

SOURCES

Mifflin, 2003). In one 433-page volume, Trefil appears to be the first author to attempt to bring together brief essays on the significant laws of nature and brilliant scientific discoveries over the ages, though there is no great depth to entries. As a first of its kind, some critics found problems with a few entries, yet it was considered to be a thorough and compact resource for scientific principles. The first chapter gives an excellent introduction to the history of science and why there was a need for such a publication. For the nonscientist, it is a quick overview and access point to broadening one's interest and knowledge of the universe.

Encyclopedia of Scientific Principles, Laws, and Theories appears to be an improvement and expansion over Trefil's work. Krebs's publication is a scientifically literate reference work destined to become a standard library reference resource. It is highly recommended for high school, public, and academic libraries of all sizes. The book is also available as an online electronic reference work.—David M. Fagerstrom, Faculty Director, Science Library, University of Colorado, Boulder

Encyclopedia of Social Problems. Ed. by Vincent N. Parrillo. Los Angeles: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. acid free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-4165-5).

Vincent N. Parrillo, professor of sociology at the William Patterson University of New Jersey, provides a great resource in the *Encyclopedia of Social Problems*. The encyclopedia covers a wide array of social science issues and problems, with a focus on American issues. This two-volume set contains more than six hundred entries arranged alphabetically. A list of entries and a thematic reader's guide are useful for finding information quickly and easily. Some major themes in the reader's guide are crime and deviance, education, and substance abuse. The set has an impressive forty-nine-page index. Each entry has a small bibliography of sources useful for further research.

In comparison to similar reference works, such as James Ciment's *Social Issues in America: An Encyclopedia* (Sharpe, 2006), the articles are brief and concise. When comparing the entries on urban sprawl, *Social Issues* offers a more in-depth look at these topics with a glossary, chronology, and tables and graphs. A weakness of *Encyclopedia of Social Problems* is that it has only a few charts, tables, or images throughout the text. But the size of the two encyclopedias differs greatly: seven volumes for *Social Issues*, two for *Encyclopedia of Social Problems*. These two volumes may be more than sufficient for some smaller public and academic libraries and particularly suitable for high school libraries with limited space and budget. The strength of *Encyclopedia of Social Issues* is its organization, the wide array of issues included, and its selection of interdisciplinary topics. This work is very cohesive and comprehensive without being overwhelming, a common drawback of similar works.

The encyclopedia does an excellent job of covering all social sciences and not leaning toward one discipline, so it is useful for all social science students. The work has strengths

in education and criminal justice, and its coverage of social movements is of particular value for social work and sociology students. The entries are basic enough for general studies but in some cases offer sufficient depth that would be invaluable to sociology, psychology, and other social sciences students looking for a brief overview of a topic.

Encyclopedia of Social Problems is recommended for high school libraries, public library reference collections, and undergraduate academic libraries.—Alisa C. Gonzalez, *Social Sciences Librarian, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces*

Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Culture. Ed. by Carole B. Davies. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 3 vols. acid free \$295 (ISBN 978-1-85109-700-5).

Increasing interest among scholars in studying the dispersal, forced or voluntary, of African peoples throughout the world makes *Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Cultures* a timely publication. This addition to the growing body of literature on the topic draws on the editorial oversight and expertise of the faculty in Florida International University's African-New World Studies program. Contributors to the encyclopedia include an international group of scholars, graduate students, and independent researchers.

Typical entries run from 250 to 500 words, with more space allocated to contributions from major scholars; the editor cites C. L. R. James as an example. Each entry is signed and includes "see also" references and a selection of further readings that is impressively current in most instances, although a disturbing trend in reference works to cite websites is evident in the single further reading suggested for the article on jerk seasoning.

Coverage includes regional and country essays, individual biographies for major figures, political movements, projects, concepts and theory, significant events, health, healing and medicine, artistic expression, and cultural, economic, and religious aspects of African peoples in Diaspora. Treatment is both historical and contemporary. Geographic scope is worldwide, although some areas—Australia for example—are underrepresented. Arrangement is alphabetical. The target audience is students in high school through college and the general public.

There are, to this reviewer, some curious inclusions and omissions. Why does "Hair" merit an article and "Hairstyles" an index entry but not, for instance, language? Linguistic discussions are included in several articles, "Black/Blackness: Philosophical Considerations" and "Creole, Creolity, Creolization" for example, but there are no entries in the index for language or for linguistics, nor does the encyclopedia contain a separate article on language and language transmission in the Diaspora. Although there are separate articles on gumbo, and the aforementioned jerk seasoning, there is no index entry under food or cookery that would lead the uninitiated to either, nor is there a separate article about cultural food exchanges in the Diaspora. For that matter, the reader unfa-

miliar with the names of African Diaspora religious systems and practices, such as Candomblé, would be pressed to find articles about them because religion does not figure as a separate article or as a term in the index.

