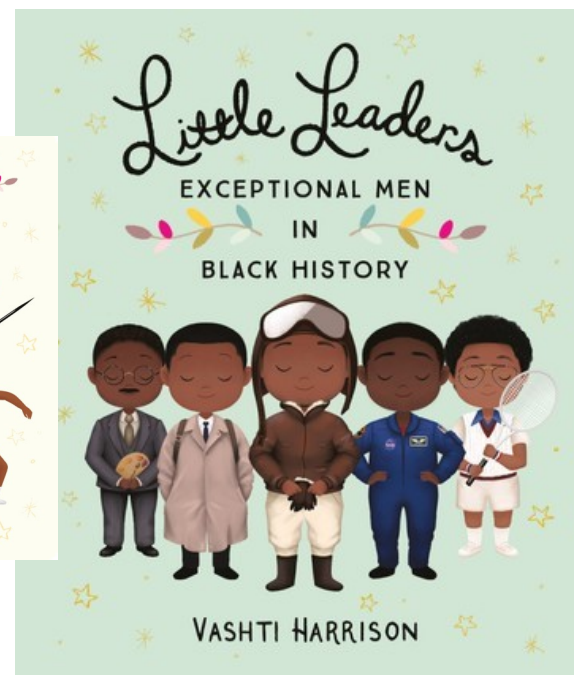
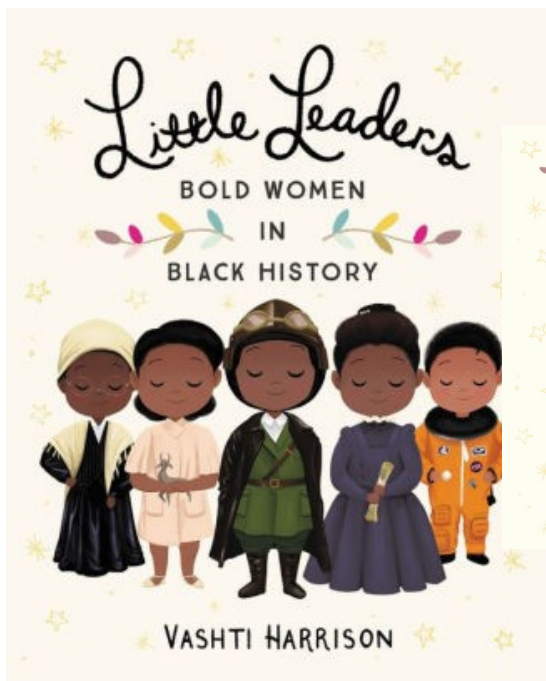


MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020

**New York Bestselling**

Author – Illustrator – Filmmaker

**Vashti Harrison**



Author Vashti Harrison portrays young African American boys and girls as little but bold historical figures. Little black boys see themselves in artist Aaron Douglas, civil rights leader John Lewis, dancer Alvin Ailey, filmmaker Oscar Micheaux, musician Prince, photographer Gordon Parks, tennis champion Arthur Ashe, and writer James Baldwin. While little black girls can see themselves in abolitionist Sojourner Truth, pilot Bessie Coleman, chemist Alice Ball, politician Shirley Chisholm, mathematician Katherine Johnson, poet Maya Angelou, and filmmaker Julie Dash.

**Why are they little if they're supposed to be bold?**

Harrison explains that she created these characters, "to show that boldness can come from the little as well as the Big."