge.

Douglas Eldridge has been a Newark writer and supporter for many years. He was born and raised in Rochester, New York. Eldridge moved to Newark in 1960 and since then he has been associated with the press as well as been involved in cultural and urban affairs of the City. He was a leading reporter with the *Newark Evening News* from 1957 to 1972, where he specialized in civil rights, urban affairs, and general news for what was then the State’s largest newspaper. From 1972 to 1982, he served as the Assistant Director of the Newark Public Information Office. While in this capacity, he edited a bilingual newspaper and William Ashby’s memoir *Tales Without Hate*. In the 1980s, he worked as a legislative analyst for the Newark City Clerk and later as an aide to Mayor Sharpe James, where he prepared a variety of publications. Eldridge also edited a number of other newspapers, was the deputy editor of the Montclair Times, and later became Executive Director of the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee. A quiet leader, Eldridge has carefully chronicled the City’s activities in a variety of printed resources for almost a half century.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** Interracial Action, the Story of Newark’s Business and Industrial Coordinating Committee (1964), and The Rise and Fall of Newark News: a Personal Retrospection (1984).

**English, Thomas Dunn (1819–1902)**
Poet, soldier, doctor, lawyer, journalist, and politician.

Thomas Dunn English was born in 1819 near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1839 and completed a doctoral thesis on phrenology. Dr. English studied law and was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1842. He started to write and contributed to various publications, including
Burton’s Gentleman’s Magazine. In 1843, he published the classic poem Ben Bolt. Dr. English worked as a newspaper journalist and editor throughout the 1840s and 1850s. He moved to Virginia to practice medicine and became mayor of his new hometown (Lawnsville, Virginia). In 1858, moved to New Jersey, where he became a doctor during the Civil War. He served in the New Jersey Legislature representing Bergen County from 1863 to 1864 and as Congressman representing Essex County in 1890 and 1892. Dr. English worked on the staff of the Newark Sunday Call. He died in Newark on April 1, 1902 and is buried in Fairmount Cemetery, Newark.

**Works Include:** Walter Woolfe (1842), 1844 or The Power of the S.F. (1845), Jacob Schuyler’s Millions (1885), The Mormons, or Life at Salt Lake (1858), The Boy’s Book of Battle Lyrics (1885), American Ballads (1880), The Selected Poems of Dr. Thomas Dunn English (1894 edited by his daughter Alice English), and Fairy Stories and Wonder Tales (1897 edited by another daughter, Florence English Knoll).

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Flagg, E. Alma W. (1918– )

Author, teacher, school principal, and professor. Also known as Eloise Alma Williams Flagg.

E. Alma W. Flagg was born in City Point, Virginia on September 16, 1918. She is a well-known Newark educator and the author of several books of poetry. Dr. Flagg received her B.A. from Newark State College in 1940, her M.A. from Montclair State College in 1943, her Ed.D from Columbia in 1955, and a Litt.D. from Newark State College in 1968. Her distinguished career began as a grade school teacher in Newark. She then served as a Vice-Principal, Principal and finally Assistant Superintendent of the Newark School Board from 1967 to 1983. Later, Dr. Flagg taught as an adjunct instructor at Rutgers and worked as an educational and editorial consultant. Although Dr. Flagg is the recipient of many awards for her distinguished educational leadership, she is perhaps proudest of the establishment of the E. Alma Flagg Scholarship Fund and the dedication of the Alma Flagg School.

**Works Include:** Lines and Colors (1979), Feelings, Lines, Colors (1980), and Twenty More with Thought and Feeling (1981).

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**Forester, Frank**

*See Herbert, William Henry (1807–1858)*

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**Garis, Howard R.** (1873–1962)

Author and journalist. Also known as Howard Roger Garis, Marion Davidson, and Raymond Sperry.

Garis was born in Binghamton, New York on April 29, 1873. He was the creator of the children’s character Uncle Wiggily. Garis first developed the Uncle Wiggily stories while a reporter for the Newark Evening News. The stories first appeared in the News in 1910. Eventually he wrote over 400 children’s books. His wife and sometimes collaborator, Lilian C. McNamara, was the first female reporter for the Newark Evening News and she also wrote children’s stories. Garis, his wife, and his children wrote for Edward Stratemeyer and the Stratemeyer Syndicate. They produced titles in the Tom Swift and Bobbsey Twins series. Garis died November 5, 1962 in Northampton, Massachusetts.

**Works Include:** With Force and Arms: A Tale of Love and Salem Witchcraft (1902), Isle of Black Fire: A Tale of Adventure for Boys (1904), Dick Hamilton’s Football Team (1912), Uncle Wiggily’s Adventures (1912), Uncle Wiggily’s Arabian Nights (1916), Rick and Ruddy: The Story of a Boy and His Dog (1920), Buddy in School; or, A Boy and His Dog (1929).
Gilder, Jeanette Leonard  
(1849–1916)  
Author, critic, and editor.  
Also known as Brunswick. Jeanette Gilder was the sister of writers Richard Watson Gilder and Joseph Benson Gilder.  
Jeanette Gilder was born in Flushing, New York on October 3, 1849. Gilder grew up in Flushing and also at the family home in Bordentown, New Jersey. After the death of her father she moved with the family to Newark. She attended Bridgeton Female Seminary in 1865 and 1866 but left the institution to join the staff of the newly formed Newark Morning Register. Gilder also worked as the Newark correspondent for the New York Tribune and then as an editor of the New York Herald. She also became an assistant editor at Scribner’s Monthly. With her brother, Joseph, she created the Critic, a journal of review and criticism. After 1901 Gilder became the sole editor of the Critic. She also served as an editor for the Reader and a contributor to Harper’s Bazaar and the New York Commercial Advertiser. In 1906, Putnam’s Monthly absorbed the Critic, which in turn was absorbed by the Atlantic Monthly in 1910. Towards the end of her life Gilder contributed to such magazines as McClure’s and Woman’s Home Companion. Gilder died in New York City on January 17, 1916. Her papers are held at the New York Public Library and in the Special Collections Department of the Pennsylvania State University Libraries.  
WORKS INCLUDE: Quit’s (1877), Sevenoaks (1878), Essays from the “Critic” (1882), Taken by Siege (1887), Authors at Home (1888), Autobiography of a Tomboy (1900), The Tomboy at Work (1904), and Heart of Youth (1911).  

Gilder, Joseph Benson  
(1858–1936)  
Author and journalist.  
Also known as J.B. Gilder. Younger brother of authors Jeanette Leonard Gilder and Richard Watson Gilder.  
Joseph B. Gilder was one of the famous children of Rev. William Henry Gilder, a Methodist minister. With the death of his father the family moved to Newark. During the 1880s and 1890s, Gilder contributed to various magazines including Scribner’s Monthly and Harper’s New Monthly Magazine. With his sister, Jeanette, he co-founded the Critic and served as one of the journal’s editors. Joseph and Jeanette Gilder met many of the leading authors of the period. For instance, in 1888, they wrote “Walt Whitman at Home” for the “American Authors at Home Series” in the Critic. Joseph Gilder also encouraged his friends to write and publish, such as Helen Hunt Jackson. Joseph Gilder died in 1936.  
WORKS INCLUDE: “Bordentown and the Bonapartes” (1880), Impressions of Spain (compiler) (1899), Authors at Home; Personal and Biographical Sketches of Well-known American Writers (editor) (1888), and The American Idea as Expounded by American Statesmen (compiler) (1902).  

