

Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association

Cultural Arts and Heritage



BOOKLIST

2017 – 2018

**Thank you to the following for
their contributions to this list:**

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- **Cindy Cassady, Metcalfe County Extension Homemaker**
- **Kim Henken, KEHA State Advisor**
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Connee Wheeler, Extension Associate
Advisor to KEHA Cultural Arts and Heritage Chairman
University of Kentucky, Cooperative Extension Service

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BOOKLIST 2017 – 2018

The KEHA Cultural Arts and Heritage program area annually sponsors a reading program. Extension Homemakers may participate by reading one book from six of these nine categories: the arts, biography, family and consumer sciences, fiction, history, Kentucky, religion and spirituality, travel, and classics and old favorites. Keep a record of the books read and submit that record to the club Cultural Arts and Heritage chair. The club chair should forward that information to the county chair or to the extension agent. Qualified readers may receive the Cultural Arts Reading Award Bookmark recognition at the county level. Counties are responsible for printing their own bookmark. The bookmark is available for downloading on the KEHA Cultural Arts and Heritage web page.

This is only a suggested list. You may choose your own titles. Your local public librarian may have other suggestions. Local libraries usually belong to the Kentucky Library Network which allows individuals to borrow books from other libraries through interlibrary loan. If you cannot find the book you wish to read at your local library, ask about this service.

THE ARTS

A Combat Artist in World War II by Edward Reep (2014) — Describes the work of a combat artist who painted and sketched firsthand the battles and events in Italy during WWII.

Country Living Salvage Style: Decorating with Vintage Finds by Leslie Linsley and Country Living (2017) — A book full of decorating tips using salvaged and vintage household items. Includes information on acquiring and reclaiming bargains used in the home. Many photos of treasures rescued for a new life in real room settings.

Floral Diplomacy: At the White House by Laura Dowling (2017) — The White House Chief Floral Designer who brought a new romantic style to the classical White House bouquets. Enjoy tips and techniques on flower arranging and entertaining, while receiving a hint of the personal and official White House life.

Folk Art and Aging: Life-Story Objects and Their Makers by Jon Kay (2016) — Elders are part of an important stage in life when the aged look to creativity through making crafts and other life-story objects. Often crafts assist the elderly deal with the ailments of aging and loneliness while providing greater personal satisfaction in their lives.

A Very Vintage Christmas: Holiday Collecting and Celebrating by Bob Richter, foreword by Christopher Radko (ornament maker) (2016) — *A Very Vintage Christmas* focuses on the love of beautiful holiday decorations and the interest in their history, value and preservation. The book helps the everyday collector and enthusiast to build their own collection and offers tips on how to make the most of what they've got.

Identity Unknown: Rediscovering Seven American Women Artists by Donna Seaman (2017) — This book speaks to all women about their neglected place in history and the challenges they face to be taken as seriously as men no matter what their chosen field.

BIOGRAPHY

Being Elvis: A Lonely Life by Ray Connolly (2016) — Taking a fresh look at the 20th century icon who fundamentally transformed American culture, a veteran rock journalist explores the extravagance and irrationality inherent in the Elvis mythology, offering a thoughtful celebration of an immortal life.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance (2016) — This is a powerful account of growing up in a poor rust belt town and offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. Describes how his Ohio upbringing is impacted by the eastern Kentucky culture of his grandparents and extended family. It is the story of how upward mobility really feels and is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of America. Some see the book as evidence of the ills of the working class and the difficulty of getting out of the cycle of poverty, substance abuse and powerlessness.

A Full Life: Reflections at Ninety by Jimmy Carter (2015) — At age ninety, Jimmy Carter, 39th President, Nobel Peace Prize winner, international humanitarian and fisherman, reflects on his full and happy life including both his public and private life. He writes about racism and the isolation of the Carters; the brutality of the hazing regimen at Annapolis; and how he nearly lost his life twice serving on submarines. He describes the profound influence his mother had on him and how he admired his father even though he didn't emulate him. He admits that he decided to quit the Navy and later enter politics without consulting his wife, Rosalynn, and how appalled he is in retrospect.

Before I Forget: Love, Hope, Help, and Acceptance in Our Fight Against Alzheimer's by B. Smith (2016) — Restaurateur, magazine publisher, celebrity chef, and nationally known lifestyle maven, B. Smith is struggling at 66 as an Alzheimer's patient. Every 67 seconds someone develops it, and millions of lives are affected by its impacts. The book offers advice on the day-to-day challenges of living with Alzheimer's, stresses placed on the family, coping strategies and new research on the disease.

