

# National CASA/GAL Association 2020 Spring/Summer Book, Media and Webinar List

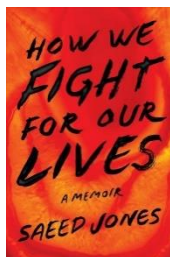
BOOK LIST: PAGES 1-4

MEDIA LIST: PAGES 5-7

ARCHIVED WEBINARS: PAGE 8-9

## BOOKS

### Cultural Awareness



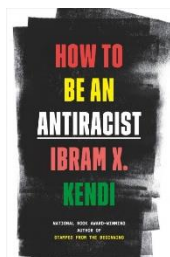
#### ***How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir: by Saeed Jones***

In powerful poetry and prose, Saeed Jones recounts his experiences growing up as a young, black, gay man in rural Texas. In powerful poetry and prose, Saeed Jones recounts his experiences growing up as a young, black, gay man in rural Texas.

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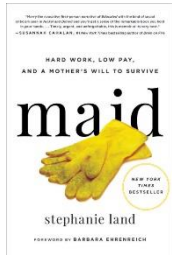
#### ***How To Be An Antiracist: A Memoir: by Ibram X. Kendi***

Despite the nature of its title, Kendi has gifted us with a book that is not only an essential instruction manual but also a memoir of the author's own path from anti-black racism to anti-white racism and, finally, to antiracism.

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***Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive:* by Stephanie Land**

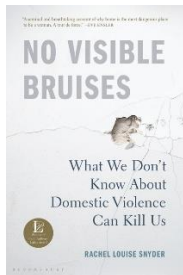
In her unstinting memoir — a portrait of working-class poverty in America — Land scrapes by on \$9 an hour cleaning houses to support herself and her young daughter.

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## Domestic Violence



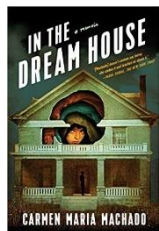
***No Visible Bruises:* by Rachel Snyder**

Snyder highlights an epidemic of unacknowledged violence. Fifty women a month are shot and killed by their partners, and she explores the problem from multiple perspectives: the victims, the aggressors and a society that turns a blind eye.

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***In The Dream House:* by Carmen Maria Machado**

This memoir, which tells the story of Machado's abusive relationship with another woman, is an act of personal and formal bravery.

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## Novels

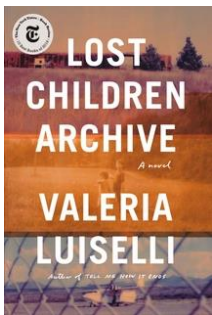
### ***Dumpster Doll: The Early Years* by Michelle Mays and Michelle Moon**

Michelle Mays was born into an abusive family in the Midwest. As she and her siblings cling to survival, the balance of family ties is weighed against alcoholism, drug abuse, abandonment, and despair. Hope dawns in the form of foster care, only to be deferred by multiple placements and a system not equipped to support the children it's meant to protect.

Through powerful vignettes of a life disjointed, Mays's story is a journey of hope that is echoed in the experiences of thousands of children in the court and foster care systems today. *Dumpster Doll* is brave not because it is unique, but because it unflinchingly shines a light on family turmoil, flaws in judicial systems, and ultimately, the grit and tenacity that thousands of children exhibit each day just to make it through.

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### ***Lost Children Archive* by Valeria Luiselli**

There is an impressive and moving body of storytelling that has accumulated in the wake of the crisis of migrant children – lost, separated, incarcerated – at the U.S.-Mexico border. But if you're interested in the role that fiction can play, you must read Valeria Luiselli's marvelous book *Lost Children Archive*. It's structured as a road trip novel.

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## The Early Years

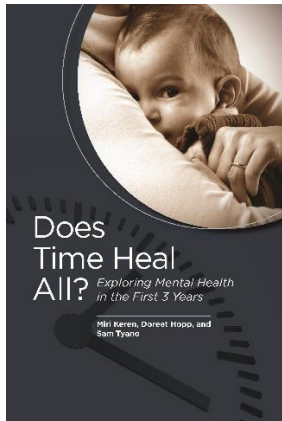


### ***Pathways to Positive Parenting: Helping Parents Nurture Healthy Development in the Earliest Months: by Jolene Pearson***

Jolene Pearson, BES, MS, PhD, IMH-E® (IV) An essential resource for all professionals who work with families of infants, this valuable handbook serves as a parent educator's guide to coaching and supporting new parents. The curriculum provides professionals with innovative teaching techniques, and practical and effective strategies that are field-tested, science-based and can be applied immediately in work supporting the development of positive parenting skills. The book also includes information on important topics such as postpartum depression, tummy time, breastfeeding, Safe to Sleep, and coping with crying.