Gilder, Richard Watson  
(1844–1909)  
Poet, newspaper correspondent, editor, and author.  
Richard Watson Gilder was the brother of Jeanette Gilder and Joseph B. Gilder.  
Richard Gilder was born at the family house “Belle Vue” in Bordentown on February 8, 1844. After the death of his father in 1864, the family moved to Newark. The Daily Advertiser employed Richard Watson Gilder as a legislative correspondent. Gilder helped to establish The Newark Morning Register, which shortly failed. This allowed Richard Watson Gilder time to become editor of the magazine Hours at Home. In 1870, Hours at Home merged with Scribner’s Monthly. Scribner’s Monthly then became the Century. The Century was the leading publication of its day and from 1881 until his death in 1909 Gilder was its editor in chief. His papers are at the New York Public Library and Indiana University.  
WORKS INCLUDE: The New Day (1875), Lyrics and Other Poems (1885), Two Worlds (1891), and Fire Divine (1907).
Ginsberg, Allen (1926–1997)
Poet, author, political activist, welder; literary agent, reporter, translator actor, and teacher.
Also known as Irwin Allen Ginsberg.
Son of Louis Ginsberg.

Allen Ginsberg was born in Newark on June 3, 1926 and attended high school in Paterson, New Jersey. After graduation at age sixteen Ginsberg enrolled in Columbia University and came into contact with many well-known figures of the Beat Generation, including Jack Kerouac, Lucien Carr and William S. Burroughs. After graduation in 1948, Ginsberg took on a variety of positions including copy boy for the New York World Telegram and a shipyard worker. By 1954, Ginsberg decided to move to the West Coast. Howl and Other Poems, his most famous and very controversial work, was published in 1956. This work gained Ginsberg instant fame and he became a symbol of the Beat Movement. He followed this with Kaddish and Other Poems, the work that many critics consider to be his best effort. Ginsberg became associated with the “Hippie” movement and anti-war protests in America. By the 1970s, Ginsberg’s style began to evolve, as he then became heavily influenced by Eastern religions. He continued to write poetry throughout the 1980s and 1990s. In his latter years he became a celebrity and a documentary film called The Life and Times of Allen Ginsberg was released in 1994. Ginsberg died on April 5, 1997 in New York City. His papers are at the State University of New York-Stony Brook, Columbia University, and the University of Texas at Austin. His personal archives are at Stanford University.


Ginsberg, Louis (1895–1976)
Poet and teacher.
Father of poet Allen Ginsberg.

Louis Ginsberg was born in Newark October 1, 1895 and his family lived at 46 Clinton Place. He graduated from Barringer High School and received his B.A. from Rutgers University in 1918. Later he received an M.A. in English from Columbia University and became an English teacher at Paterson Central High School. Ginsberg taught at Paterson Central High School from 1921 to 1961. He was also employed as an English instructor at Rutgers University. Various scholarly journals and popular magazines, including the Atlantic Monthly, American Scholar, Ladies’ Home Journal, New Yorker, Saturday Evening Post, Saturday Review of Literature, Poetry, and The New Republic published his work. Ginsberg also served on the Paterson Library Board. He died in 1976.

Works Include: The Attic of the Past (1920), The Everlasting Minute (1937), and Morning in Spring and Other Poems (1970).

Gutman, Dan (1955– )
Author, columnist, photographer, essayist, and editor.
Also known as Herb Dunn.

Dan Gutman was born in New York City on October 19, 1955. His family moved to Newark while he was an infant. Gutman attended Rutgers University and graduated in 1977 with a degree in psychology. He earned an M.A. from Rutgers in 1979. Gutman then relocated to New York and eventually published essays in the local newspaper, Advance. In 1982, Gutman began a magazine called Video Games Player, which was later known by the title Computer Games. By 1983, he was writing a syndicated newspaper column about computers. In 1985, Gutman decided to devote himself full time to writing. His first book, The Greatest Games, was published in 1985. Gutman
contributed to many magazines, including Esquire, Science Digest, Discover, and USA Today. He wrote his first sports related work, It Ain't Cheatin’ If You Don’t Get Caught in 1987. By the mid-1990s Gutman had begun to write non-fiction books for children and wrote his first children’s fiction book, They Came From Centerfield in 1994. Gutman continues to write fiction for children, often with sports themes, and visits schools throughout the United States. He lives with his family in Haddonfield, New Jersey.


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**Hardrick, Jackie**

*Author, speaker, and publisher.*

Jackie Hardrick was born in Newark, and grew up in a house on Morris Avenue, next door to the Greater Bethel Baptist Church. Her father, Eddie B. Hardrick, was a deacon there. Hardrick graduated from Newton Street Elementary School, Central High School, and Seton Hall University. Before writing her first novel, Imani in Young Love & Deception, Hardrick worked in human resources and retail. She is an active speaker and owns Enlighten Publications. Hardrick lives in Vauxhall, New Jersey.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** Imani in Young Love & Deception (1999).

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**Harland, Marion**

*See Terhune, Mary Virginia Hawes (1831–1922)*

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**Harris, Toni Staton** (1965– )

*Author, motivational speaker, flight attendant, publisher, actress, and financial executive.*

Toni Staton Harris is a New Jersey native. After working on Wall Street as a financial executive, Harris began to write her first novel, *By Chance or Choice*. In 1998, she completed *By Chance or Choice* and founded Epiphany Publishing House to publish her material. Harris also works as a flight attendant, motivational speaker, and actress. Recently Harris performed as Ruth in the African Globe Theareworks production of *A Raisin in the Sun*. She is working on another novel, a story for young adults and a sequel to *By Chance or Choice*. Harris lives with her husband in Newark.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** *By Chance or By Choice* (2001).

