NOTE: As Moderator I asked panelists to recommend texts that amplify the issues raised in the narratives relating to The American Project and Moral Imagination. This is not a comprehensive list, but it may be used to add to poetry, fiction, nonfiction books and plays that explore issues of race, migration, immigration, gender, arts movements, social justice, economics, and offer starting points for classroom conversations, prompts, etc. Some of the texts are well-known, others less so, but these are the works that different panelists have used for their work, taught and or offer insight into different perspectives on The American Project.

Ahmed, Sara, Phenomenology of Whiteness (cph) (nf)

Ai, Collected Poems, (psj) (p)


Baker, Houston A., Blues, Ideology and Afro-American Literature: A Vernacular Theory (psj) (nf)

Baraka, Amiri, Preface to a Twenty Volume Suicide Note (reg) (p)

Bernstein, Charles, The Pitch of Poetry (psj) (nf)

Brown, Wesley, Darktown Strutters (psj) (f)

Brooks, Gwendolyn, Maud Martha (psj) (f)

Carr, Cynthia, Our Town: A Heartland Lynching, a Haunted Town, and the Hidden History of White America (psj) (nf)

Cha, Theresa Hak Kyung, Dictee (cph) (p)

Chang, Tina, Hybridia (reg) (p)

Davis, Thulani, My Confederate Kinfolk (psj) (nf)

Diaz, Natalie, Bodies Built for Game: The Prairie Schooner Anthology of Contemporary Sports Writing (bt) (nf)

Didion, Joan, The White Album (psj) (nf)

DiTomaso, Nancy, The American Dilemma (jk) (nf)

DuBois, W. E.B, Dark Water: Voices Within the Veil (psj) (nf)

Ellison, Ralph, Invisible Man (reg) (f)

Ewing, Eve, Electric Arches, (reg) (p)

Forche, Carolyn, Against Forgetting (reg) (p)

Gorski, Phillip, A History of Civil Religion from the Puritans to the Present (nf)
Harjo, Joy, American Sunrise (psj) & She Had Some Horses (reg) (p)
Hartman, Saidiya, Scenes of Subjection (cph) (nf)
Hayden, Robert, American Journal (psj) (p)
Hayes, Terrance, American Sonnets for my Past and Future Assassins & How to Be Drawn (reg) (p)
Hillman, Brenda, Extra Hidden Life among the Days (psj) (p)
Hong, Cathy Park, Engine Empire (reg, psj) (p)
Jaspin, Elliot, Buried in the Bitter Waters: A Hidden History of Racial Cleansing in America (jk) (nf)
Jordan, June, WE'RE On: A June Jordan Reader (psj & reg) (p,nf, d)
Kapil, Bhanu, Vertical Interrogation of Strangers (cph) (nf)
Kaminsky, Ilya, Deaf Republic (psj, reg, bt) (p)
Kendi, Ibram X., Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America (jk) (nf)
Kennedy, Adrienne, Funnyhouse of the Negro (reg) (d)
Lenhart, Gary, The Stamp of Class: Reflections on Poetry and Social Class (psj) (nf)
Loewen, James W., Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism (nf)
Metres, Phillip, Sand Opera (bt) (p)
Morrison, Toni, The Source of Self-Regard, Playing in the Dark (nf), and Song of Solomon (reg) (f)
& Tar Baby and A Mercy (psj) (f)
Miller, Arthur, Death of a Salesman (psj) (d)
Moten, Fred, Black and Blur (consent to not be a single being) (reg) (p)
Mullen, Haryette, ReCyclopedia (psj) and Sleeping with the Dictionary (reg) (p)
Nottage, Lynn, Sweat (psj) (d)
Omi, Michael and Winant, Howard, Racial Formation in the United States (jk) (nf)
Padgett, Ron, Collected Poems (psj) (p)
Rankine, Claudia, Don't Let Me Be Lonely (reg, psj) and Citizen (reg) (p)
Rich, Adrienne, Collected Poems (reg) & The Dream of a Common Language (psj) (p)
Shange, Ntozake, For Colored Girls Who Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Was Not Enuff (reg) (d) & Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo (psj) (f)
Schockley, Evie, semiautomatic and the new black (reg) (p)
Shah, Purvi, Miracle Marks (psj) (p)
Sharif, Solmaz, Look (cph) (p)
Smith, Danez, Don't Call us Dead (reg) (p)
Smith, Patricia, Blood Dazzler (reg (p))
Stone, Nomi, Kill Class (bt) (p)
Thomas, Lorenzo, Extraordinary Measures: Afro-centric Modernism and 20th-Century American Poetry (nf)
Thompson, Robert Farris, Flash of the Spirit (nf)
Vuong, Ocean, On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous (bt) (f)
Waldman, Anne, Trickster Feminism (psj) (p)
Young, Kevin, The Grey Album (reg) (p)
Zamora, Javier, Unaccompanied (bt) (p)

LEGEND: reg (Rachel Eliza Griffiths); cph (Cathy Park Hong) psj (Patricia Spears Jones)
Jk (John Keene) and bt (Brian Turner)
Poetry (p)
Drama (d)
Fiction (f)
Nonfiction (nf)