

CELEBRATING
40
YEARS
TADA!
Original Youth Theater

**A Musical
Time Travel Adventure**

The History Mystery

**Book by
Janine Nina Trevens**

**Music by Lyrics by
Eric Rockwell Margaret Rose**

**Director: Janine Nina Trevens
Choreographer: Kim Grier-Martinez
Musical Director: Emmanuel Vidales
Scenic Designer: Joel Sherry
Costume Designer: L.A. Clevenson
Lighting Designer: Bryan Ealey
Production Stage Manager: Ashley Knowles
Production Supervisor: Jeremiah Dude
Assistant Stage Manager: Calvin Lyte Jr.**

**TADA!'s
TIME TRAVELERS' TOOLKIT**

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ABOUT TADA!

WHAT IS TADA! YOUTH THEATER?

TADA! Youth Theater's mission since 1984 has been to provide young people from different social, racial, economic, and cultural backgrounds with musical theater programs that inspire them to learn to be creative, and think differently through high-quality productions, positive youth development and education programs.

TADA!'s vision is that all young people grow up feeling successful, creative, confident, accepted, and accepting of themselves. Through learning the ability to express themselves, we believe that people can break down barriers of racism and inequality and create positive active citizens.

TADA! is a "non-profit" company, which means we rely on the generous donations of our supporters to support our vision. We abide by a set of regulations that all non-profit companies follow, like having an amazing Board of Directors that help support all of TADA!'s operations.

For 40 years TADA! has provided opportunities for tens of thousands of New York City children, teens, and families to learn from, be enthralled by, and be inspired through the arts.

100
Productions

186k+
Audience Members

1722k+
Educational Arts Programs

852k+
Participants in Programs

PLOT SUMMARY

WHAT IS THE HISTORY MYSTERY ABOUT?

The History Mystery is a musical about a trio of history-hating teens that travel throughout time and encounter important historical figures and events. The show begins with students in an average NYC public high school study room, and Steven, who loves studying, learning, and above all else, American History. Marty, Toni, and Jenny are shocked that his favorite subject is history. The three of them sing about how they don't understand why they have to study history, given that it is all seemingly boring information about things that happened long ago. While Steven tries to point out that there's so much more to "history" than just reading about it in books, Jenny says that so much of history is about "old white men" and that there isn't really a point to study it. Steven encourages the three to picture some of these people in their mind. While they do, they begin to imagine if they could travel back in time and meet them when they were young. And with a snap of Steven's fingers, they do exactly that.

At first, the three land in different locations and times. Toni with a young Benjamin Franklin; Marty with young Orville and Wilbur Wright; and Jenny with young Laura Ingalls. The three travelers marvel at the young historic figures, all of whom have yet to accomplish what made them famous. The historical figures sing about the things they dream about - writing stories, flying through the air, creating light - and the travelers encourage them to follow those dreams. As long as they continue to imagine it, they might be able to achieve it. Toni begins to think about where she would want to go next and the three are whisked away.

Reunited, the three realize that they're back in NYC...just NOT the NYC they're familiar with. It's 1885, and the trio watches a group of suffragettes march and call for their right to vote. Toni reminds Marty throughout time, even to the present day, women have had to fight for their rights. When she begins talking to a girl who isn't participating, she realizes that she is talking to a young Eleanor Roosevelt. She has not yet joined the movement because her grandmother is scared she might end up in jail like some of the other suffragettes. Toni tells Eleanor that sometimes bravery is about doing something even though you're scared. When the leader of the suffragettes calls to Eleanor, she goes with them, leaving the three travelers to think about where to go next. Marty imagines who he would want to meet, and the three travel away.

The travelers land in a segregated park in Atlanta, GA, in 1938. They watch a group of black youths playing kickball. The ball goes over the fence to a group of white youths. Despite the protests of the others, the youngest black boy says he will go get it from them. The white students are mean to him, telling him he's not allowed on their side of the park.

PLOT SUMMARY

WHAT IS THE HISTORY MYSTERY ABOUT?

Marty tells Toni and Jenny about how life was different in the 1930s for people of color, especially in the South. The white youths refuse to give the young boy his ball back, and demand he leave their playground empty handed. Marty talks to him and tells him he knows it's not fair. The two talk about how the country was founded on the idea that all people were created equal. The boy is called away by his mother, at which point Toni and Jenny realize who they've been watching - a young Martin Luther King, Jr.. Marty wishes he could watch more, and the three are taken to Washington D.C. 1963, where now adult MLK is the head of the civil rights movement, and gives a speech on freedom and equal rights, sharing similar sentiments that Marty told the younger him. When Jenny says it's her turn and begins to imagine where she would want to go, the three are moved through time again.