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**Heard, Nathan C.** (1936– )

*Author, lecturer, professor, and musician.*

Heard was born in Newark on November 7, 1936 and attended Newark’s public schools. Heard served in the United States Air Force from 1952 to 1953. Heard was incarcerated twice, once for armed robbery and again for violating his parole. It was in prison that he began to read the writings of James Baldwin, Langston Hughes, and Samuel Beckett. Heard’s first work, *Howard Street*, was written while in prison. It was published in 1968. By 1969, Heard was employed as a lecturer in creative writing at Fresno State College (now known as California State University). In 1970, Heard moved back to East and taught English at Rutgers University. Heard is working on *A Time of Desperation* and continues to live and work in Newark.
**Herbert, Henry William** (1807–1858)

**Author, poet, historian, and sportsman.**

Herbert, known as Frank Forester, was born in 1807 of the landed gentry. He was an expert in moorland hunting and foxhunting. He nearly inherited the title to the Earl of Carnarvon but was exiled by his family for his unusual behavior and came to America to start a new life. He originally settled in New York but then came to New Jersey, as it was the only American state that allowed aliens to hold real estate. He asked for, and received, a small sum of money from his father. With these funds he purchased land in Newark. From 1845 until 1858, he lived on what is the site of today’s Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Herbert’s studies of fish, game, horses, and dogs have kept his name alive. Herbert’s literary triumphs include *The Quail* and *The Complete Manual for Young Sportsmen*. His masterpiece was his two-volume *The Horse and Horsemanship in North America*. Herbert’s unhappiness, though, was overwhelming. He was driven to madness when abandoned by his second wife. He was homesick and longed to return to England. His lack of understanding of America finally led to his suicide. Herbert’s final words were “no counselor, no friend, no country have been mine for six and twenty years, every hope broken down.” His tombstone reads “Henry William Herbert, of England, aged 51; Infelicissimus.”

**Works Include:** *Frank Forester's Fish and Fishing of the United States and British Provinces of North America* (1859), *Frank Forester’s Field Sports of the United States and British Provinces of North America* (1864), *The Complete Manual for Young Sportsmen: With Directions for Handling a Gun, the Rifle, and the Rod; the Art of Shooting on the Wing, the Breaking, Management, and Hunting of the Dog; the Varieties and Habits of Game; River, Lake and Sea Fishing, etc., etc., etc., Prepared for the Instruction and Use of the Youth of America* (1871), *The Dog* (compiler, illustrator, and editor) (1873), and *Poems of “Frank Forester”* (1888).

**Herzberg, Max J.** (1886–1958)

**Teacher, principal, newspaper reporter, and scholar.**

Max Herzberg was born in 1886 in New York and then he and his parents moved to Newark. A contemporary article described him as symbolizing the Weequahic section of Newark. When he retired after forty-four years in the public school system, more than 1,000 former students, colleagues, and friends attended a farewell dinner. Herzberg received the W. Wilbur Hatfried Award for “long and distinguished service to the teaching of English in the United States, and for his stimulation of higher standards in the production, use of books, magazines, radio, television and motion pictures and for his understanding and effort in support of education and human letters.” Herzberg also reviewed materials for the Newark News, eventually writing over 5,000 book reviews. Later, he would be promoted to editor of the Newark News book review section, and would handle over 20,000 reviews during his newspaper career. Additionally, Herzberg wrote textbooks such as *A New Style Tool of Business English* and compiled studies of Mark Twain and Shakespeare’s *Julius Caesar*. One of his favorite works was *Off to Arcady*, a poetry anthology. He also had a substantial interest in Stephen Crane’s *The Red Badge of Courage* and was instrumental in leading the Crane Association and in establishing the Stephen Crane Collection. The collection is now housed at the New Jersey Information Center in the Newark Public Library. Herzberg died in 1958.

**Works Include:** “Introduction” *Red Badge of Courage* (1926), *Narrative Poems; Ballads, the Ancient Mariner, Sohrab, and Rustum* (1930), *Myths and their Meanings*.
(1931), Off to Arcady; Adventures in Poetry (1933), and Americans in Action (1937).

Immerso, Michael (1949–)
Author, historian, speaker, publisher, and political activist.

A native of Newark, Michael Immerso is a 1973 graduate of Rutgers University’s Newark College of Arts and Science. As President of the Student Government, he was a leader of the student protest movements and a prominent anti-war activist. After graduating he briefly published a free community newspaper in Newark’s North Ward. In 1994, with a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, he established the First Ward Documentary Project to record the history of Newark’s Italian immigrants. In 1997, he wrote and co-produced the PBS documentary Newark’s Little Italy. The following year he established the Italian American Archive at the Newark Public Library to permanently house materials documenting Newark’s Italian American heritage. In 1999, he convened and chaired the Nevarca Project, a citywide celebration of ethnic history that brought together Newark’s major cultural, educational, and public institutions. The project produced a concert at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; programs at the Newark Museum, the New Jersey Historical Society, the Newark Public Library; and symposia at Seton Hall University and Rutgers University.

Michael Immerso is a writer, cultural historian, and social activist. He is the author of Newark’s Little Italy: The Vanished First Ward (1997) and the forthcoming Coney Island: The People’s Playground (2002). He is also a contributor to the forthcoming Encyclopedia of New Jersey. Michael Immerso has lectured extensively on Newark and Italian American history at educational institutions and libraries throughout New Jersey.

Works include: Newark’s Little Italy: The Vanished First Ward (1997).

Irving, Washington (1783–1859)
Author, essayist, poet, newspaper writer, publisher, and editor.

Also known as Dietrich Knickerbocker, Jonathan Oldstyle Fray, Antonia Agapida, Launcelot Langstaff, and Geoffrey Crayon.

Washington Irving was born the youngest of eleven children in New York City on April 3, 1783. He attended private schools until the age of fifteen. Irving began to study law but he would only practice it for a short time before leaving the States. After visiting the major cities in Europe, Irving was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1806. Irving then began his writing career by working at the Morning Chronicle, which was edited by his older brother, Peter Irving. Along with another brother (William) and their friend James Kirke Paulding, Irving published Salmagundi; or the Whim-Wham and Opinions of Launcelot Langstaff, Esq. & Others under the pseudonym Launcelot Langstaff from 1807-1808. Early nineteenth century Newark is described throughout the pages of the Salmagundi Papers. Most importantly, Cockloft Hall, located on the northeast corner of Mount Pleasant Avenue and Gouverneur Street was where much of the writing of Salmagundi took place. Cockloft Hall was then the home of Gouverneur Kemble, who was a close friend of Irving. It was here that the “Salmagundi Set,” comprised of Washington Irving, William Irving, Gouverneur Kemble, Henry Brevoort, Jr., and others, met in the Chinese drawing room to write and critique each other’s works. Salmagundi is also famous as the first instance that a writer utilized the term “Gotham” to represent New York City. After his success with Salmagundi Irving edited Analectic magazine. He then wrote his first book, a history of the Dutch in New York. Called A History of New York, Irving used the pseudonym Dietrich Knickerbocker with this volume. Soon the term Knickerbocker came to refer to any New Yorker who could trace his family back to the original Dutch settlers of the area. Knickerbocker was also used to identify a school of writers, known as the Knickerbocker Group, of
whom Washington Irving was a prominent member. Irving continued to write and in 1819 produced the volume titled *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.* This work contained the famous short stories “Rip Van Winkle” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.” These stories brought Irving international fame. Throughout the rest of Irving’s life he would write, sometimes living abroad and other times residing in Tarrytown-on-Hudson. From 1842 to 1845, Irving served as the United States Ambassador to Spain. During his last decade, the ever-active Irving was President of the Astor Library, which later became the New York Public Library. Irving died at Tarrytown, New York on November 28, 1859.


