

Ethically Highlighting Diverse Voices Through Catalog Data



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Columbus Metropolitan Library

Celebrating **150** Years
1873 2023

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DISCLAIMER:

Big topic,

short presentation

Spine labels!
Genrefication!
Curated collections!
DEI content details!

What's wrong with spine labels?



- They're awesome in many situations!
- Content vs. creator
- Labels can be limiting
- Genre-bending
- The African American Fiction Collection at CML
- O the misunderstandings
- Spoiler: users don't read collection development policies

**What
makes a book
diverse?**

What about _____ group?

- Subject content or creator characteristics?
- The complex nature of identities
- Over-labeling
- “Default” groups in unlabeled collections
- Know your users – including staff
- What are your identities?

**Enter MARC field 386
(a celestial chorus sings)**

Another way of thinking about DEI



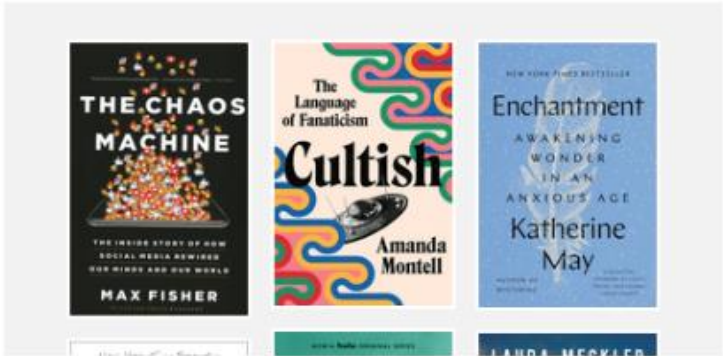
- Feedback from users: looking for **authors by identity**
- Heritage months, school assignments, displays
- [MARC tag 386: Creator/Contributor Characteristics](#)
- Classes of persons: [LCDGT](#), [LCSH](#), [Homosaurus](#)...
- Local terms

Indexing demographic terms

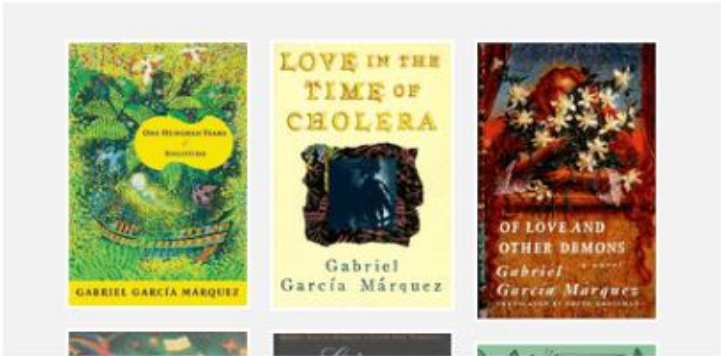
A new way of searching

- Keyword searches find 386 text (and text in the summary, contents, title, subjects...)
- **BiblioCommons staff configured the unique index label lh: (local heading)**
- Only searches the 386 field
- Saved searches
- Diverse Voices button promotes diverse collections

Recent Staff Lists



Staff Picks Live - Best



Colombian Authors »



Around the

Home

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Books & eContent ▾

Diverse Voices ▾

Locations

African American

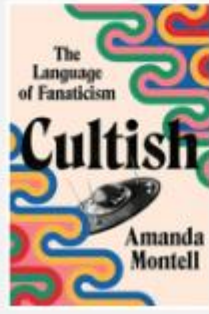
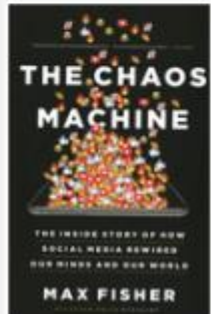
Asian & AAPI

LGBTQIA+

Hispanic & Latin American

More coming soon!

Recent Staff Lists

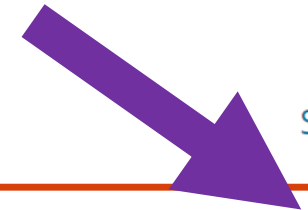


Advanced search: **Ih:"African Americans"**

[Modify search](#)

[Save](#)

[Search other I](#)

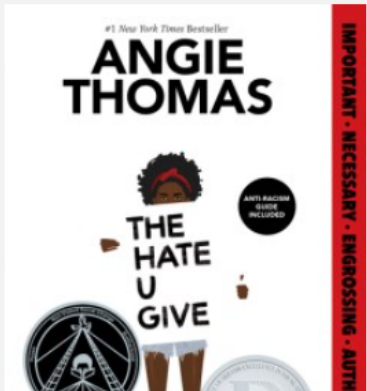


[Filter results](#)

Sort by: Relevance ▾



1 to 10 of 4,124 results



The Hate U Give

by Thomas, Angie



[Place hold](#)

Advanced search: **lh:"Asian and AAPI"**

[Modify search](#)

Advanced Search

[Reset All](#)[Tips](#)

Enter your advanced search here...

43 of 900 characters used.

Search

The ethics of naming

Assigning demographic terms

- Staff research each person to find what they call themselves publicly
- Multiple terms possible for each person
- Never use pictures, somebody else's list
- Two rules
 - **Self-identification is essential**
 - If it makes you feel funny, poke it with a stick

Many hands make light work!

Thank You!

(I love questions)