In California, 1942, the three crash into a swing dancing party in a school gym. They join in on the dancing and singing for a moment, before watching as a young Japanese girl, Anna, enters the party and finds her friends. Anna sadly tells her friends that she has to go away, because the government is putting her and her family into a camp because they're Japanese. Her friends talk about how confused they are about her being sent away, especially because her parents are both U.S. citizens and Anna herself was born in America. The three talk about how this kind of thing should never happen in the U.S. and have a tearful goodbye. Jenny reveals that Anna is her great grandmother, and even though she doesn't want her to go, she might cease to exist if her great grandmother doesn't go to the camp. Her great grandmother met her great grandfather at the camp. Jenny talks to Anna, letting her know that she knows it's scary and bad that she's being sent away, but that she never knows what might come from it. Anna thanks her before leaving to go join her family. The three wonder about where to go next, when Steven appears, and with a snap of a finger, they are taken away.

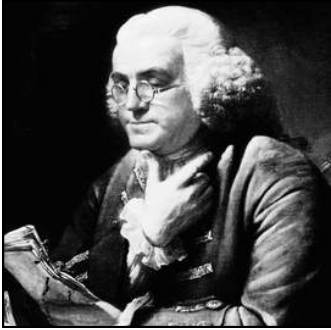
The trio of time travelers land in a place beyond time - A Room of Words, where they are surrounded by documents and writings that detail the freedoms of U.S. citizens - the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, 19th Amendment, the Emancipation Proclamation, and more. The three begin to realize that history is more than just reading and "memorizing," but rather it is the story of everyone who has come before them to shape the world they live in now. The whole cast of characters and historical figures come together and sing about how it is up to "you and me", living in the present moment, to build the future of the world we want to live in.

PLOT SUMMARY

THE HISTORY MYSTERY TIMELINE

Having a hard time remembering all the places, time, and people that Jenny, Marty, and Toni travel to? No worries. Here's a timeline of everywhere they go and everyone they meet!

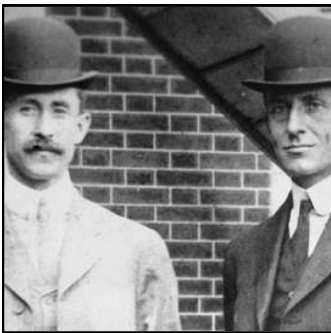
1700



**1720
Boston, MA**
Toni's first stop is with young inventor Benjamin Franklin.



**~1878
Walnut Grove, MN**
Jenny's first stop is with young Laura Ingalls.



**1883
Dayton, OH**
Marty's first stop is with the Wright Brothers.



**1895
New York, NY**
The groups first stop together is with the suffragettes and Eleanor Roosevelt.



**1938
Atlanta, GA**
The second group stop is on a segregated playground.

**1942
California**
The final stop is in California, where Jenny meets her great grandmother at a swing dance before she is sent away to an internment camp.



**1963
Washington D.C.**
The three travel to watch MLK as an adult and head of the civil rights movement.

2024

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH JANINE NINA TREVENS

I was so lucky to sit down with the co-founder and Executive and Producing Artistic Director of TADA!. Nina was also the book-writer of *The History Mystery*. We were able to chat about what it was like to create *The History Mystery*, what it means to her, and what she hopes people take away from seeing it!



Executive and Producing Artistic Director of TADA! Youth Theater, Nina Trevens

It might seem like a silly place to start. But, Nina...tell me about yourself! Who are you? What is your connection to TADA!?

My name is Janine Nina Trevens. I started TADA! in 1984 with a choreographer friend of mine, Linda Reiff, to give young actors a place to explore and hone their craft by being in original musical productions for family audiences. But I think of myself as more than the founder and Producing Artistic Director of TADA!. I really love writing musicals. I've written...6 musicals for TADA!! *The History Mystery* is one of my favorites.

So you're both the book writer and the director of this show. Tell me more about that. What is it like working on a show like that? How is it different from working on other shows?

I like directing shows I wrote. As a writer I get to listen to the actors during rehearsal, so I can adjust dialogue right there in the moment. In general, in theater, you don't just change the actors lines...you can't change with what is written without checking with the playwright first. But with a show I've written...I can just check with myself! Sometimes it can be hard. I've written these characters the way I see them in my head. But with *The History Mystery*, it's a little bit different, because there's some historical characters. There's qualities we know about them as adults and I've written it for them to be performed as youths, by young actors. With the characters that are not specifically based off of historical people, I can let the actors add more qualities and characteristics in. Theater is very collaborative in that way.

I have to ask just because I'm curious...why is it named *The History MYSTERY*?

So much about history is trying to...understand it. The mystery behind it is why it happened. You have to understand it in order to make sure that it does or does not repeat itself, depending on the outcome you want. You have to explore and learn. I think we all deep down naturally want to know "why" things happen. We see that with social media now. Everyone is naturally so interested and curious in everyone else. It's all about "what's going on" and "who's doing what." I think we all have the desire to try and understand what is happening, where it's happening, and why it's happening.