**Jardim, Vasco S.** (1900–1983)
*Publisher, interpreter, and community activist.*

Vasco S. Jardim was born in Madeira Island, Portugal in 1900, migrated to Fall River, Massachusetts in 1920, and came to Newark to settle in 1928. While in New England he worked for several newspapers and printing operations. After arriving in Newark he began the *Luso Americano,* which lasted briefly before it went under during the Great Depression. In 1930, with the economy improving, Jardim resurrected the paper. During World War II, he and his wife worked as translators and interpreters for the Superior Court in Newark. Jardim was very active in the community; he helped to establish Our Lady of Fatima Church and served on the Newark Human Rights Commission. Jardim also was closely associated with the Portuguese Sports Club, the Saint Anthony Society, and the Portuguese-American Citizen’s Club. Jardim remained the editor of the *Luso Americano* until his retirement in 1970. His work earned for him the titles “dean of Portuguese-American journalists” and unofficial mayor of the city’s large Portuguese community. In 1966, he was honored by hundreds of friends and admirers at a testimonial dinner held at the Essex House Hotel.

**POSITIONS INCLUDE:** founder and publisher of *Luso Americano.*

**Jones, LeRoi**
*See Baraka, Amiri (1934–)*

**Kingdon, Dr. Frank** (1894–1972)
*Minister, writer, lecturer, and university administrator.*

At the age of seventeen, Dr. Kingdon emigrated from the United Kingdom and early in his career was an un-ordained Methodist minister in Maine. He then received a B.A. from Boston University, attended Harvard University and earned his doctorate in divinity from Albion College. Dr. Kingdon then returned to the ministry, serving in Michigan. Later, he accepted a position at Calvary Methodist Church in East Orange, New Jersey. In 1954, Dr. Kingdon was elected president of Dana College, and when it merged into the University of Newark, he was elected the University’s first president. He retired from Newark University in 1940. Dr. Kingdon was a strong supporter of Franklin D. Roosevelt, and wrote a book supporting him entitled *The Man in the White House.* Dr. Kingdon advocated American preparedness for the future war, and helped to bring important German intellectuals to America, including Marc Chagall and Thomas Mann. For his services Dr. Kingdon was awarded the Newspaper Guild of New York’s “Page One Award.”
Denmark awarded Dr. Kingdon the Christian Medal for his assistance in the Dutch resistance. Following World War II, he worked for the *New York Post*, creating a column “To Be Frank” and was a lecturer at the New School for Social Research in New York. Dr. Kingdon also served for many years on the Conference of Christians and Jews and was a supporter of the United Jewish Appeal.


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**Koch, Edward I.** *(1924– )*

*Politician, author, soldier, lawyer, television commentator, and radio host.*

Edward Koch was born in Crotona Park East on December 12, 1924. When he was eight, his family moved to Newark to join his uncle who owned a local catering business on Belmont Avenue. Koch lived at 90 Spruce Street and attended Monmouth Street Elementary School and graduated from South Side High School (now known as Malcolm X. Shabazz High School). In 1941, Koch began studying at City College of New York but did not finish because he was drafted into the Army in 1943. After being honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant, Koch attended New York University School of Law. While practicing law Koch became involved in local politics, campaigning for Adlai Stevenson in 1952. In 1956 Koch moved to Greenwich Village and by 1962 he was running for a seat on the New York State Legislature. In 1963 he was elected as a district leader and also joined the staff of Koch, Lankenau, Schwartz & Kovener. Koch was elected to the New York City Council in 1966 and then to the United States House of Representatives in 1969. He served as a Congressman for nine years, quitting that post to run for New York Mayor in 1977. From 1978 to 1989 Koch was the Mayor of New York City. After his terms had ended Koch joined the law firm of Robinson, Silverman, Pearce, Aronsohn & Berman. He published his first fiction work, *Murder on Broadway*, in 1996. Koch has written twelve books and continues to host a weekly radio show, write reviews, and lecture.


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**Koles, Richard T.** *(1927– )*

*Author, researcher, and photographer.*

Richard T. Koles is a native Newarker and has lived in the Clinton Hill and Roseville sections of the City. Koles served in World War II and the Korean War as a pharmacist’s mate in the Navy. He also was employed as an award-winning photographer at the *Elizabeth Daily Journal* for eighteen years. Later, Koles worked with agencies contracted to provide photography for *The Star-Ledger*. He has also served as president of The New Jersey Press Photographers Association and the Union County Historical Society. Koles has received numerous awards from the National Press Photographers Association and from the New Jersey Press Photographers. Most recently, he has joined forces with Newark native and author Jean-Rae Turner. Koles and Turner have co-authored four books for Arcadia Publishing. These titles include three volumes in the “Images of America” series, Elizabeth, Newark, and Hillside. Koles and Turner have also collaborated on *Newark, New Jersey* for Arcadia’s “Making of America” series.

Kukla, Barbara J.  
Author, historian, and editor.  
Barbara J. Kukla is the editor of the “Newark This Week” section of The Star-Ledger. She has been with The Star-Ledger since 1968, serving previously as the general assignment reporter and as Sunday city editor. She also is the author of Swing City: Newark Nightlife, 1925-50, which traces Newark’s jazz history. Kukla received a B.A. degree in English from Bloomfield College in 1963 and a M.A. in sociology from Rutgers University in 1984. In 1987, she was awarded an honorary associate of arts degree in the humanities from Essex County College. Kukla is president of the Connie Woodruff Foundation, which honors Newark students who take part in a citywide jazz competition. She also mentors many Newark students on her own. In 1998, the Friends of the Newark Public Library selected her as the first woman to deliver the John Cotton Dana Distinguished Lecture as a result of her contributions to the City of Newark and State of New Jersey.  


Lawrence, Josephine (189?–1978)  
Author, editor, and journalist.  
There is some confusion regarding when Josephine Lawrence was actually born. Some say she was born as early as 1889 other sources give the year as 1899. The 1900 Federal Census lists a Josephine Lawrence at the correct address as being born in the year 1889. She started as a writer for the Newark Sunday Call in 1915. Within a few years Lawrence became an editor of the children’s and household sections of the paper. During her spare time, Lawrence began writing children’s books, including the Elizabeth Ann series. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s she also authored a number of volumes for the Stratemeyer Syndicate. Series titles she wrote included volumes in the Sunny Boy, the Four Little Blossoms, the Riddle Club, and the Honeybunch series. By the mid-1930s, Lawrence longed to write adult fiction. When the Newark Sunday Call went of business Lawrence began to write for the Newark Sunday News. She also wrote a number of novels for adults. She died in New York City on February 22, 1978.  

WORKS INCLUDE: Rosemary (1922), The Adventures of Elizabeth Ann (1923), Head of the Family (1932), Years are So Long (1934), If I Have Four Apples (1935), Not a Cloud in the Sky (1964) and All the Years of Her Life (1972).

