AWSP is partnering with Scholastic to bring you book recommendations related to school leadership and education. Here are this quarter’s recommendations.

**FOR EDUCATORS**

**Cultivating Genius**  
*An Equity Framework for Culturally and Historically Responsive Literacy*  
By Gholdy Muhammad

In "Cultivating Genius," Dr. Gholdy Muhammad presents a four-layered equity framework — one that is grounded in history and restores excellence in literacy education. Muhammad’s Historically Responsive Literacy Framework is essential for all students, especially youth of color, who traditionally have been marginalized in learning standards, school policies, and classroom practices. The framework promotes four learning goals—or pursuits:

- **Identity development:** defining self; making sense of one’s values and beliefs.
- **Skill development:** developing proficiencies through reading and writing meaningful content.
- **Intellectual development:** gaining knowledge and becoming smarter.
- **Criticality:** developing the ability to read texts to understand power, authority, and oppression

When these four learning pursuits are taught together—through the Historically Responsive Literacy Framework—students receive profound opportunities for personal, intellectual, and academic success. Muhammad provides probing, self-reflective questions for both teachers and students as well as bibliographies of culturally responsive text and sample lesson plans across grades and content areas.

**FOR STUDENTS**

**The Koala Who Could**  
By Rachel Bright | Grades PreK-1

Sometimes a little change can open your world to BIG possibilities. Kevin the koala loves every day to be the same, where it’s snug and safe. But when change happens, will Kevin learn all the joys that come with trying something new?

**FOR STUDENTS**

**Nasreddine**  
By Odile Weulersse | Grades 1-5

It’s time to go to market, so Nasreddine loads up the donkey and sets off with his father. But when onlookers criticize his father for riding while Nasreddine walks, the boy is ashamed. The following week, Nasreddine persuades his father to walk, and let him ride — but then people criticize the boy for making his father walk! No matter what Nasreddine tries, it seems that someone always finds something to disapprove of. Nasreddine is a legendary character popular in stories told throughout the Middle East, and this clever story will bring him to a new audience. Accompanied by stunning artwork, this tale offers a gentle reminder to readers that it isn’t always necessary to listen to the world’s criticisms.

**PSST!** Want a chance to win one of these books and others, complimentary of Scholastic? Send an email to caroline@awsp.org with the word “reading” to be entered to win!