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH JANINE NINA TREVENS

This is a show about Time Traveling, so let's do a little bit of Time Travel ourselves! What was it like creating this show? How was it different from the production going up today in 2024?

I loved collaborating with Eric and Margaret on the creation of *The History Mystery*. The three of us worked together to figure out the plot points. It was very collaborative, especially when we re-wrote the piece after the first production. Initially there were five travelers and they were on a train traveling to Washington D.C. and it was the train conductor that sent them to different places in time. They met Betsy Ross, Thomas Jefferson, Jonas Salk, prospectors panning for gold...*(Nina consults a program from 1995)*...we had a batter and a beggar...I'm not sure what that was about *(laughing)*!



THE HISTORY MYSTERY A MUSICAL TIME TRAVEL ADVENTURE	
Directed by Janine Nina Trevens Musical & Vocal Direction by Eric Rockwell Choreography by Linda Reiff	
Scenic Design by Richard Schaefer Costume Design by Shelley Norton Lighting Design by A.C. Hickox	
Piano	Eric Rockwell
Synthesizer	Gary Bagley
Drumset	Keith Coggi
THE HISTORY MYSTERY is performed without an intermission.	
References, TADA's Greatest Hits audio tapes, t-shirts, hats, posters, ballpoint and buttons are sold in the lobby.	
This program is supported in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.	
CAST	
TRAVELERS	
Tom	Brian Dora Atwell
Janie	Lyle Marshall
Mari	Leonard A. Overgaard III
Sherry	Yvonne Kim
Frank	Giulio David West
ON THE AMTRAK TRAIN	
Conductor	Emmanuel Wilson
Daphne	Nathalie Duncan
John	Doraine Ross
Melissa	Jai-Lan Shih
Stacey	Stanley Ross
TRAVEL SCENES	
Passer #1	Bobby Lages
Passer #2	Victor Lopez III
Bobby Ross	Doraine Ross
Betty	Stanley Ross
Butler	Stanley Ross
Bugger	Janaka Colaneri
Depression Kid	Elizabeth Gosson, Nicole Merrill, Jai-Lan Shih, Thomas Jefferson
Emmanuel Wilson	Emmanuel Wilson
THE PARK, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, 1788	
Karin	Janaka Colaneri
James	Stanley Ross
Russ	Nathalie Duncan
Marie Lathers King, Jr. (Age 8)	Janie Trevens
Bob	Bobby Lages
Ellie	Nicole Merrill
Kim	Elizabeth Gosson
Paul	Stanley Ross
Tim	Victor Lopez III
Lisa	Nathalie Duncan
Richard's Wife	Nathalie Duncan
Marie Lathers King, Jr. (Adult)	Emmanuel Wilson
NEW YORK CITY, 1811	
Louise	Alexandria Wain
Members	Nathalie Duncan, Elizabeth Gosson, Doraine Ross, Nicole Merrill, Doraine Ross, Jai-Lan Shih, Matthew Young
Snack	Matthew Young
THE INVENTORS	
James Salk	Stanley Ross
Benjamin Franklin	Bobby Lages
Civilis Wright	Victor Lopez III
Wilbur Wright	Janaka Colaneri
BANK AT THE GYM, 1986	
Diane	Nicole Merrill
Janey	Matthew Young
Janie	Doraine Ross
Hans	Bobby Lages
Shak'Up Sings	Stanley Ross
Tracy	Nicole Merrill, Jai-Lan Shih, Matthew Young
Tracy	Nathalie Duncan, Stanley Ross
Tracy	Emmanuel Wilson, Alexandria Wain

Scans of the original 1995 playbill for *The History Mystery*

Sounds like you've changed the show quite a bit! How often do you update or revise it?

Every time we do a production of it we update the dialogue for various reasons. Because it starts off in the present, the "modern day" is different every time we do it, so it starts in a different year. Which would require its own kind of language update. The scene that has probably changed the most each time is the Eleanor Roosevelt and Toni scene. When we did it in 2016 (when Hillary Clinton was running for president), we updated the scene to have Toni say "One day, a woman will run for president." I hope soon we can change the line to "One day, a woman will be elected president."

I feel like I've just got to ask, given what the show is about...is there sometime you would want to travel to or someone you would want to meet?

It's funny because I've been asked this before. I'm not sure I have a great answer. If I had to pick from the show, I would say Eleanor Roosevelt. I really loved writing her (and Toni, she was really easy to write for me). I think if she were alive today she would make a fantastic president. I have to be honest I don't know if I would want to go back in time...or the future. I grew up loving Star Trek, but it all just seems scary. To go back or to go forward. There's so much that would be different. And I'm too much of a strong independent woman, so going into the past where that was less accepted would be very very difficult.