Little, Benilde (1958– )  
Author, journalist, editor, and reporter.  
Little was born in Newark in 1958 and grew up in an integrated neighborhood in the South Ward. After the 1967 Newark riots, Little’s neighborhood changed but her family stayed. Little attended Peshine Avenue School and Weequahic High School. Little received her B.A. in journalism from Howard University in 1981. Her first writing position was as an intern for the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Little wrote for The Star-Ledger from 1982-1985 and for People magazine from 1985-1989. Later she became the arts and senior entertainment editor at Essence. Little began writing her first book, Good Hair, in 1989. She eventually left Essence to write full time. Good Hair was named one of the ten best books of 1996 by the Los Angeles Times. Little’s second book, The Itch, followed in 1998. Little’s third novel, Acting Out, will be published in 2003. She lives with her family in South Orange, New Jersey.  

Lockwood, Kenneth F. (1881–1948)
Conservationist and reporter.

Kenneth F. Lockwood was a well-known devotee of hunting and fishing, and was one of New Jersey’s best-known conservationists of the first half of the twentieth century. His Newark News column, “Out in the Open” was widely read for thirty-five years by people interested in the great outdoors. During Lockwood’s lifetime, he was a major figure in wildlife conservation, and he served as president of the Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club. He was also Regional Director of the Izaak Walton League of America and President of the New Jersey Fish and Game Conservation League. Largely as a result of his efforts the State started a policy of stocking trout streams, and with his encouragement he helped the State establish shooting grounds. The State of New Jersey named a wildlife management area on the South Branch of the Raritan River after him.

Positions include: reporter with the Newark Evening News.

Lucas, Curtis (1914– )
Author.

Curtis Lucas, a Georgia-born writer, wrote about Newark inner city life during the 1950s. His novel, Third Ward Newark, was based upon a lifetime of experiences in a series of menial jobs. During World War II, he came to Newark to work in the Federal Shipyards. Lucas was educated at the Hungerford School in Florida and at evening school in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Later he studied at Columbia University. In the 1940s he lived on West Kinney Street, liked to bowl, and play baseball. Lucas was also active in the local Boy Scouts and attended St. James’ Church on old High Street.

Works include: Third Ward Newark (1947).

Moskowitz, Sam (1920–1997)
Editor, teacher, historian, salesman, publisher, and author.
Also known as Sam Martin.

Moskowitz was born in Newark on June 30, 1920 and lived with his family on Prince Street. He attended Central High School. His interest in science fiction began as an adolescent from reading Amazing Stories magazine in his father’s shop. Moskowitz co-founded the Newark Science Fiction League in 1935 and the Eastern Science Fiction Association in 1946. In 1939, Moskowitz was the chairman of the First World Science Fiction Convention. To pay the bills he also worked as a truck driver. From 1942 to 1943 he served in the United States Army in the 610th Tank Destroyer Battalion. While he was writing The Immortal Storm: A History of Science Fiction, he was also a managing editor of the trade journal Frosted Foods Field. Already a recognized expert in the literature of science fiction, in 1953 at the City College of New York Extension School, Moskowitz taught what is believed to be the first college level class on the genre. He published more than sixty books and many articles in science fiction magazines. As a collector he amassed one of the world’s largest collections of science fiction magazines, books, photographs, and correspondence. Moskowitz was inducted into the New Jersey Literary Hall of Fame in 1987. He died on April 15, 1997 at University Hospital in Newark. I-CON, the largest science fiction convention in the Northeast, established the Moskowitz Award in 1998, an honor to recognize significant achievements or contributions to the science fiction, fantasy, and horror publishing.

Works include: The Immortal Storm (1951), Explorers of the Infinite (1963), Modern Masterpieces of Science Fiction (editor) (1965), Man Who Called Himself Poe (editor) (1969), Seekers of Tomorrow; Masters of Science Fiction (1966), and Strange Horizons: The Spectrum of Science Fiction (1976).
Paine, Thomas (1737–1809)
Author, soldier, political journalist, bridge maker, philosopher, and publisher.

The man who brought the idea of liberty to the American masses was born in Thetford, England on June 8, 1809. From 1757-1774, he lived in a number of British towns and worked in a variety of capacities, including a corset maker, grocer, teacher, preacher, tobacconist, and as an exciseman. It was in this last position that he met Benjamin Franklin. Franklin persuaded him to immigrate to America. Paine arrived in Philadelphia in November 30, 1774. He quickly became a journalist, contributing and later editing Pennsylvania Magazine. Paine anonymously published the pamphlet Common Sense in January 1776. This document discussed why America should declare independence from the British crown. By the time Paine’s authorship of this pamphlet came to light he had already joined the Continental Army. It was as a soldier, camped in Newark, that Paine wrote the famous phrase “These are the times that try men’s souls.” This would become the beginning of Paine’s Crisis, which recounted the trials of the Continental Army and inspired Americans to support the cause of independence. Paine’s words in Crisis moved Washington so much that he requested it be read to all his troops. In 1777, he was named by Congress to serve as the Secretary of the Committee of Foreign Affairs but he was forced to resign in 1779 after disclosing confidential information to the press. He served as the Clerk of the Pennsylvania Assembly for nine years. From 1787 to 1802, he lived in Europe. In 1791, Rights of Man was published. This work responded to criticisms of the French Revolution and it caused a sensation in France. France made Paine an honorary citizen and elected him to the National Assembly. He voted against the execution of the King and was imprisoned in 1793. James Monroe secured Paine’s release in 1794. He died in New Rochelle on June 8, 1809, a poor, obscure, ostracized figure.

WORKS INCLUDE: Common Sense (1776), A Dialogue Between the Ghost of General Montgomery Just Arrived From the Elysian Fields; and an American Delegate, in a Wood Near Philadelphia (1776), Thoughts on the Peace, and the Probable Advantages Thereof to the United States of America (1783), Rights of Man; Being an Answer to Mr. Burke’s Attack on the French Revolution (1791) The Crisis: in Thirteen Numbers, Written During the Late War (1792), An Answer to the Declaration of King of England, Respecting His Motives for Carrying on the Present war, and His Conduct Towards France (1794), The Age of Reason: Being an investigation of True and of Fabulous Theology (1795), Tom Paine’s Jests: Being an Entirely New and Select Collection of Patriotic Bon Mots, Repartees, Anecdotes, Epigrams, Observations, &c. On Political Subjects (1796), Adams and Liberty (1798), The Green Mountain Farmer (1798), Letters from Thomas Paine to the Citizens of the United States, on His Arrival from France (1802), and An Essay of Dream (1807).

Price, Clement Alexander (1945– )
Professor, historian, author, and community activist.

Dr. Price is a native of Washington, DC. He attended Saint Augustine’s College and received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Bridgeport. Dr. Price came to Newark to work as an instructor at Essex County Community College in 1968. He earned his Ph.D. from Rutgers in 1975. Dr. Price is Professor of History and Director of the Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience at Rutgers University, Newark Campus. Dr. Price has received numerous awards for teaching including the Warren I. Susman Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1991 and 1999 New Jersey Professor of the Year, so designated by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. In 1977 he was one of the founders of the Black Film Festival at the Newark Museum. In the hopes of promoting Newark, Dr. Price and Giles R. Wright began the Marion Thompson Wright lecture series at Rutgers Newark in 1981. Dr. Price has participated in a number of New Jersey cultural institutions including the New Jersey Council on the Arts, the Board of Governors of the New Jersey Historical
Society, and the Board of Trustees of the Newark Public Library. He and his wife Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Director of the Newark Museum, live in Newark.