Better: How I Let Go of Control, Held On to Hope, and Found Joy in My Darkest Hour by Amy Robach (2015) — “I have breast cancer.” When *Good Morning America* anchor Amy Robach revealed her shocking diagnosis on live television in November 2013, the seasoned news reporter embarked on the most difficult and illuminating journey of her life. She looks back on the twelve months following her announcement and speaks candidly about how her illness affected her family life and her marriage, tapped into her deepest fears and strengths and changed her in ways she never could have imagined.

FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCES

Back to Homemaking Basics: A Hands-On Guide to the Lost Art of Homemaking by Rebecca Day (2017) — The skills needed to run a home are becoming lost on the latest generations of women in the United States. This book is filled with practical ideas and advice on the skills needed to operate a home: from setting the home atmosphere, to preparing a cleaning schedule.

The Made-From-Scratch Life: Simple Ways to Create a Natural Home by Melissa K. Norris (2016) — While this book may not be for everyone, it is what most of us strive for...a simpler life. Practical and easy methods are offered to help you cook, garden and preserve food. Inspiration in today’s face-paced world is a highlight.

Touch: the Science of Hand, Heart, and Mind by David J. Linden (2015) — An engaging and fascinating examination of how the border between our sense of touch and our emotional responses affects our social interactions as well as our general health and development.

The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing by Marie Kondo (2016) — Do you need help to make your home a calm and motivating space? This method of decluttering will help you identify the items in your home that bring you joy and bring you to a new relationship with your possessions.

The Quilt Block Cookbook: 50 Block Recipes, 7 Sampler Quilts, Endless Possibilities by Amy Gibson (2016) — A thoughtfully curated volume of 50 different 12-inch quilt blocks in a variety of complexities and styles.

Gracious: A Practical Primer on Charm, Tact, and Unsinkable Strength: Including instructions on being kind when you don’t feel like it, ignoring the ... and sensible in a world that is neither by Kelly Williams Brown (2017) — Brown, bestselling New York Times author, presents the basics of good manners, thoughtfulness and basic decency. Tips are provided to help you deal with people and circumstances and face the world with strength and a generous heart.

FICTION

Fool Me Once by Harlan Coben (2016) — A widowed veteran gets the shock of her life in this impossible-to-put-down thriller. A No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller.

The Murder House by James Patterson (2015) — No. 7 *Ocean Drive* is a gorgeous, multi-million-dollar beachfront estate in the Hamptons, where money and privilege know no bounds. But its beautiful gothic exterior hides a horrific past and a deadly secret that won't stay buried.

Housekeeper by Suellen Dainty (2017) — Secrets abound in this spellbinding Gothic-tinged mystery.

Book of Polly by Kathy Hepinstall (2017) — Classic elements of Southern comedy: evil twins, people dropping dead, a faith healer and a river-rafting trip, surround a lovable pair of central characters.

The Typewriter's Tale by Michiel Heyns (2017) — Literary history blends masterfully with a plot of intrigue in this delightful novel.

Sweet Lake by Christine Nolfi (2017) — In this uplifting and charming story, each room of the inn is filled with friendship, forgiveness and love.

A Measure of Murder by Leslie Karst (2017) — A restaurant owner with a reputation as a sleuth reluctantly adds murder to her plate.

The Second Sister by Marie Bostwick (2017) — This inspiring novel is all about second chances and the connections that bring women together with hope and healing.

Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult (2016) — No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller, with richly layered characters and a gripping moral dilemma that leads readers to question everything they know about privilege, power and race. *Small Great Things* is a stunning new page-turner. Soon to be a major motion picture.

One Perfect Lie by Lisa Scottoline (2017) — Enthralling and suspenseful, *One Perfect Lie* is an emotional thriller and a suburban crime story that will keep readers riveted up to the shocking end. Includes killer twists and characters you won't soon forget.

The Night the Lights Went Out by Karen White (2017) — A stunning new novel, from the *New York Times* bestselling author, about a young single mother who discovers that the nature of friendship is never what it seems.

HISTORY

Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly (2016) — The American dream and the untold story of the black women mathematicians who helped win the space race. A *New York Times* bestseller and basis of the Academy Award nominated 2016 motion picture.