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH JANINE NINA TREVENS

I can totally see that. It might be hard to recall, but could you tell me about what inspired you to write *The History Mystery*?

I don't remember the exact inspiration behind it...I can say that the thing I like about writing is being able to tell stories. I had a real problem in school in that I struggled with tests. To this day, anything that is timed or if there's any kind of restrictions or limits, my mind kind of freezes. I love learning though, and still do. But for school, a lot of the joy in learning or the discovery in learning, I didn't experience. Which is why I love telling these stories in *The History Mystery*. I think it's hard right now to feel that America is the country that is living up to our expectations of what the Founding Fathers thought it would be or could be. And I think it's important to appreciate creative people...people who think differently. Inventors! It can be hard to appreciate those kinds of people because they are different, but if we didn't have them...the world would be so different. We wouldn't have as many stories to read or watch in movies and TV. We would not be able to travel from one place to another so quickly...I don't think anyone could imagine not having our cell phones. Imagine not having pretty much all of history at your fingertips. And I'm old, but not that old! I remember when there was only three TV stations and one phone line in our house. For some reason people are treated badly for being different. Thinking differently. I hope that's one thing that people will walk away from *The History Mystery* with. That thinking differently and being different is good!

I love that message. I know one of the reasons you like doing this show is because of the relevance it can have around important times in U.S. History...like with an upcoming election.

Can you talk about what you're hoping people will walk away from *The History Mystery* with?

I think it's important to realize that...like they say in the show, "it's up to you and me to make history." And I love that kids are the ones saying it. I think there's a lot of negative things that are happening in this country and the world, and things that also happen on a personal level. There are things we wish we can go back and change in our lives, but you can't. You can't go back. You can move forward and change what you do, with the people around you. One of the things I really like about *The History Mystery* is that it shows how you can be influenced by people you meet throughout your life. And I think it's important to remember that we all have that power - to influence people in a positive way, and to make positive changes in the world. So you can do that on a political level by voting or talking about your view or running for office, but it doesn't have to happen only when an election is happening. You can write a book, compose music, tell stories, share ideas...that can happen every day. And that's what can change the world. That's what history is made of!



INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH ERIC ROCKWELL

I was so fortunate to be able to chat with long time member of the TADA! Youth Theater family, Eric Rockwell, who was also wrote the music for The History Mystery. I was able to ask him about creating The History Mystery, what he'd do with a time machine, and more!

Eric! Let's start with an introduction. Tell me about yourself.

Who are you? What is your relationship with TADA!.

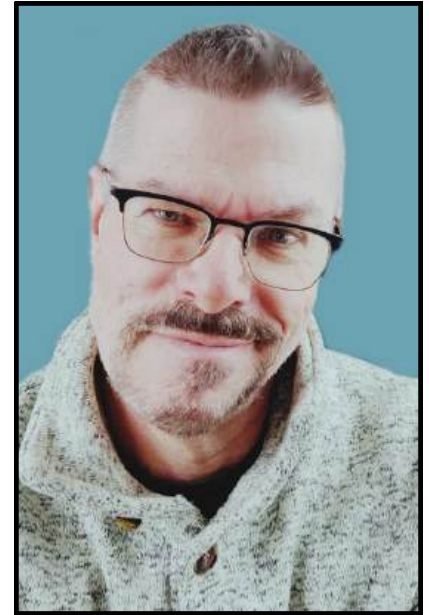
I first got involved with TADA! back in the 90's, when I became the Resident Music Director. For several years, I enjoyed teaching there, in addition to composing scores for many of their musicals. I'm retired now, but look back fondly on my career in the theater, in which TADA! played a major part.

You wrote the music to The History Mystery. Tell me more about that. What did your duties include in the initial production. What are they now with this current production - if any?

In addition to composing the score, I was music director for that production. That meant I got to teach the songs to the cast and assemble and rehearse the band. But the biggest job in creating a new musical is collaborating with your fellow writers to shape the story and determine how the songs are going to fit in it. This was early in my career as a musical theater composer, and I learned a lot from it!

Tell me about the origins of this show. What made you want to work on it?

There were many reasons I wanted to work on a time-travel musical for kids, the main one being to bring history alive. When I was growing up, I was a good student, but found history a rather dry subject. And then, in 7th grade, I had a teacher, Mr. Herrington, who was able to present history in a really engaging way. From then on, I was hooked. My hope as we began working on this show was that maybe it could do for our audiences what Mr. Herrington did for me.



*Composer and former resident
TADA! Music Director
Eric Rockwell*

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH ERIC ROCKWELL

In a similar vein, how is The History Mystery different from other shows you've worked on in your career?

