SCOPE OR BACKGROUND
This research guide is a selected collection of resources on poetry of African Americans from the previous three centuries.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC
“Introduction”. Black American Poets and Dramatists: Of the Harlem Renaissance 810.9
“Introduction”. Black American Poets and Dramatists: Before the Harlem Renaissance 810.9
“The New Poetry”. American Modernism, p.56-89. 810.9 AME

The Schomburg Center Guide to Black Literature R 809 VAL

KEYWORDS FOR SEARCHES
African American and poetry
African American and literature
Harlem Renaissance
Also by poet's name

BROWSE FOR BOOKS USING THESE CALL NUMBERS
811.008
811.0989
811.52

POETRY INDEXES
Columbia Granger’s Index to Poetry R 808.81 HAZ
Columbia Granger’s Index to African American Poetry R 811.009 COL
Lit Finder (Access PA Power Library)
This is an online poetry reference that provides 70,000 full-text poems from antiquity to the present. It is available through the Power Library. http://www.lschs.org/page.cfm?p=65

ENCYCLOPEDIAS, HANDBOOKS AND DICTIONARIES
Auchter, Dorothy. Historical Allusions & Eponyms R 803 AUC
Columbia Granger’s Dictionary of Poetry Quotations R 808.881 COL
Dictionary of Imaginary Places R 809 MAN
Drury, John. Poetry Dictionary R 808.103 DRU
Literary Movements for Students R 809.91 LIT
**BOOKS**

Bloom, Harold, ed. *African-American Poets* 811.009 AFR

Giovanni, Nikki. *Shimmy Shimmy Shimmy like my sister Kate: Looking at the Harlem Renaissance through poems*. 811.508 SHI

Haskins, Jim. *The Harlem Renaissance* 700.89 HAS

*The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*. 810.808 NOR

**POETRY ANTHOLOGIES**

Adoff, Arnold. *I Am the Darker Brother*. 811.508 IAM

Adoff, Arnold. *The Poetry of Black America*. 811.54 POE

Clinton, Catherine. *I, Too, Sing America*. 811.008 I

Gilbert, Derrick. *Catch the Fire!!* 811.508 CAT

Gilyard, Keith. *Spirit & Flame*. 811.54 SPI

Harper, Michael. *Every Shut Eye Ain’t Asleep*. 811.54


Hughes, Langston. *The Poetry of the Negro, 1746-1949*. 811.08 POE

**POETRY COLLECTIONS OF AN INDIVIDUAL POET’S WORK**

Angelou, Maya. *And Still I Rise*. 811.54 ANG

Angelou, Maya. *Collected Poems of Maya Angelou*. 811.54 ANG

Braxton, Joanne. *The Collected Poetry of Paul Laurence Dunbar*. 811.4 DUN

Giovanni, Nikki. *Selected Poems of Nikki Giovanni*. 811.54 GIO

Johnson, James Weldon. *God’s Trombones*. 811 JOH


Toomer, Jean. *The Collected Poems of Jean Toomer*. 811.52 TOO

Walker, Alice. *Absolute Trust in the Goodness of the Earth*. 811.54 WAL

Wilson, Sondra, ed. *James Weldon Johnson: Complete Poems*. 811.52 JOH
**BIOGRAPHICAL-CRITICAL INFORMATION**

In addition to the titles listed below, there are numerous books on individual poets. Check the library catalog or ask the librarian for help.

**African American Writers** R 810.9 AFR  
Bloom, Harold, ed. *Black American Poets and Dramatists: Before the Harlem Renaissance*. 810.9 BLA  
Bloom, Harold, ed. *Contemporary Black American Poets and Dramatists*. 810.9 CON  
Bloom, Harold, ed. *Black American Poets and Dramatists*. 810.9 BLA  
Bloom, Harold, ed. *Modern Black Poets and Dramatists*. 810.9 MOD  
*Contemporary Authors Series*, multi-volume work R 810.9 CON  
*Critical Survey of Poetry – Authors*, multi-volume works R 809.1 CRI

**Contemporary Authors** (Gale Group)  
This database includes biographic details on approximately 100,000 modern novelists, poets, playwrights, nonfiction writers, journalists and scriptwriters.  

**Biography Resource Center** (Gale Group)  
This database contains biographies and articles on over 185,000 famous and notable people from all places and time periods.  

**AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS**

I, Too, Sing America AV 811.081

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