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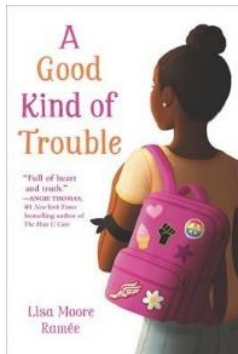
### ***Does Time Heal All? Exploring Mental Health in the First 3 Years: by Miri Keren, MD; Doreet Hopp, PhD; Sam Tyano, MD***

In this book, the authors (Miri Keren, MD; Doreet Hopp, PhD; Sam Tyano, MD) seek to debunk the idea that all troubling behaviors arising in early childhood will simply “pass with time,” asserting instead that every effort should be made to attempt diagnosis and treatment of truly abnormal issues early in life, while the baby's brain is still flexible and malleable. Not a guide, nor an ordinary textbook, Does Time Heal All? Weaves together complex case and treatment descriptions that focus specifically on the interplay between genetic, biological, psychological, and cultural variables present both in the child and his or her environment. The resulting insights will fascinate and enrich all who seek to trace the thin line between normative behavior, even if extreme at times, and abnormal behavior caused by a psychological disorder requiring therapeutic intervention.

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## Children's Fiction



### ***A Good Kind of Trouble:* by Lisa Moore Ramée**

Why go looking for trouble when you can just keep your head down and stay out of it? Shayla's pretty good at ignoring problems, but when a public trial of a policeman results in a verdict of not guilty, something changes. She's your typical quiet girl, but maybe there's something she can do to make a difference. If the biggest trend in 2019 children's fiction was social awareness and activism, then *A Good Kind of Trouble* is the go-to example for how to do it right. Kids will come for the fun friendship drama, but they'll stay for the tough questions: What does it mean to be "black enough," and should some rules be broken? (For ages 8 to 12)

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## Media List

### MOVIES/DOCUMENTARIES/PODCASTS

#### Child Welfare

#### [The Trials of Gabriel Fernandez](#)

**Available on Netflix.**

The Trials of Gabriel Fernandez is a true crime docuseries **on Netflix**. It covers the horrific and devastating case of Gabriel Fernandez, an eight-year-old boy who was murdered by his mother and her boyfriend, and the repeated failure of social workers and police officers to intervene. The six-part series is based

on the in-depth reporting of *LA Times* journalist Garret Therolf. While this is currently the most popular documentary on Netflix, it is a heartbreaking story. One bright spot is that it has inspired people across the country to learn more about becoming a CASA or GAL volunteer and the difference they could personally make in a child's life.

We also want to note that following Gabriel's death, the Los Angeles County DCFS enacted reforms to increase child safety and help support families in crisis

## Cultural Awareness



**No Passport Required**

**Stream on PBS.**

**Hosted by Chef Marcus Samuelsson**

Join chef Marcus Samuelsson on an inspiring journey across the U.S. to explore and celebrate the wide-ranging diversity of immigrant traditions and cuisine woven into American food and culture.

**Indian Child Welfare Act-Educational Resource Video**

**View on YouTube.**

Hear from Native American adults on their experiences with foster care and adoption as children before the enactment of the Indian Child Welfare Act..

**We Shall Remain**

**View on YouTube.**

We Shall Remain, a video by The Stylehouse Collective, was created to address the effects of historical trauma in our tribal communities. Many times, these untended wounds are at the core of much of the self-inflicted pain experienced in Native America. Much like fire, this pain can either be devastatingly destructive or wisely harnessed to become fuel that helps us to rise up and move forward in life with joy, purpose and dignity.

## Juvenile Justice



### **Caught: Podcast from WNYC Studios**

All kids make dumb mistakes. But depending on your zip code, race, or just bad luck, those mistakes can have a lasting impact. Mass incarceration starts young. In *Caught: The Lives of Juvenile Justice*, hear from kids about the moment they collided with law and order, and how it changed them forever.