Most shows are set in one time period. For the composer, that informs the style of the music for the whole score. This show is very different, because there are many time periods, which allowed me to create a score with multiple musical styles: from ragtime, to swing, to contemporary.

It is surely difficult to choose, but is there a scene or song that is your favorite from the show? Has it changed over the years?

There are so many memorable moments in this show, but the high point for me is the song that comes at the end, "Making History Today." In a show that travels through some very dark times, it's satisfying that the lesson learned from them is so upbeat and positive.

I have to ask - because this is a show about time travel...where (or when, I suppose) would you want to travel to? Is there a place, time, person, you would want to go to?

Oh, if I had a Time Machine there are all sorts of people from the past I'd like to meet, and places from the past I'd like to visit. But I wouldn't want to live there! I find life is pretty satisfying in the here and now!

One of the reasons why TADA! loves to produce The History Mystery is because of the relevance it has to our society. The themes about writing and making history and shaping the world we want to live in. Can you talk to that? What themes or messages do you hope people will cling to after they see The History Mystery?

The theme I hope people will take away from this show is beautifully stated in this lyric: "In everything we do, and in everything we say, you and I are making history today." Whether it's creating something, or making someone laugh, or helping a friend, you can play a part in making this a better world.

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH KIM GRIER-MARTINEZ

I was so excited I got the chance to talk to dancer, choreographer, teaching artist, and activist Kim Grier-Martinez, who is the choreographer for The History Mystery. We got to talk about her, what her involvement with the production has been, and what the story means to her!

Hi Kim! I am so glad I got the chance to talk to you. Why don't we start easy. Can you introduce yourself, and the kind of work you do?

My name is Kim Grier-Martinez. I am a cisgender Black woman, dance artist, and activist with several decades of experience as a teaching artist. I serve as the Artistic Director of the Rod Rodgers Dance Company, and founded the Youth Program two decades ago. I am also the choreographer for TADA!'s The History Mystery and work as a teaching artist in the Education Department.



*Dancer, Choreographer,
Teaching Artist, and Activist
Kim Grier-Martinez*

You were the choreographer on this show. Can you talk about that? What does a choreographer do?

As the choreographer, I create original dance numbers and direct the dance elements of the production, collaborating closely with the director and creative team to convey the show's vision.

The History Mystery features a lot of different time periods with different musical styles. What was it like choreographing the musical numbers for each period? How did it change your process?

It was exciting to choreograph the musical numbers for each period. The varied musical styles enhance the show and help connect audiences to their own experiences—you'll definitely leave humming a tune. This diversity challenges us to explore the stylistic aspects of language and movement. My process adapts to the needs of the young artists, ensuring that the choreography resonates with their understanding of the movements while connecting to the music and lyrics. If adjustments are needed, I make them to maintain that connection.

INTERVIEW

AN INTERVIEW WITH KIM GRIER-MARTINEZ

How was choreographing this show different from other shows you've choreographed at TADA!?

The message of the show is unique, with contrasting tunes that enhance the storytelling. The young artists offered a fresh interpretation that will add depth to the performances. Their innovative approach will bring new insights to the themes presented.

Did you have a favorite number you choreographed and why?

I did not have a favorite number to choreograph; rather, I believe it's crucial to give each number equal importance. It's essential to dig deep into the concept and meaning behind each piece, exploring the 'why' to inspire the actors. When they understand the significance, they can internalize it and become genuinely excited about their involvement.

One of the reasons why TADA! loves to produce *The History Mystery* is because of the relevance it has to our society. The themes are about writing and making history and shaping the world we want to live in. Can you talk to that? What themes or messages do you hope people will cling too after they see *The History Mystery*?

It is essential to explore history to highlight its misdeeds and achievements, connecting them to today's world to foster progress for the future. I hope that after experiencing *The History Mystery*, viewers recognize the importance of every individual's story and feel empowered to be seen and heard. Additionally, striving for a more inclusive and just society is crucial. Remember, your vote matters!

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...BENJAMIN FRANKLIN?

QUICK FACTS

OCCUPATION: Writer, Politician, Inventor, Scientist

BORN: January 17, 1706 in Boston, Massachusetts

DIED: April 17, 1790 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

KNOWN FOR: Benjamin Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the U.S. who played a key role in the American Revolution and is commonly associated with his experimentation with electricity.

FUN FACT: He is the only Founding Father that signed all four documents that led to the creation of the U.S - the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the peace treaty with Great Britain in 1783, and the United States Constitution.