A Black Night for the Bluegrass Belle by Ian Punnett (2016) — The death of a beautiful widow whose companion at the time of her death was the adjutant general of the Kentucky National Guard and a former lieutenant governor of Kentucky. He insisted she had committed suicide with his gun. Has the last unknown truth behind her death been revealed?

The Christmas Truce: Myth, Memory and the First World War by Terri Crocker and Peter Grant (2015) — In late December 1914, German and British soldiers initiated a series of impromptu, unofficial ceasefires, abandoned their trenches and crossed enemy lines to sing carols, share food and cigarettes and even play a little soccer. New accounts suggest that the heartwarming tale actually bears little resemblance to the truth.

The Floyd Collins Tragedy at Sand Cave by John Benton and Bill Napper (2017) — Collins was a Kentucky cave explorer who was trapped for more than two weeks during the winter of 1925 in a cave located within the boundaries of what is now Mammoth Cave National Park. The story of Floyd Collins becoming trapped, buried alive and ultimately dying alone in a cave held a grip on people the world over. The resulting media coverage put Mammoth Cave on the map and helped usher the actual designation of Mammoth Cave as a national park. His explorations laid the foundation for others to later discover that Mammoth Cave was the longest cave in the world.

The Potlikker Papers: A Food History of the Modern South by John T. Edge (2017) — Before the Civil War, potlikker was the broth leftover after eating a pot of greens, usually by the working poor, both black and white. This story is that of southerner culinary identity and how race relations have affected Southern food over the past decades.

Where Valor Rests: Arlington National Cemetery by Rick Atkinson and Brig Gen Creighton Abrams, Jr. (2017) — Traces the origins of Arlington National Cemetery and those that work and serve there. Includes more than 200 photographs, essays and maps of memorials and other points of interest.

KENTUCKY

Assassination at the State House by Ron Elliott (2016) — A detailed examination of the 1899 political campaign for Kentucky Governor and the assassination of winner, William Goebel. The investigation of the criminal proceedings, which lasted twenty years and the political legacy of this story of Kentucky politics prove that “politics are the damnedest” in Kentucky.

Jean Ritchie’s Kentucky’s Mother Goose by Susan Brumfield (2015) — The youngest of 14 children in a singing family from Viper, Ky., Jean Ritchie grew up surrounded by the ballads, hymns, play-party songs, singing games and dulcimer tunes that comprised the Ritchie Family repertoire. *Jean Ritchie’s Kentucky’s Mother Goose* is a collection of songs, rhymes and stories recalled by Jean from her own childhood.

Sweet Tea and Sympathy by Molly Harper (2017) — A big-city party planner finds true love in a small Georgia town. One of new series of romantic novels in the “Southern Eclectic” series. (Kentucky fiction author.)

Success is the Only Option: the Art of Coaching Extreme Talent by John Calipari and Michael Sokolove (2016) — The basketball coach for the University of Kentucky, known for recruiting some of the nation’s best players, explains how his team-building methods can help business owners, teachers and other leaders inspire talented people and unleash their true potential.

Great Crossings: Indians, Settlers, and Slaves in the Age of Jackson by Christina Snyder (2017) — The book centers on the community that developed around Choctaw Academy, the first federally-controlled Indian boarding school in the United States, which operated from 1825 to 1848 on the Kentucky plantation of prominent politician Richard Mentor Johnson.

RELIGION and SPIRITUALITY

Shaken: Discovering Your True Identity in the Midst of Life’s Storms by Tim Tebow (2016) — The ups and downs of the NFL career of the former Heisman Trophy winner. Living out his disappointment and often cruel media coverage, Tebow reveals what he has learned about building confidence in his identity in God, not the world. *Shaken* was named the 2017 Christian Book of the Year.

Between Heaven and the Real World: My Story by Steven Curtis Chapman (2017) — Steven Curtis Chapman’s music and message have brought hope and inspiration to millions around the world. Steven openly shares how the experiences shaped him, his faith and his music. A life that has included incredible highs and faith-shaking lows. (Kentucky native, Contemporary Christian recording artist from Paducah.)

The Heart of the Amish by Suzanne Woods Fisher (2015) — *The Heart of the Amish* invites readers into the Amish world renowned for their ability to forgive. Through true stories gathered from a variety of Amish communities, this book illustrates how they are able to release their pain and desire for revenge and live at peace with others.

