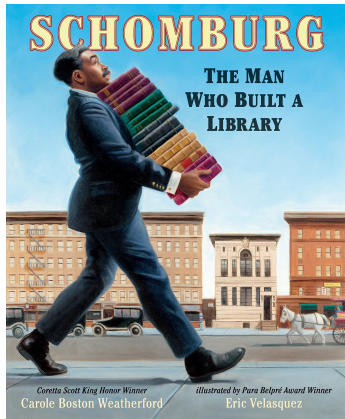


"Schomburg: The Man Who Built A Library"

By Carole Boston Weatherford, Illustrated By Eric



About *Schomburg*: In luminous paintings and arresting poems, two of children’s literature’s top African-American scholars track Arturo Schomburg’s quest to correct history. *Where is our historian to give us our side?* Arturo asked. Amid the scholars, poets, authors, and artists of the Harlem Renaissance stood an Afro–Puerto Rican named Arturo Schomburg. This law clerk’s life’s passion was to collect books, letters, music, and art from Africa and the African diaspora and bring to light the achievements of people of African descent through the ages. When Schomburg’s collection became so big it began to overflow his house, he turned to the New York Public Library, where he created and curated a collection that was the cornerstone of a new Negro Division. A century later, his groundbreaking collection, known as the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, has become a beacon to scholars all over the world. Ages 9–12.

Read Aloud Tips:

- Create a reading theme around the author, who has published many social justice titles. Read her bio and have students make similarities between her books. Use the author’s note to introduce slavery and incorporate into a bigger unit.
- Using conversation slips and debate centers, ask students to discuss why it is important to have literature that represents all Americans. Additionally, have them talk about a book or story that they truly connected with and why.

About The Author: Carole Boston Weatherford is the author of several acclaimed poetry collections and poetic biographies, including *Sugar Hill* and *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*, winner of a Caldecott Honor, the Coretta Scott King Award for Illustration, and the NAACP Image Award. She teaches at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina.



Additional Resources:

Find more information on other books that can be used in your class library at literacy.roosevel.edu.

“All of the book’s details paint Schomburg as an admirable, flawed, likable, passionate man whose lasting legacy, Harlem’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, opens its doors to all who would learn more about the people its founder knew had been left out of the written record. A must-read for a deeper understanding of a well-connected genius who enriched the cultural road map for African-Americans and books about them.”

- *Kirkus Reviews*