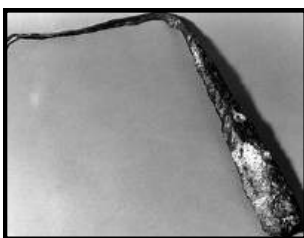


Painting of Founding Father and inventor, Benjamin Franklin by Joseph Duplessis, 1778

BIOGRAPHY

Benjamin Franklin was born on a chilly night in Boston, Massachusetts. His mother was Abiah Franklin and his father was Josiah Franklin. He was the youngest son and 15th of 17 children - can you imagine? His family did not have a lot of money, so he only ended up having two formal years of schooling. Outside of school, Ben loved to read and write and study on his own (does this remind you of a character from *The History Mystery?*). When he was 12, he went to work for his older brother, James Franklin, at a printing press - a place where they would use big wooden machines, to make newspapers and books. All throughout his life, Ben was interested in science and literature. After work, it's said that he would stay up late by candlelight, reading classic literature and works of other writers of his time. After working for his brother for many years, in his early 20s, he started his own printing press, where he would publish his own writings.

Ben was known as one of the brightest scientific minds of his time. Seeing a lightning bolt strike a tall building and start a fire made him wonder if there were ways to prevent it. He had the idea to put a long metal pole at the top of buildings to attract lightning to it and disperse it safely, instead of onto the building. This was one of his first inventions - the lightning rod. Some of his other inventions from his life included glasses called bifocals, the Franklin Stove which helped warm houses in a safe way during the winter, and the Glass Harmonica.



Top portion of a lightning rod



Cast iron Franklin Stove



Glass Harmonica

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...BENJAMIN FRANKLIN?

During his midlife, and in the early years of the United States (before it was even called that), Ben played a key role as an ambassador to Great Britain. He was the spokesman for several of the 13 colonies through the French and Indian War, the results of which left many colonists unhappy and played a part in the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He spent decades traveling back and forth between Europe. Despite being 70 when the Revolutionary War officially began, he dove into his work. He traveled to France and was instrumental in convincing them to join and support the U.S.. Ben stayed in France through the end of the war and was sent to negotiate the peace treaty with Great Britain.

Ben returned to the U.S. in September 1785, where he was hailed as a hero of the Revolutionary War. He served as a member of the Constitutional Convention, who wrote the United States Constitution. He spent his final years in Philadelphia, and wasn't taking any breaks! From inventing a device to retrieve books down off of tall bookshelves, to writing essays and petitions to Congress to abolish slavery (though he himself was a slave owner early in his life before becoming a vocal member of the abolitionist movement), Ben stayed busy. He passed away on April 17, 1790, age 84, in Philadelphia.

From being a champion of liberty to one of the greatest inventors of his time, Benjamin Franklin is remembered as a brilliant scientific mind and a fierce defender of freedom.



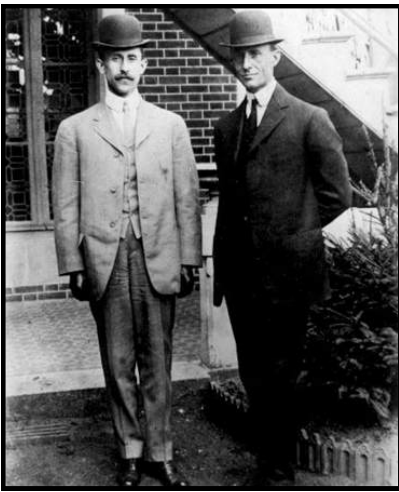
Benjamin Franklin Drawing Electricity from the Sky - painting by Benjamin West, on display at the Philadelphia Museum of Art

Benjamin Franklin - a painting by John Ward Dunsmore



HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WERE...ORVILLE & WILBUR WRIGHT?



Orville and Wilbur Wright posing for a camera in 1909

QUICK FACTS

OCCUPATION: Inventor, Printer, Publisher, Bicycle Manufacturer, Pilot Instructor

BORN: Wilbur was born April 16, 1867 near Millville, Indiana. Orville was born August 19, 1871 in Dayton, Ohio.

DIED: Wilbur passed away May 30, 1912 in Dayton, Ohio. Orville passed away January 30, 1948 in Dayton, Ohio.

KNOWN FOR: Being the two brothers that invented the earliest models of the airplane. They were the first ones to design and control a "heavier than air" flight vessel ever. Some of the features they created are still used on airplanes today!

FUN FACT: Because their dad made them promise to never fly together for fear of a double tragedy should an accident happen, they only flew together once, after the duo convinced their father to give them permission. After, Orville took his dad on an almost 7 minute flight, going almost 350 feet in the air, and where his father is said to have called to him saying "Higher, Orville, higher!"

BIOGRAPHY

From a young age, the Wright Brothers dreamed of flying. One of their favorite toys was a small helicopter-like object that was powered by rubber bands...definitely not the same toys we grew up with! Wilbur and Orville were 2 of 7 children. Their mother, Susan Catherine Koener-Wright, and their father Milton Wright, a bishop and traveling clergyman, encouraged all their children to read and ask questions about the things that interested them. Because of their father's work, they moved often, before returning and permanently landing in Dayton, Ohio where they grew up.