The Women of Easter by Liz Curtis Higgs (2017) — Meet three women named Mary, each of whom has a life-changing encounter with Jesus. Mary of Bethany prepares the way for the Lord's burial when she anoints His feet and fills the air with her perfume. His mother, Mary of Nazareth, remains by His side from His first breath to His last, her loyalty unwavering. Mary Magdalene, delivered of seven demons, bravely supports her Teacher through His darkest hours, then proclaims the glorious news of His resurrection.

TRAVEL

The Appalachian Trail: Hiking the People's Path by Bart Smith and Ron Tipton (2017) — The Appalachian Trail spans fourteen states from Maine to Georgia and is more than 2,000 miles long. Now, eighty years after its completion, the trail remains America's premier hiking trail and is known as "the People's Path." This book is perfect for anyone interested in conservation, outdoor recreation or American history, or for those who dream of one day becoming hikers themselves. Contains more than 170 beautiful images.

As Southern As It Gets: 1,071 Reasons to Never Leave the South by H. Jackson Brown (2017) — Full of small towns and sparkling cities, this welcoming area invites all who visit to put their feet up, have a glass of ice tea in a mason jar and reminisce on some of the most wonderful things in the South. Written by true Southern gentleman, H. Jackson Brown Jr., *As Southern As It Gets* is a charming book of lists—a celebration of all things Southern that will charm and delight anyone who was raised south of the Mason-Dixon or who wish they lived there. Reminds you of why Southerners so love their home.

Civil War Battlefields: Walking the Trails of History by David T. Gilbert and Jeff Shaara (2017) — From the "First Battle of Bull Run" to Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House four years later, this book celebrates the history and scenic beauty of more than thirty battlefields. Extensive photographs.

How to Pack: Travel Smart for Any Trip by Hitha Palepu (2017) — When you travel, the journey is often as important as the destination—and packing is the first step. You'll learn: how clothing earns its place in your suitcase; folding versus rolling and how to avoid the "I'm forgetting something" syndrome.

Mammoth Cave Curiosities: A Guide to Saber-Tooth Cats and Other Subterranean Marvels by Colleen Olson (2017) — The realities of life at Mammoth Cave can be stranger than fiction. Explore Mammoth Cave’s rich history, covering its use as the world’s first tuberculosis sanatorium as well as its operation as a saltpeter mine during the War of 1812. Learn the inspirational story of the park’s first female ranger.

My Old Kentucky Road Trips: Historic Destinations and National Wonders by Blair Hess (2015) — A drive straight across Kentucky would bypass all the worthwhile distractions between Paw Paw in Pike County and the Kentucky Bend of the Mississippi River in Fulton County, treasures like Abraham Lincoln’s boyhood home that rests inside a Greek-style temple or the Jefferson Davis monument rising from a field in Fairview. The Commonwealth is full of timeless landmarks and treasures. Explore all the amazing and irreplaceable things that make Kentucky one of a kind.

CLASSICS and OLD FAVORITES

Lorna Doone by Richard Doddridge Blackmore — A romantic novel based on a group of historical characters and set in the late 17th century in Devon and Somerset, England.

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll — Tells of a girl named Alice falling through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures. The tale plays with logic, giving the story lasting popularity with adults as well as with children.

O Pioneers! by Willa Cather — Alexandra Bergson, inherits the family farmland when her father dies, and she devotes her life to making the farm a viable enterprise at a time when many other immigrant families are giving up and leaving the prairie. Concerned with two romantic relationships, one between Alexandra and family friend Carl Linstrum and the other between Alexandra’s brother Emil and the married Marie Shabata.

Savanna by Janice Holt Giles — *Savanna* is the 6th in Janice Holt Giles’ series of novels about the American frontier. (Kentucky classic writer.)

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen — Shows the foolishness of judging by first impressions and evokes the friendships, gossip and snobberies of provincial middle-class life. You will be charmed by the witty and independent spirit of main character, Elizabeth Bennet.

Dracula by Bram Stoker — A horror-romance set in 1897 Transylvania. Bats, throat punctures and blood loss.



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Cultural Arts and Heritage — Reading List

Please help compile the 2017 to 2018 KEHA Book List by suggesting good, well written books, published in the past 3 years. Books should be submitted from the following categories:

- Arts
- Biography
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Fiction
- History
- Kentucky
- Religion and Spirituality
- Travel
- Classics and Old Favorites (may be older than 3 years)

We need the following information (use a separate sheet for each book):

Name of Book –

Category (from list above) –

Author –

Short Description (3 or 4 sentences; use back if necessary) –

Submit no later than January 15, 2018, to:

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