How then does this new entry into the field measure up to previous publications? Edited by Melvin Ember, Carol R. Ember, and Ian Skoggard and published with the support of the Human Relations Area Files at Yale University, the two-volume *Encyclopedia of Diasporas: Immigrant and Refugee Cultures Around the World* (Kluwer Academic/Plenum, 2004) treats Africans in Diaspora in Asia, Europe, and the Americas among the fifty-five additional Diaspora communities whose society, behavior, and culture are examined, compared, and described by the encyclopedia's contributors, one of whom is the editor of the work under review, Carole B. Davies. *Encyclopedia of Diasporas* has as its focus cultural anthropology, and it includes broad cultural categories such as politics and identity, art, dance, music, and literature. It gives the historical background and context of each Diaspora group but does not include biographies or other subject matter as separate articles. Its audience is the scholarly community.

Taking into account the growing interest in Diaspora studies, the six-volume second edition of *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History* (Macmillan Reference USA, 2006) has added the subtitle *The Black Experience in the Americas*. Edited by Colin A. Palmer and published in association with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library, this work presents a comprehensive account of the historical and cultural experience of people of African descent in North and South America and the Caribbean from their first arrival to the beginning of the twenty-first century. New to the second edition is the extended essay "Diasporic Cultures in the Americas" and the identification in the work's "Thematic Outline of Contents" of specific articles related to Diasporic Cultures generally and to those in the Caribbean, in Latin America, and in North America, including listings of the biographical articles that likewise apply. This new coverage accounts for no more than a third of the work's contents. The intended audience is the general public and students in high school and college.

Africana: The Encyclopedia of the African and African American Experience (Oxford Univ. Pr., 2005) is edited by Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates Jr. Now in its second edition and expanded to five volumes, it was one of the first reference works to address ties between the Americas and Africa and to take up the specific subject of African Diaspora in that context. The second edition's 4,400 articles have been contributed by an international group of 266 scholars. The overall focus of the work is the presentation of the history and the political, social, and cultural contributions made by Africans and people of African descent living in Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean. The audience is the general public, students, and academics.

Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Culture supplements the geographic focus of the *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black*

Experience in the Americas as well as *Encyclopedia of the African and African American Experience* by its consideration of people from Africa and of African descent living in Diaspora communities throughout the world. Its thematic approach and inclusion of biographical materials complements the representation of people of African descent in *Encyclopedia of Diasporas: Immigrant and Refugee Cultures Around the World*. *Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Culture* is relatively inexpensive. It is recommended for the reference collections in junior high and high school libraries, in public libraries, and in college and university libraries.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, History, Philosophy, Political Science, African American Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American Studies, and Women's Studies, Cohen Library Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of World's Fairs and Expositions. Ed. by John E. Findling and Kimberly D. Pelle. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2008. 484p. alkaline \$125 (ISBN 978-0-7864-3416-9).

John E. Findling, professor emeritus of history at Indiana University Southeast, and Kimberly D. Pelle, director of the Adult Student Center at Indiana University Southeast, have partnered to update their 1990 work *The Historical Dictionary of World's Fairs and Exhibitions* (Greenwood). Renamed the *Encyclopedia of World's Fairs and Exhibitions*, this work features new essays on upcoming fairs (Zaragoza, Spain in 2008 and Shanghai, China in 2010) and revisions and updates to more than one hundred individually authored entries covering international fairs and exhibitions beginning with The Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations held in London in 1851. Organized chronologically, entries range from slightly more than a single page ("Long Beach 1928") to ten ("Chicago 1893"). Individual bibliographies and black-and-white photographs accompany each entry. Authors include scholars, curators, archivists, and librarians. Many have previously published works on their fairs of expertise. Entries cover the event's history and planning, setting, architecture, notable features and exhibits, participants, public reception, and attendance statistics. Many entries place the respective fairs in historical and cultural context, and others assess the level of the event's fulfillment of its original goals. The accounts of various "firsts" and inventions introduced at world exhibitions make for entertaining reading.

End matter includes appendixes of fair statistics, officials, fairs that fell short of meeting the requirements for inclusion in this volume, and a listing of fairs that never were. A subject index, contributor biographies, and bibliographies of print and Internet resources conclude this comprehensive and useful work.

Urso Chappell, world's fairs enthusiast and creator of the online ExpoMuseum, states, "World's Fairs have excited and inspired millions of people around the world by expressing the hopes and desires of their times. Perhaps unwittingly, they also provide a fascinating glimpse into the realities of