*Celebrate black history month 2014*

*Theme: Civil Rights in America*

*50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act*

*The theme for Black History Month in 2014 is "Civil Rights in America" chronicling the important milestones by African-Americans and others in the battle for civil rights and equal treatment under the law.*

***The Color Purple***

Publisher: Warner Home Video

Production year: 1985

Release year: 2003

Starring: Danny Glover, Oprah Winfrey, Whoopi Goldberg

Synopsis: The heart-wrenching story of a young black girl in the early 20th century, who's forced into a brutal marriage and separated from her sister.

***Amistad***

Publisher: DreamWorks Pictures

Production year: 1997

Release year: 2002

Starring: Anna Paquin, Morgan Freeman, Nigel Hawthorne, Matthew McConaughey, Pete Postlethwaite, Stellan Skarsgard, Anthony Hopkins, Djimon Hounsou

Synopsis: The gripping revolt of the prisoners on a slave ship named Amistad (ironically translated to mean 'friendship'), and the legal battle that follows to justify their actions.

***Antwone Fisher***

Publisher: 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment

Production year: 2002

Release year: 2003

Starring: Derek Luke, Denzel Washington

Synopsis: Inspired by true life experiences, Antwone Fisher tells the story of a troubled sailor who is ordered to see a naval psychiatrist about his violent temper. What follows is a journey to his troubled past and connection with the family he never knew.

***Crash***

Publisher: Lions Gate Home Entertainment

Production year: 2004

Release year: 2006

Starring: Don Cheadle, Tony Danza, Keith David, Loretta Devine, Matt Dillon, Jennifer Esposito, Brendan Fraser, Terrence Howard, Ludacris, Thandie Newton, Larenz Tate, Ryan Phillippe, Sandra Bullock

Synopsis: A provocative, unflinching look at the complexities of racial tolerance in contemporary America when a car accident brings together a group of strangers in Los Angeles.

***Do the Right Thing***

Publisher: The Criterion Collection

Production year: 1989

Release year: 1999

Starring: Ruby Dee, Danny Aiello, John Turturro, Rosie Perez, Samuel L. Jackson, Martin Lawrence, John Savage, Spike Lee, Ossie Davis

Synopsis: Story of the racial tensions that surround a white-owned pizzeria in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn on the hottest day of the summer.

***The Help***

***(Available in DVD, Blu-Ray, Book Group Kit and Book formats)***

Written by: Kathryn Stockett in 2009

Publisher: Touchstone Home Entertainment (film)

Production year: 2011 (film)

Release year: 2011 (film)

Starring: Emma Stone, Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, Bryce Dallas Howard, Jessica Chastain, Cicely Tyson, Mike Vogel, Sissy Spacek

Synopsis: In Jackson, Mississippi, in 1962, there are lines that are not crossed. With the civil rights movement exploding all around them, three women start a movement of their own, forever changing a town and the way women--black and white, mothers and daughters--view one another.

***Malcolm X***

Publisher: Warner Home Video

Production year: 1992

Release year: 2005

Starring: Angela Bassett, Ossie Davis, Denzel Washington, Peter Boyle

Synopsis: The life of Malcolm X, who through his religious conversion to Islam, found the strength to rise up from a criminal past to become an influential civil rights leader.

***Hairspray***

Publisher: New Line Home Video

Production year: 1988

Release year: 2002

Starring: Divine, Ricki Lake, Deborah Harry, Jerry Stiller, Sonny Bono

Synopsis: A teenager teaches 1962 Baltimore a thing or two about integration after landing a spot on a local TV

***In the heat of the night***

Publisher: Metro Goldwyn Mayer

Production year: 1967

Starring: Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger, Warren Oates, Lee Grant.

Synopsis: A small town Southern sheriff finds himself in an uneasy alliance with a big-city black homicide detective as they investigate a murder.

***To Kill a Mockingbird***

Publisher: Universal

Production year: 1962

Starring: Gregory Peck, Robert Duvall, Mary Badham, Philip Alford, Rosemary Murphy, John Megna, Frank Overton, Brock Peters, Alice Ghostley, William Windom.

Synopsis: A Southern a lawyer, Atticus Finch, in the Depression-era South, defends a black man against an undeserved rape charge, and his kids against prejudice.

***Miracle at St. Anna***

Publisher: Touchstone Home Entertainment

Production year: 2008

Release year: 2009

Starring: Derek Luke, Laz Alonso, John Turturro, John Leguizamo, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Kerry Washington

Synopsis: August 1944. This film follows four black soldiers of the all-black 92nd Infantry Division who get trapped near the small Tuscan village of Sant'Anna di Stazzema on the Gothic Line during the Italian Campaign of World War II.

***Glory***

Publisher: Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment

Production year: 1989

Starring: Matthew Broderick, Morgan Freeman, Jane Alexander, Denzel Washington

Synopsis: A gripping historical film about the first black volunteer regiment in the Civil War and their white comma.