

This book is recommended to public and academic libraries lacking other up-to-date sources, or to those where online access is problematic. Its cost, and the availability of competing reference books covering similar topics, as well as online databases that contain the same material, make it an optional purchase for libraries with comprehensive GLBT collections.—*Martha E. Stone, Coordinator for Reference Services, Treadwell Library, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston*

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**Homelessness Handbook.** Ed. by David Levinson and Marcy Ross. Great Barrington, Mass.: Berkshire, 2007. 465p. alkaline \$135 (ISBN 1-933782-03-X).

*Homelessness Handbook* is a comprehensive source focusing on the psychological, social, historical, and physical concerns of the homeless in the United States and the world. The book provides detailed articles written by experts in the field, alongside an intermingling of facts and figures, photographs and illustrations, quotes, and terms.

The articles are split up into eight sections: historical topics, such as the Great Depression; statistics and demographic groups, such as veterans; life issues, including health problems and survival strategies; the perceptions of the homeless captured in the media; the causes of homelessness; prevention programs and other solutions for alleviating homelessness; homelessness profiles in United States cities, including St. Louis and Washington D.C.; and profiles of different countries and cities in the world, including Japan and Calcutta.

The articles are interesting and generally run three to six pages in length. This is the kind of reference book that could be read from cover to cover because it is so well-written and covers a social problem that just about everyone has encountered. Each article has a bibliography of further readings that includes harder-to-find materials, such as print and electronic government documents, as well as many scholarly, peer-reviewed articles. The book also contains a short glossary of terms and a list of pertinent organizations.

It is important to compare this work to the two-volume *The Encyclopedia of Homelessness* (Berkshire, 2004), also edited by David Levinson. *Homelessness Handbook* contains many of the same entries verbatim. For example, the entry for African-Americans in the *Encyclopedia* is just about the same as the article in the *Handbook*, except for the addition of a sidebar article on “Slavery and the Homeless.” In the introduction to the *Handbook*, the editors insist that it is a “completely new work” that “distills, reorganizes, and updates portions of the encyclopedia’s content” (xi).

The new format and added articles do create a new, but similar, reference work. While the *Encyclopedia* presents somewhat disconnected entries in alphabetical order, the *Handbook* exhibits a more coherently ordered stream of information through its sections of related topics. For example, the section on “Lifestyles and Life Issues” in the new *Handbook* gives the reader eighty pages of connected information about such topics as “survival strategies,” “alcohol and drugs,” and “living on the margins.” In the *Encyclopedia*, these entries

would have been split up between the two volumes, with hundreds of pages separating them.

Although there is some duplication between the two reference books, the new *Handbook* does an excellent job of reorganizing the information and updating it with many new topics, including information on Hurricane Katrina. The *Encyclopedia* does contain more information that is left out of the new *Handbook*, so libraries should not withdraw the *Encyclopedia* and treat the *Handbook* as a replacement edition.

Overall, this resource is a useful tool for the researcher, student, librarian, or community member. It will assist anyone who is concerned about the homeless epidemic in the United States and the world. Recommended for public and college libraries.—*Colleen Lougen, Electronic Resources Librarian, State University of New York, New Paltz*

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**Latinos in the Arts.** By Steven Otfinoski. A to Z of Latino Americans. New York: Facts On File, 2007. 288p. alkaline \$44 (ISBN 978-0-8160-6394-9).

*Latinos in the Arts* by Steven Otfinoski, author of other Facts On File publications, including *African-Americans in the Performing Arts* (2003) and *African-Americans in the Visual Arts* (2003), offers profiles on 178 Latino performing and visual artists. Otfinoski notes that this work does not provide an exhaustive list of Latino artists, but rather those selected “have been pioneers or innovators in their field” and “reflect Latino culture and traditions” (vii–viii). Individuals of Spanish and Brazilian descent are included, though entries are limited to those who were born in the United States or lived here permanently after emigrating from a Latin country.

Profiles in *Latinos in the Arts* are included for such popular singers and actors as Cristina Aguilera, Jennifer Lopez, and Edward James Olmos, as well as less-prominent figures, such as muralist and commercial artist Willie Herron and photographer, painter, and video artist Alma Lopez. Some entries include a black-and-white photograph of the profiled individual. Entries range from one to two pages and include lists for further reading as well as further listening and further viewing when appropriate. It should be noted that some further reading lists rely on Internet-based resources, including *The Internet Movie Database* ([www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)) and *Wikipedia* (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>), the latter being a questionable source to include in a reference work bibliography.

Preceding the general index, artists are grouped within three helpful categories that provide additional means of access to the alphabetically listed profiles. They include: “Entries by Area of Activity,” “Entries by Year of Birth,” and “Entries by Ethnicity or Country of Origin.”