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**Rotberg, Robert Irwin** (1935–)

Author, research director, historian, political economist, professor, and editor.

Dr. Robert Rotberg was born in Newark on April 11, 1935. He received his A.B. from Oberlin College in 1955 and his M.P.A. from Princeton University in 1957. Dr. Rotberg studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford where he earned his D.Phil. in 1960. His first book, *A Political History of Tropical Africa* was published in 1965. In 1971, Dr. Rotberg was chosen as a Guggenheim Fellow. He taught political science and history at MIT for many years and, before that, at Harvard. He was the Academic Vice President for Arts, Sciences and Technology at Tufts University from 1987 to 1990 and the President of Lafayette College from 1990 to 1993. Dr. Rotberg is President, World Peace Foundation, and Director, WPF Program on Intrastate Conflict, Conflict Prevention, and Conflict Resolution in the Belfer Center of the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Throughout his career, Dr. Rotberg has been involved with the Twentieth Century Fund, the African Studies Association, the Lexington, Massachusetts school committee, the Cambridge Civic Association, the Council of Foreign Relations, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.


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**Roth, Philip** (1933–)

Author, editor, professor, and journalist.

Perhaps Newark’s most famous literary son, Philip Roth was born in Newark on March 19, 1933. Roth grew up in Newark and attended Weequahic High School. He then attended Rutgers-Newark for a year before transferring to Bucknell University. He graduated magna cum laude from Bucknell with a B.A. in English. In 1955, he earned a M.A. in English from the University of Chicago. After serving in the United States Army in Washington, DC, Roth began teaching at the University of Chicago in 1956. His first story, “The Day it Snowed,” was published in the *Chicago Review* in 1955. Although he worked briefly as a reviewer for the *New Republic*, Roth focused on writing fiction and teaching. His first book, *Goodbye, Columbus*, was published in 1959. It was hugely successful and Roth was honored with the National Book Award, an award from the National Institute of Arts and Letters, a Daroff Award from the Jewish Book Council of America, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. During the 1960s, Roth taught at some of the most prestigious universities in the United States, such as Princeton and the University of Iowa Writers Workshop. In 1969, *Portnoy’s Complaint* was published. Its release coincided with the film release of Roth’s *Goodbye, Columbus* and Philip Roth became a celebrity. He has also received a number of literary prizes including another National Book Award for *Sabbath’s Theater* in 1995, and two National Book Critics Circle...


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**Sabine, Julia** (1905–1990)
*Author and librarian.*

Born in Chicago on February 3, 1905, Sabine grew up in New York. Dr. Sabine was educated at Cornell University, the Sorbonne, Yale University, and Chicago University. Dr. Sabine worked at the Newark Public Library as the Head of the Art Department, retiring in 1970, after forty years of service. She died in Utica, New York on September 22, 1990.


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**Schary, Dore** (1905–1980)
*Writer, newspaper reporter, social reformer, political activist, filmmaker, and producer.*

Dore Schary was born in Newark as Isidore Schary. Schary attended Central High School but dropped out at age fourteen. Six years later he returned to school and graduated from Central High School. Schary was hired by the *Newark Sunday Call* to be a feature writer. While working for the paper, Schary joined an amateur theater group in Newark. By 1927, Schary was working in small parts on Broadway with the top actors of the day. In 1932, Schary married Miriam Svet, an artist, and the couple moved to Hollywood. During the 1930s, Schary began to write screenplays and also to produce films for MGM and RKO. In 1938, Schary received an Oscar for his script called *Boys’ Town*. While working at RKO, Schary produced the controversial and groundbreaking film, *Crossfire*, one of the first films to focus on anti-Semitism. After testifying before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1947 Schary returned to work at MGM. From 1948 to 1956, Schary served as the chief of production at this studio and he produced over 250 films there. Schary left Hollywood and returned to Broadway in 1958 with his Tony award winning play, *Sunrise at Campobello*. From 1963 to 1969, he was the national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith. Schary was named New York’s first Commissioner of Cultural Affairs in 1970. He died on July 7, 1980 in New York City.

Scudder, Antoinette Quinby  
(1898–1958)  
*Painter, poet, playwright, theater manager and founder, and arts patron.*  

Born in 1898 in Newark, Antoinette Scudder was the daughter of Wallace M. Scudder, the founder of *The Newark Evening News*. She was also the maternal granddaughter of Newark Mayor and Congressman James M. Quinby and the paternal granddaughter of New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Edward Wallace Scudder. She attended Columbia University, the Art Student’s League of New York, and the Cape Cod School of Art. Her first career was in painting and Scudder won prizes for her landscapes. During the 1920s, Scudder began to have her poetry published, eventually having over thirty volumes of poetry and prose published. She also helped to found the Newark Art Club, which later became the Newark Art Theater, with her brother Edward W. Scudder. By 1933, Scudder was Vice President of the theater and her new partner, Frank Carrington, was the Director. The theater was so popular that it required a permanent home and operations were relocated to an abandoned paper mill near Millburn. This building would later be known as the Paper Mill Playhouse. Scudder would continue to write throughout the 1930s and 1940s, including writing the lyrics to an operetta titled *The Love Wagon* in 1947. Scudder shared an apartment with her friend Marcelline Dunham at 49 Manchester Place. Antoinette Quinby Scudder died at her home on January 27, 1958.

**Works Include:** *Poems* (1921), *Huckleberries* (1929), *East End, West End* (1934), *Henchman of the Moon; A Poetic Drama in Five Acts* (1934), *Cherry Tart and Other Plays* (1938), and *World in a Match Box; Plays* (1949).

Scudder, Wallace McIlvaine  
(1853–1931)  
*Publisher, mechanical engineer, lawyer, benefactor, and editor.*  

Also known as W.M. Scudder.  

Born in Trenton, New Jersey on December 26, 1853, Wallace McIlvaine Scudder descended from a prestigious New Jersey family. His father, Edward Wallace Scudder, served as a New Jersey Supreme Court Justice and his mother was Mary Louise Drake, daughter of Supreme Court Justice George King Drake. Wallace Scudder studied at the State Model School in Trenton and then Lehigh University. In 1873, he earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Lehigh and then worked in various iron companies in Trenton. His father urged him to study law and in 1878 Scudder was admitted to the New Jersey Bar Association. Scudder practiced law in Newark until becoming associated with Henry A. Steel and Lawrence S. Mott. Together Steel, Mott, and Scudder founded the *Newark Evening News*. Eventually, Scudder would have sole ownership of the paper. After the *Newark Evening News* became successful, Scudder became a major supporter of community livelihood in Newark. He gave $50,000 to the Newark Museum Association and Scudder was named one of the first fifty trustees of the institution. Scudder also supported the Hospital and Home for Crippled Children. He was a member of a number of social groups in Newark, including the Essex Club, the New Jersey Historical Society, the Newark Athletic Club, and the Newark Music Festival Association. In 1926, Rutgers University awarded Scudder with an honorary doctorate of Literature. Scudder died on February 24, 1931 at 510 Parker Street, his home for over twenty-years.