## **Incarceration**



### **College Behind Bars: A Film by Lynn Novick**

Explore the transformative power of education through the eyes of a dozen incarcerated men and women trying to earn college degrees – and a chance at new beginnings – from one of the country's most rigorous prison education programs.

## **Self-Care**



### **Unlocking Us: Podcast by Brené Brown**

Conversations that unlock the deeply human part of who we are, so that we can live, love, parent, and lead with more courage and heart.

## ARCHIVED NATIONAL CASA/GAL ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WEBINARS

### Advocating for Indian Children: Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the Role of CASA/GALs (March, 2020)

As part of our ongoing commitment to equip staff and volunteer advocates with the skills and knowledge to work with children and families from many cultures and experiences, the National CASA/GAL Association for Children hosted a webinar on ICWA and the role CASA/GAL staff and volunteer advocates can have in advocating for Indian children. According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the purpose of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is *"...to protect the best interest of Indian Children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families by the establishment of minimum Federal standards for the removal of Indian children and placement of such children in homes which will reflect the unique values of Indian culture..."* (25 U.S. C. 1902). ICWA provides guidance to States regarding the handling of child abuse and neglect and adoption cases involving Native children and sets minimum standards for the handling of these cases.

By being grounded in foundational knowledge on the law, CASA/GALs can be a powerful voice in ICWA cases. Topics covered include:

- What makes ICWA so important to CASA/GAL best interest advocacy efforts
- Historical perspective of Indian policy decisions
- A discussion of ICWA and the role CASA/GAL can play in increasing compliance

#### **Presenter's bio: Angela Fasana, JD**

Ms. Fasana is a member of the Tribal Nation of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and currently serves as the Education Department Manager. Prior to her move to the Education Department in October of 2019, she served as Court Administrator for the Grand Ronde Tribal Court for 19 years. The Tribal Court operates the only Tribal CASA Program in Oregon. Ms. Fasana also worked as a Legal Assistant in the Tribal Attorney's Office for approximately three years, working primarily with the Tribe's child welfare office and representing the Tribe in Tribal Court on dependency cases. Ms. Fasana received her Bachelor Degree from Portland State University in 1994, and a J.D. from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark in 1997.

[Click here](#) or copy the link into your web browser:

[https://nationalcasagal.zoom.us/rec/play/ucclJbir\\_T43HtyV5ASDC\\_98W9S7ff-shyldrKdbxRnjU3EDOIP0Z-YUYrEiILsFiG0pBleF5\\_wsufvS?autoplay=true&startTime=1584469649000](https://nationalcasagal.zoom.us/rec/play/ucclJbir_T43HtyV5ASDC_98W9S7ff-shyldrKdbxRnjU3EDOIP0Z-YUYrEiILsFiG0pBleF5_wsufvS?autoplay=true&startTime=1584469649000)



### **Substance Abuse: An Introduction to Substance Abuse as a Disorder (February, 2020)**

While substance abuse is not a new phenomenon, widespread addiction to opioids has been making headlines across the country. Law enforcement, public health officials, and policy makers are working to stem the tide of overdose deaths and hold accountable those responsible for this nationwide public health crisis. Often overlooked are the tens of thousands of children who are coming into foster care every year as a result of the opioid crisis. Courts are struggling to cope with the influx of cases. Child welfare officials are managing record caseloads and budget shortages.

The goal of this training is to increase understanding of substance use disorder on children who have experienced abuse or neglect and their families so that they are served with a greater amount of knowledge and skill by CASA/GAL volunteers. Topics covered include:

- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Myths and Facts, Terminology and Appropriate Language
- History of SUD and the Opioid Epidemic
- Relapse and Recovery Maintenance

#### **Presenter's bio: Sarah Fox, MA**

Ms. Fox is a Program Associate for the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare at Children and Family Futures. She assists with research and evaluation, technical assistance, and the preparation of products for a national audience. Ms. Fox has over 10 years of extensive experience working in direct clinical practice serving individuals and families with specific settings to include private practice, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, inpatient substance use treatment, state funded community case management services and group living homes, active duty military, forensics, neuroscience research, and diagnostics.

Ms. Fox has experience as an Associate Regional Director, Clinical Director, primary therapist and case manager for children, adolescents and adults. She received a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from the University of Houston, Victoria and a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Winthrop University.

[Click here](#) or copy the link into your web browser:

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