In the last three years, several encyclopedias on Latinos and Latino culture have been published. These include *Latinas in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia* (Indiana Univ. Pr., 2006), edited by Viki L. Ruiz and Virginia Sánchez Korrol; *Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, and Society in the United States* (Grolier Academic Reference, 2005), edited by Ilan Stavans; *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in*

## SOURCES

*the United States* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 2005), edited by Suzanne Oboler and Deena J. González; and *Encyclopedia of Latino Popular Culture* (Greenwood, 2004), edited by Cordelia Chávez Candelaria. All of these works provide entries for many of the more well-known figures included in *Latinos in the Arts*; however, *Latinos in the Arts* is unique among these publications in the number of profiles it provides for individuals in more obscure art-related fields and endeavors. For example, entries for art educators, museum curators and directors, weavers, video artists, *santeros*, and documentary filmmakers are plentiful in this resource. For this reason, *Latinos in the Arts* will be a useful addition to the reference collections of school, public, and undergraduate libraries.—Eileen Oliver, *Reference Librarian, San Antonio College Library, Texas*

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***The Lore of Ireland: An Encyclopedia of Myth, Legend, and Romance.*** By Dáithí Ó hÓgáin. Rochester, N.Y.: Boydell, 2007. 552p. \$47.95 (ISBN 1-84383-215-1).

There are reference books that can lead even a casual browser to a lifelong fascination with a subject. Some can even achieve this at a reasonable price. Dáithí Ó hÓgáin, associate professor of Irish folklore at University College Dublin and multimedia broadcaster, has added just such a work to his oeuvre of more than forty works on Irish life, history, and lore with this one-volume encyclopedia. More than 350 alphabetic entries run the gamut of subjects necessary to the work's ambitious scope, covering with equal weight actual historical and political figures (William of Orange, Patrick Sarsfield, Brian Bóramha), the creatures and common subjects of legend (banshee, giants, outlaws, pigs, hags), and broader topics and motifs (Irish language, human life, sports and pastimes). Cross-referenced entries range from a brief paragraph to five to six full pages and include sources. The majority of subjects are treated comprehensively, with great care paid to covering the origins, contexts, and chronological and thematic development of individual myths and legends. A "List of Genres" can help a researcher with chronology and broad category, as it sorts entries into ten broad categories, such as *fianna* lore, king lore, and romantic history, but a full subject index is lacking. A guide to the pronunciation of Irish-language entries and a bibliography complete the back matter.

This work serves as a complement to and provides deeper treatment of any shared entries from such works as Jo O'Donoghue and Sean McMahon's *Brewer's Dictionary of Irish Phrase and Fable* (Cassell, 2005). It lacks the contemporary coverage of this and other works, as befits its stated purpose. Libraries wishing to purchase more general reference materials on Ireland should first consider such comprehensive works as editor Brian Lalor's *The Encyclopedia of Ireland* (Yale, 2003).

This economical encyclopedia serves both the beginner and the scholar with authority. Recommended for any reference collection. Highly recommended for academic collections that support folklore, mythology, Irish studies, Gaelic,

or medieval studies programs.—Jenn B. Stidham, *Public Services Librarian, Houston Community College-Northeast, Texas*

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***Milestones in Archaeology: A Chronological Encyclopedia.*** By Tim Murray. Denver: ABC-Clio, 2007. 639p. alkaline \$95 (ISBN 978-1-57607-186-1).

*Milestones in Archaeology* by Tim Murray, a professor of archaeology at La Trobe University in Melbourne and editor of *The Encyclopedia of Archaeology* (ABC-Clio, 1999–2001), presents a chronological overview of the history of archaeology. Murray has attempted to present archaeology's "greatest hits" in a format that is "a middle ground between a straightforward work of reference . . . and an extended narrative of the history of archaeology" (xiv), his goal being "to explore different ways of communicating with both specialist and nonspecialist audiences" (xiv). In this he partially succeeds.

The volume comprises two hundred entries divided into three major chronological time periods, "Archaeology before 1800," "Archaeology in the Nineteenth Century," and "Archaeology in the Twentieth Century and Beyond." Each section begins with an essay that gives an overview and puts into historical context the themes that dominated archaeological thought and practice during that period. The entries themselves range from a few paragraphs to several pages and were chosen based on priority, influence on subsequent archaeological practice, and whether the field or area of practice was particularly influential. Well-known topics with substantial secondary literature often are more cursorily examined in order to give more space to other entries. There is a section of black-and-white maps that give the location of most of main sites mentioned in the text, a chronological list of the milestones included in the volume, and a comprehensive index. Bibliographical references are included at the end of each entry and essay.

Murray has chosen to select and write all of the essays and entries himself, which gives the entire text a uniformity of voice and philosophy. As he admits, all historiographies of archaeology are selective (one could argue that this is true of all scholarship), and therefore what is included and what is left out are necessarily a product of the author's own views and biases. For example, much of the recent work being done in Egypt, including the long-term projects at Abydos and on the Giza plateau, has not been individually covered, although the recent 2000 symposium at Giza did get its own entry. However, Murray does a fine job of including a wide range of topics that encompass the entire world of archaeology. The essays and entries themselves are clearly written in plain English and are accessible to most readers.

Murray's experiment with the "middle ground" is a little less successful. The strict chronological order of the volume does allow comparisons of the state of archaeology across the world at any one particular moment. However, this format also makes the history of archaeology in any one location difficult to follow because the entries are spread throughout the book. More problematic is the intended audience. Although