**Positions Include:** founder, publisher, and editor of the *Newark Evening News*.

Stellhorn, Paul  
(1947–2001)  
*Historian, author, and library administrator.*  

Paul A. Stellhorn earned his doctorate from the Rutgers University History Department, discussing the economic decline and local politics of Newark in the 1930s. Entitled *Boom, Bust, and Boosterism*, much of the research for his dissertation was found in the collections of the New Jersey Information Center at the Newark Public Library.
Library. Dr. Stellhorn held positions as the Director of Research at the New Jersey Historical Commission and Assistant Director of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities. Stellhorn edited a number of publications for the New Jersey Historical Commission including *Directory of New Jersey Newspapers, 1765-1970*, co-edited with Dr. William C. Wright, a classic resource in New Jersey studies. As the Assistant Director for Development at the Newark Public Library, Dr. Stellhorn authored numerous publications about institutional activities and initiated many successful fundraising projects. He died on January 28, 2001.


**Studley, Miriam V.** (1899–1984)
*Librarian, teacher, author, editor, and historian.*

Miriam Van Arsdale Studley, former head of the New Jersey Room at the Newark Public Library, shared much of her extensive knowledge of Newark in her *Newark News* series, “When Newark was Younger,” and in her history, *Historic New Jersey Through Visitors’ Eyes*. Van Nostrand published *Historic New Jersey Through Visitors’ Eyes* during New Jersey’s Tercentenary (1964). Following her retirement in 1966, Studley edited the *Stevens Family Papers* at the New Jersey Historical Society. This was a massive collection, consisting of three hundred years of manuscript materials relating to one of New Jersey’s great mercantile and political families. Studley was born in 1899 in China, the daughter of Anglican missionaries. She was schooled in the Philippines and later graduated from Vassar College. She also studied at Columbia University. She began her career at the New York Public Library but moved to the Newark Public Library to serve as the children’s librarian. Studley became interested in local history during the George Washington Bicentennial in 1932 and eventually devoted over forty years to the study of Newark and New Jersey. She died in 1984.


**Terhune, Albert Payson** (1872–1942)
*Author, playwright, newspaper reporter, and editor.*

Albert Payson Terhune was born in Newark on December 21, 1872. He was the sixth and youngest child born to author Mary Virginia Hawes Terhune and minister Edward Payson Terhune. After a trip to Europe, the Terhunes settled in Springfield, Massachusetts and then Brooklyn. The family also owned a summer home in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, known as Sunnybank. Albert Payson Terhune graduated from Columbia in 1893. After a trip to Syria and the Near East, the *New York Evening World* hired Terhune as a reporter. Terhune stayed with the *Evening World* for twenty years, working as a writer, and editor. During this time, he also contributed to popular journals, such as *Smart Set, Good Housekeeping,* and *Redbook*. Between his magazine writings and his newspaper job, Terhune was able to save enough money to buy his beloved family home, Sunnybank in 1912. Terhune achieved fame in 1915 with the publication of the story “His Mate” in *Redbook*. This now famous story related the adventures of Terhune’s pet collies, Lad and Lady at Sunnybank. With the publication of *Lad: A Dog* Terhune was able to leave the newspaper business in 1916. During the following decades, he wrote a number of titles for children, as well as adult novels and three screenplays. He died at Sunnybank on February 18, 1942.

Terhune, Mary Virginia Hawes (1831–1922)
Author, domestic economist, lecturer, and journalist.
Also known as Marion Harland.

Mary Virginia Hawes Terhune was born in Dennisville, Virginia on December 21, 1830. Private tutors educated Terhune and she learned much from her wealthy father’s library. In 1844, Terhune began contributing articles to local newspapers. By 1853 she was using the pseudonym of Marion Harland. Her first book, Alone, was written when she was sixteen and was privately published. In 1856, it was published in a popular commercial edition. That same year she married the Rev. Edward Payson Terhune and the couple settled in Newark in 1859. Terhune would continue to write and produce a variety of works while the family followed her husband through a series of parishes. In 1871 Terhune persuaded Scribners to publish Common Sense in the Household: A Manual of Practical Housewifery. This book labeled Terhune as an expert in the field of homemaking. She produced a number of titles on cooking, and household management. After a trip abroad in 1876, she produced travel sketches and became a popular lecturer. Even after going blind and injuring her wrist in an accident, she continued to write. Her last novel, The Carringtons of High Hill, was published in 1919. Terhune died in New York City on June 3, 1922. Her papers are at Duke University’s Special Collections Department.

Works include: Alone (1854), Moss-Side (1857), Nemesis (1860), Ruby’s Husband (1870), Common Sense in the Household (1871), Where Ghosts Walk (1898), Marion Harland’s Autobiography (1910), Ideal Home Life (1910), and Colonial Homesteads and their Stories (1912).

Tsuda, Margaret (1921–
Author, poet, textile designer, artist.

Margaret Tsuda was born on April 17, 1921 in New York City. After graduating from Hunter College she worked as a textile designer. Tsuda was a contributor to such journals as Christian Science Monitor, The Sentinel, and Readers Digest. Combining her poetry and art both of her first two books were self-illustrated with taki pen and ink. For over twenty years Tsuda lived on Broad Street in Newark. She recently discussed her feelings about downtown Newark and the Newark Museum in an article titled “Four Buildings in One Museum.” Today, Tsuda continues to write essays and book reviews, most notably for the Christian Science Monitor.

Works include: Cry Love Aloud (1972), and Urban River (1976).

Turner, Jean-Rae (1920–
Author, historian, lecturer, newspaper reporter, librarian, and columnist.

Turner grew up and continues to live in the Weequahic section of Newark. In 1942, she graduated from Trenton State College. The Elizabeth Daily Journal employed Turner as a general assignment reporter. She also regularly wrote a historical column in The Citizen for ten years. Her first book, Along the Upper Road: The History of Hillside, was the result of a series of articles that she had written in the 1950s. Turner also worked for the New Jersey Newsphotos as a librarian and researcher. She also has helped with New Jersey Newsphotos’ scholarship program. Since her retirement from New Jersey Newsphotos, Turner has remained very involved with the Newark and Elizabeth communities. She curated a photo exhibit of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the Newark Public Library, gave a presentation about the history of the Elizabeth YWCA, and served as the secretary of the Union County Historical Society. Turner and her writing partner, Richard T. Koles,
have created a number of local historical works which visually document the history of Elizabeth, Newark, and Hillside. Not only has Turner chronicled history, she has also inspired others to do the same, such as Lauren Yeats who wrote *Linden, New Jersey* after speaking with Jean-Rae Turner.


