

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910467783503321
Autore	Sollors Werner
Titolo	Challenges of diversity : essays on America // Werner Sollors
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, New Jersey : , : Rutgers University Press, , 2017
ISBN	0-8135-8934-7 0-8135-8935-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Disciplina	810.9/358
Soggetti	National characteristics, American, in literature American literature - History and criticism Multiculturalism in literature Ethnicity in literature Race in literature Immigrants in literature HISTORY / United States / General LITERARY CRITICISM / American / African American LITERARY CRITICISM / American / General SOCIAL SCIENCE / Discrimination & Race Relations SOCIAL SCIENCE / Ethnic Studies / African American Studies SOCIAL SCIENCE / Ethnic Studies / General Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Challenges of Diversity -- Introduction -- 1. Literature and Ethnicity -- 2. National Identity and Ethnic Diversity -- 3. Dedicated to a Proposition -- 4. A Critique of Pure Pluralism -- 5. The Multiculturalism Debate as Cultural Text -- Notes -- Acknowledgments -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	What unites and what divides Americans as a nation? Who are we, and can we strike a balance between an emphasis on our divergent ethnic origins and what we have in common? Opening with a survey of American literature through the vantage point of ethnicity, Werner

Sollors examines our evolving understanding of ourselves as an Anglo-American nation to a multicultural one and the key role writing has played in that process. *Challenges of Diversity* contains stories of American myths of arrival (pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, slave ships at Jamestown, steerage passengers at Ellis Island), the powerful rhetoric of egalitarian promise in the Declaration of Independence and the heterogeneous ends to which it has been put, and the recurring tropes of multiculturalism over time (*e pluribus unum*, melting pot, cultural pluralism). Sollors suggests that although the transformation of this settler country into a polyethnic and self-consciously multicultural nation may appear as a story of great progress toward the fulfillment of egalitarian ideals, deepening economic inequality actually exacerbates the divisions among Americans today.