As young men, the two started a newspaper, and after a few years stopped that and opened a shop to repair and build bicycles. Throughout all of this, the duo never lost their love of flying. In 1899, the two began to design, experiment, and build their own aircraft. It's said they even studied how birds fly to help their own designs. Finally in 1900, the brothers moved to Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, where they began to conduct experiments on their flights. They felt like the sandy ocean dunes of Kitty Hawk, which were regularly windy, and had a built-in sandy cushion in case of a crash landing, was the perfect place to work.

By 1903, the duo had constructed their first version of an airplane, which they called the Wright Flyer I and featured wooden propellers and a gasoline engine. For weeks, the brothers conducted several unsuccessful flight attempts. Finally the plane flew for 12 seconds on December 17, 1903, Orville driving it, and traveled a whopping 120 feet before finally landing. They flew several more times that day, each of them getting a little bit longer and going a little bit farther.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WERE...ORVILLE & WILBUR WRIGHT?



The Wright brothers testing the early models of their airplane in Kitty Hawk, NC. Something tells me they didn't serve very many complimentary snacks on this flight!

The brothers kept their invention secret for several years while they worked on patenting the technology they created for it, only officially unveiling it in 1908 to the public (not including a handful of private showings between 1903 and 1907). The two would travel around the world and share their invention, while continuing to modify their design and improve on it.

Both Wilbur and Orville never got married and were busy with the amount of legal work that went into protecting their patent. Wilbur traveled around Europe in the year leading up to his death, dealing with a variety of business affairs. When he returned to the U.S., he was constantly traveling between New York, Washington, and Dayton, which was taking a toll on him. When on a business trip in Boston, he fell ill, and after returning to Dayton, he was diagnosed with typhoid fever. After several days of battling the illness, he passed away in the Wright family home on May 30, 1912, at the age of 45. Orville continued to run the Wright Company after Wilbur's death for many years before selling the company. He was a pillar in the aviation community, sitting on official boards including the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), and Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce (ACCA). Orville died at the age of 76 on January 30, 1948 in Dayton, OH.

The Wright brothers' legacy lives long beyond both of their deaths. The brothers lived through a transformative period of science and inventions and to this day we have them to thank for revolutionizing the aviation industry.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...LAURA INGALLS-WILDER?

QUICK FACTS

OCCUPATION: Writer, Teacher, Journalist

BORN: February 7, 1867 near Pepin, Wisconsin

DIED: February 10, 1957 in Mansfield, Missouri, U.S.

KNOWN FOR: Being a writer and journalist who wrote stories about her childhood growing up in the pioneer life in the midwest U.S., her most famous collection of books being known as the "*Little House on the Prairie*" series, which have become classics in children's literature and been the inspiration for movies and TV shows.

FUN FACT: While Laura was an accomplished writer all throughout the later part of her life, the first novel she ever wrote, "Pioneer Girl," was turned down by a number of publishers in 1931, and wasn't officially published until 84 years after she had written it.



Laura Ingalls-Wilder, circa 1885, around age 18

BIOGRAPHY

In the old midwest frontier, Laura Elizabeth Ingalls was born near Pepin, Wisconsin. Her mother was Caroline Lake-Ingalls and her father was Charles Phillip Ingalls. In her youth, Laura's family moved around quite a bit, her family looking for a place to settle and land to farm, experiencing all the harshness that nature had to offer - blizzards, droughts, grasshopper plagues, and more. The Ingall family lived in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, and North Dakota, before finally settling in De Smet, South Dakota.

At age 15, in 1885, Laura began working as a teacher in different county schools to help support her family. While later she would admit that she did not love working as a teacher, she felt the need to contribute to supporting her family, and the money she earned helped her sister Mary attend a college for the blind. When she was 18, she met and married her husband, Almanzo J. Wilder. Their first daughter, and only surviving child, Rose, was born in December of 1886.

The first few years of their marriage were difficult. Almanzo contracted a disease that left him paralyzed for a while. While he was able to regain usage of his legs after time passed, he needed to use a cane. Along with this, there were a series of unfortunate events including a fire that destroyed their barn, a fire that destroyed their home and most of everything they owned, and several years of drought that left them physically and financially in bad shape. Eventually the young Ingalls-Wilder family settled down and purchased a small farm outside of Mansfield, Missouri.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...LAURA INGALLS-WILDER?

In 1911, when Laura was about 44, she responded to an invitation to submit articles for a publication called the *Missouri Ruralist*. She held that position as a permanent and paid columnist until the mid 1920s, eventually becoming the editor. During that time she wrote about her family life and her childhood. Towards 1930 her daughter, Rose, encouraged her mother to write more stories about her youth and growing up in the midwest frontier. Her first book, *Little House in the Big Woods*, was published in 1932, and would become the very first book in what would someday be her "Little House" series. While the Ingall-Wilders faced some struggles in the early stages of Laura's writing career, after the first few novels were published and were wildly successful, the family was set.

