The Library

The Unpacking the Green Book library was compiled with generous scholarly support from writer Candacy Taylor, and Maira Liriano, Associate Chief Librarian, Jean Blackwell Hutson Research and Reference Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

Understanding history is critical to understanding the present. Issues of race and gender are increasingly at the forefront of popular conversation, and the current political climate requires us, more than ever, to be engaged citizens.

The Unpacking the Green Book library was created to provide the Museum of Arts and Design community with resources related to the history of racial segregation in the United States. To get a full picture of the ways in which racial segregation affected black lives during the Jim Crow era—and continues today—this collection includes books that examine the topic through the lens of automobile culture, urban development, the Great Migration, the pursuit of leisure and entertainment, and contemporary black culture, including intersectional feminism, mass incarceration, and the Black Lives Matter movement, as well as a selection of books for children. We hope these books inspire continued investigation through further reading and conversation.

- Samantha De Tillio, Assistant Curator

The Reading List

Jim Crow and Segregation


**Automobile Culture**


**Urban Development**


**Leisure**


**The Great Migration**


**Contemporary Topics**


**Children’s Books**


