GRADE 1
Finding Langston
by Lucille Clifton

Open this book to travel with a young boy who is leaving his home in Chicago to start a new life in Baltimore. How will young Langston handle leaving his grandmother, his friends and all of the memories of his mother who has just passed away? Will he survive the bullying and the loneliness? Will he find the meaning of the African proverb that Langston is leaving behind, will he come to find something that he can truly keep forever?

GRADE 6
The Poet X
by Elizabeth Acevedo

Ximena refuses to silence her voice for a world that wants her to be a compliant teenager. She has much to say and you are called to listen through the pages of her poetry. Joining the pages of her notebook. As Xiomara navigates her world full of expectations and norms, she desperately strives to be heard through her words. Will Ximena keep her mother and the ideals of society or amplify her voice and speak the truth through her poetry? Open this book and travel to Harlem to find out.

GRADE 9
Dear Martin
by Nic Stone

Open this book to travel to Atlanta with seventeen-year-old Martin, an African American young man, who feels displaced as he is rejected by his peers in his rough, inner-city neighborhood and scorned in his new, predominantly white, upper school. Through a mixture of script-style dialogue, brief poems, narrative, and letters to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we see Justyce try to confront racism and the ugly, persistent violence of systemic injustice. Will the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr help Justyce find his identity in a world that does not seem to have a place for him? Open this powerful novel to find out.

GRADE 10
Solo
by obese Alexander

Open this book to travel to a Ghanaian village with blade Morrison, a seventeen-year-old musician who is seeking answers to a family secret that has left him stunned and alienated from his family. Turn the page of this impassioned ode to identity, family and the ideals of society or amplify her voice. Will Xiomara obey her mother and the ideals of society or amplify her voice and speak the truth through her poetry? Open this book and travel to Harlem to find out.