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**Urquhart, Frank J.** *(1865–1921)*  
Author, historian, and editor.

Frank Urquhart was born in Toronto in 1865. Soon after his birth his family moved to Massachusetts. After earning a degree from Dartmouth, Urquhart rejoined his family who had since moved to Newark. He accepted a position with the *Newark Evening Journal*. After three years Urquhart joined the staff of *The Sunday Call* and worked for that paper for thirty years. During this time, Urquhart became an expert on Newark history. His work, *A Short History of Newark*, became the standard history textbook of the Newark public school system. In 1913, Urquhart wrote the three volume *A History of the City of Newark, New Jersey: Embracing Practically Two and a Half Centuries*. Frank Urquhart died at his home on Clifton Avenue on February 25, 1921.

**WORKS INCLUDE:** *Newark History* (1904-1907), *Newark A Story of its Early Days* (1904), *A Short History of Newark* (1908), and *A History of the City of Newark, New Jersey: Embracing Practically Two and a Half Centuries* (1913).

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**Wagenheim, Olga Jimenez** *(1941–)*  
Author, professor, lecturer, consultant, community activist, and historian.

Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim was born on September 24, 1941 in Camuy, Puerto Rico. A farmer’s daughter, she married journalist Kalman Wagenheim in 1961. In 1970, she graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Inter-American University. She received her M.A. in Latin American History from the State University of New York (SUNY)-Buffalo in 1971. Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim began teaching at Rutgers-Newark, as well as serving as the assistant to the director of the Equal Opportunity Fund in 1971. After receiving a Ford Foundation Fellowship, she focused on her teaching and writing. In 1973, she and her husband co-edited *The Puerto Ricans: A Documentary History*. In 1981, Jimenez-Wagenheim earned her Ph.D. in Latin American and Caribbean History from Rutgers University. From 1977 to 1981 and from 1986 to the present, Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim has been the Director of the Puerto Rican Studies Program at Rutgers. In 1991, Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year at Newark College of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University. She has also been honored with the Scholarly Achievement Award from the Hispanic Association for Higher Education of New Jersey, certificates of recognition from the United States House of Representatives and the Governor of New Jersey in 1995, and the Rutgers Human Dignity Award in 2000. She has taught classes at Trenton State Prison on Caribbean and Puerto Rican history and she serves on the Board of Directors of the National Puerto Rican Coalition. Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim has also served on the boards of the Hispanic Women’s Task Force of New Jersey, Aspira of New Jersey, New Jersey Institute for College Teaching and Learning, Hispanic Women’s Resource Centers, and the Newark Museum. Dr. Jimenez-Wagenheim was instrumental in establishing the New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center at the Newark Public Library. She resides in Maplewood.
Wesley, Richard  (1945–
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Author, playwright, political activist, editor, screenwriter, and teacher.

Also known as Richard Errol Wesley. Husband of Valerie Wilson Wesley, author.

Mr. Wesley was born in Newark on July 11, 1945. He graduated from Howard University in 1967 with a B.F.A. While in college Wesley produced the play *Put My Dignity on 307*. After working for United Airlines, Wesley joined the Black Playwrights Workshop located in Harlem’s New Lafayette Theatre. Wesley was also managing editor of the journal *Black Theatre*. Wesley received a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Playwriting in 1972 for *The Black Terror*. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s Wesley lectured and taught black theatre history, black art, and creative writing at a number of universities including Manhattanville College, Wesleyan University, and Rutgers University. In Newark Wesley became involved in the Theatre of Universal Images and the selection committee for the Black Film Festival at the Newark Museum. Wesley is an Associate Professor of Dramatic Writing at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.


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Wesley, Valerie Wilson  (1947–
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Author, journalist, and editor.

Wife of Richard Wesley, playwright.

Valerie Wilson Wesley, well known for her creation of Newark private investigator Tamara Hayle, was born in Connecticut on November 22, 1947. After graduating from Howard University, she earned a master’s degree from the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University and a master’s degree in early childhood education from the Bank Street College of Education in New York. Wesley began her writing career as an assistant editor at *Scholastic News*. Just Us Books published Wesley’s first book, *Afro-Bets Book of Black Heroes from A to Z: An Introduction to Important Black Achievers for Young Readers*, in 1988. She was also executive editor of *Essence* magazine. In 1994, Wesley wrote her first book for adults, *When Death Comes Stealing*, which introduced the world to the character of Tamara Hayle. *Ain’t Nobody’s Business If I Do* was honored with the 2000 award for excellence in adult fiction from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. Valerie Wilson Wesley serves on the Board of Directors for the Newark Arts Council and previously she was on the Board of Trustees for the Montclair Art Museum and the YWCA of North Essex.

Williams, C.K. (1936– )  
Author, critic, teacher, translator, editor, and poet.  
Also known as Charles Kenneth Williams.

Charles Kenneth Williams was born on November 4, 1936 in Newark. He attended Bucknell University and then transferred to the University of Pennsylvania and received his B.A. in 1959. Williams is known for his lyric poetry. In 1968, Williams’ poem *A Day for Anne Frank* was published. Williams received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1974. He began teaching poetry at Columbia University in New York in 1981. Meanwhile, Williams has earned Pushcart Press Prizes in 1982, 1983 and 1987. In 1987, *Flesh and Blood* won the National Book Critics’ Award. Williams received the Pulitzer Prize for *Repair* in 2000. Williams is a Professor in the Council of the Humanities and Creative Writing at Princeton University and lives part of the year in France.


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Wright Jr., Nathan (1923– )  
Author, minister, professor, lecturer, political activist, civil rights leader, columnist, and poet.

Nathan Wright was born on August 5, 1923 in Shreveport, Louisiana. He attended West Virginia State College, Temple University, University of Cincinnati, Episcopal Theological School, Harvard University, and State College at Boston. He became an ordained minister of the Episcopal Church in 1950 and *The Riddle of Life and Other Sermons* was published in 1952. Wright’s early positions were in the church, as a rector and hospital chaplain in Boston, Massachusetts. After earning his doctorate from Harvard University in 1964, the Rev. Dr. Wright came to Newark. He served as the Executive Director of the Department of Urban Work of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. In this position he was responsible for planning and organizing the National Conference on Black Power. This four-day conference was held in Newark in July 1967 and it included representatives from almost 200 African-American organizations. He also worked as the Chairman of the Third National Conference on Black Power in 1968 held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1969 the Rev. Dr. Wright met with President-elect Nixon to discuss the condition of the African-American community. Rev. Dr. Wright is the Founding Chair of the Department of Afro-American Studies at SUNY-Albany. He is a Pastoral Associate at Christ Church Riverdale.

The Newark Public Library in the 1950s. *The Indian and the Puritan* by Gutzon Borglum is shown on the right in the photograph. Unveiled in 1916 at Washington and Broad Streets, the sculpture was later relocated to Washington Park.
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