Materials accompanying the exhibition are marked with an asterisk (*).

**Primary Sources**


**Secondary Sources**


Books for Young Readers

From 1892 to 1954, Ellis Island was the gateway to a new life in the United States for millions of immigrants. In later years, the island was deserted, the buildings decaying. It opened to the public once again in 1990 as a museum. Learn more about America's history through the story of one of the most popular landmarks in the country.

In 1883, Emma Lazarus, deeply moved by an influx of immigrants from eastern Europe, wrote a sonnet that gave a voice to the Statue of Liberty. Originally a gift from France to celebrate our shared national struggles for liberty, the statue, thanks to Emma's poem, came to define us as a nation that welcomes immigrants.

Linda Granfield tells the story of four families who called 97 Orchard Street in New York City home, bringing to life conditions that were familiar to immigrants in many of North America’s big cities. The stories are beautifully complemented by photographs that evoke the hardship, the dignity, and the hope encompassed in 97 Orchard Street.

Through the stories of five immigrants, the world of New York City's tenements in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries comes alive with descriptions of the newcomers' struggles and triumphs as they attended night school, abandoned customs, or in other ways acclimated to life in America. Some came as children, others as teenagers, all eager either to succeed on their own or to help their families. The text is supported by numerous tinted, archival photos of living and working conditions.

Millions of people made the long journey to America in the early 1900s. They looked for freedom, safety, or the promise of a new life. Follow the waves of immigrants that flooded into the United States to see why they came and how they changed the country.

This biography traces Riis's life and his evolution as a progressive social reformer. As the United States still seems to be divided into the well off and the “other half,” this well-written book will challenge readers to contemplate the social structure of contemporary America and what can be done to continue progressive reforms. Numerous black-and-white photographs and excerpts from Riis's writings contribute to an insightful work.
This book follows a young person whose great-great-grandmother entered America through Ellis Island. As this young girl walks the halls of the famous site today, she wonders about the past, the people, and their hopes, dreams, and challenges.

From a basket of old clothes, Anna's babushka, Uncle Vladimir's shirt, Aunt Havalah's nightdress, and Aunt Natasha's apron become *The Keeping Quilt*, passed along from mother to daughter for almost a century, beginning with a first-generation migrant from Russia. For four generations the quilt is a Sabbath tablecloth, a wedding canopy, and a blanket that welcomes babies warmly into the world.

At once deeply personal yet expressing universally held emotions, this tale of one man’s love for two countries and his constant desire to be in both places captures readers’ attention and hearts. Beautifully illustrated by Say, the book was the recipient of the Caldecott Medal for illustration in 1994.

This imaginative graphic novel captures the sense of adventure and wonder that surrounds a new arrival on the shores of a shining new city. Wordless, but with perfect narrative flow, Tan gives us a masterfully rendered tale about the immigrant experience.

*Yaccarino, Dan. All the Way to America: The Story of a Big Italian Family and a Little Shovel. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011. (Age 8–11)
Dan Yaccarino’s great-grandfather arrived at Ellis Island with a small shovel and his parents’ good advice: “Work hard, but remember to enjoy life, and never forget your family.” Yaccarino recounts how the little shovel was passed down through four generations in a big Italian family.
Film

YOU MUST OBTAIN A LICENSE/PERMISSION TO LEGALLY SCREEN MOST FILMS

Neither the rental, purchase nor lending of a film carries the right to exhibit it publicly, unless the site where the video is used is properly licensed for copyright compliance. The movie studios who own copyrights, and their agents, are the only parties authorized to license sites. Copyrighted movies borrowed from sources such as libraries, personal collections, etc. cannot be used for showing in colleges/universities or any other site that is not properly licensed.

Contact the film distributor (listed under film titles) in advance of your screening to obtain a license or permission. For crowds of less than 200 people, a one-time screening license is typically between $150 and $350.

PBS will often allow videos to be shown in a classroom or screened for educational purposes when no admission is charged for the viewing. The transmission must be closed circuit in a single building and you are not allowed to duplicate or alter the program for any purpose or distribute it.

The year 1900 sees a huge wave of immigrants—over a half-million people—arriving in the United States. With nearly three million residents, almost one-third of them foreign-born, New York is America's largest city and the second largest in the world.

Obtain Right to Screen: Call PBS at 1-800-424-7963

Dramatic and intimate stories trace photography's role as a recorder of public events, family historian, vehicle for artistic expression, and tool for influencing public opinion. The program captures the images of a century of change in this country and the role the camera has played both in creating and documenting it.

Obtain Right to Screen: Call PBS at 1-800-424-7963

Five immigrant teenagers come together during the school year at the International High School as they struggle to learn their new land in this documentary about immigration in the twenty-first century.


Pay or Die. Richard Wilson, director. (Allied Artists, 1960)
Set in the early twentieth-century in New York City, this story is based on the actual account of New York Police Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino, an Italian American police detective who earned the respect of the immigrants in Little Italy and formed the Italian Squad of the police department in 1905 to battle “The Black Hand,” the old Sicilian term for the Mafia.
Based on E.L. Doctorow’s best-selling novel set in the New York City area from 1902 until 1912, Ragtime weaves together the stories of both fictional and historically prominent characters such as Stanford White, Evelyn Nesbit, Harry Houdini, and Booker T. Washington.

Obtain Right to Screen: call (323) 956-5000 and ask for the Repertory/Non Theatrical Department