

# Research Guides



## BIOGRAPHY

ADULT REFERENCE – 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR

**American Inventors, Entrepreneurs, and Business Visionaries - R 920 Car**

Focuses on individuals from the 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries who helped change the American economy.

**Almanac of Famous People - R 920.02 Alm**

Provides very short entries for “33,000...newsmakers from Biblical times to the present.” Includes birth and death *dates* (most sources provide only years), reason for fame and other bibliographic sources about the subject, as well as date, year, geographic, and occupation indexes.

**Butler’s Lives of the Saints - R 922.22 But**

First published more than 200 years ago, the New Full Edition is divided into 12 volumes – one for each month. Volume 12, December, contains an alphabetical index directing the reader to the appropriate volume/month via the saint’s name and day.

**New Dictionary of Scientific Biography - R 925 New**

This 8-volume set profiles pioneers of science from antiquity through the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

**Dewey Decimal browsing numbers: 920 - 928**

In addition to reference books, you may want to search for other books and materials (videos, audiobooks, etc.). Encyclopedias are good sources as well as the Biography section of the collection here in the Library. Look in two basic ways; ie, Mickey Mantle may show up in *biography* **and** in *baseball*. Access the Library’s catalog from the Library or home by going to [www.wtpl.org](http://www.wtpl.org). A good **subject** search for a biography might be **Keats, John** or **Washington, George**, for example.

### EBOOKS

Visit **EBSCOhost** ([www.wtpl.org/research](http://www.wtpl.org/research)) or <https://wtpl.overdrive.com> to search the thousands of eBooks the Library has to offer. Library card required. Contact an Adult Services Librarian for additional details.

## ARTICLES

The following sources can be used to find magazine and newspaper articles about American politics.

- EBSCOhost, General OneFile - Access from the Library or at home using your library card number at [www.wtpl.org/research](http://www.wtpl.org/research). Search for full-text articles in these online databases using your choice of keywords. You can limit the search to a certain year or even a certain magazine.

## WEB SITES

**Biography.com:** An offshoot of the Biography Channel, this site details over 25,000 lives.  
[www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com)

**Infoplease People:** More than 30,000 biographies. Categories for politics, science, sports, recent deaths and others. [www.infoplease.com/people.html](http://www.infoplease.com/people.html)

**Library Spot's Biography:** Search by type; ie, artists, athletes, authors, etc, or by ethnicity.  
<http://www.libraryspot.com/biographies>

**PBS Biographies:** From PBS' *Frontline*, includes "American Masters," "Ken Burns' American Stories," and "American Masters." Supplements these programs by including person-specific timelines, primary sources and instructional guides for teachers.  
[www.pbs.org/topics/history/biographies](http://www.pbs.org/topics/history/biographies)