The royalties from the Little House books brought a much larger income to the Ingall-Wilders than the couple had ever experienced. Laura and Almanzo moved to a small farmstead in Rocky Ridge, Missouri, where they lived out the rest of their days. Laura continued to write, publishing several more novels in the "Little House" series, which continued to grow in popularity. The two lived without any financial worries in quiet solitude. Almanzo passed away in 1949, and Laura remained on the farm for the next eight years, keeping in communication with her friends and fans. Three days after her 90th birthday, Laura Elizabeth Ingalls-Wilder passed away peacefully at home on February 10, 1957.



The Ingalls-Wilder house in Rocky Ridge, where Laura lived out the remainder of her life. It is now a historic museum that can be visited.



Photo still from the Little House on the Prairie family, which Laura based off her own family.

The first royalties check that Laura received in 1932 after the publishing of her first book was for \$500. Today, that would have been worth almost \$44,000 dollars. This was also the smallest of her royalty checks. Her books have been translated into more than 40 languages and are still being printed today. Laura's stories have inspired T.V. Shows, movies, and millions of people all over the globe to this day.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...ELEANOR ROOSEVELT?



Photo of Eleanor Roosevelt taken in 1943, age 59.

QUICK FACTS

OCCUPATION: First Lady, Diplomat, Civil and Human Rights Advocate, Writer

BORN: October 11, 1884, in New York, NY

DIED: November 7, 1962, in New York, NY

KNOWN FOR: Serving as the First Lady of the United States from 1933 to 1945, and as her husband's representative all over the country and world during a tumultuous period of U.S. History, while advocating for equal rights and improved living conditions for all.

FUN FACT: Eleanor was an accomplished archer and is regarded as one of the first women to participate in bow hunting sports. She would even write into a popular hunting magazine during the time under the name "Chuck Painton" about her hunting experiences.

BIOGRAPHY

Eleanor Roosevelt was born into one of the wealthiest and most influential families in American History. Despite growing up in a wealthy household, she did not have a very happy childhood. Both her parents and younger brother had passed away before she was 10. She was cared for by her grandmother, a stern woman and kept her mostly isolated. Eleanor was looked down upon and made fun of by her family.

When she was 15, her grandmother sent her to a boarding school near London, England, which is where she began to flourish. She dove into her schooling and studied history, language, and literature. It was at this school that she developed a passion for social justice. The headmistress took special interest in her and the two would travel Europe together. When Eleanor returned to the U.S., she was a changed and far more confident young woman. Shortly after returning home, she was introduced to a distant cousin - Franklin Roosevelt, who was a student at Harvard at the time. The two fell in love and were married on March 17, 1905. Eleanor's Uncle - President Theodore Roosevelt, gave her away at the wedding, as it was well known she was his favorite niece.

Franklin grew to be a famous politician, with aspirations of becoming president, and Eleanor was determined to help him in any way possible. In 1933, Franklin was elected president, right as the country was in the midst of the Great Depression. However, Franklin had contracted a disease called polio nearly a decade earlier, which left him unable to walk. This meant he would need the help of Eleanor to be his "eyes, ears, and legs" as traveling was very difficult for him.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...ELEANOR ROOSEVELT?

Eleanor is often remembered as the standard of what the “First Lady” could and should be! Eleanor was a woman of action. She spent the first years of her husband’s presidency traveling the U.S. and sending reports back on which programs were working, which weren’t, and what the state of the country was. She helped new immigrants adjust to life in the U.S., publicly supported the Civil Rights Movement, held press conferences for just female reporters, and more. When World War II broke out, Eleanor went with the Red Cross and traveled Europe and the South Pacific, visiting sick and wounded soldiers. When Franklin signed Executive Order 9066, which would force over 122,000 Japanese-American citizens into internment camps, she opposed the decision.



Eleanor traveling with the Red Cross to visit soldiers. Taken in 1943



Eleanor holding a poster of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1949



Eleanor participating in discussions at the United Nations, helping represent the U.S.

Franklin would pass away just after the start of his fourth term as president in April 1945. While Eleanor was sad, she knew there was still work to be done. She would represent the U.S. at the United Nations and played a huge role in the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - a document that dictates how people worldwide should be treated fairly and have access to universal human rights. Throughout her life she wrote 28 books and hundreds of articles. She passed away at 78 years old, November 7, 1962, in her apartment in Manhattan.

It’s no wonder why Toni wanted to meet her in *The History Mystery*. Eleanor Roosevelt did more than talk the talk - she walked the walk. She cared deeply about people and worked her entire life to improve the quality of life not just for U.S. citizens, but people worldwide. Her legacy of activism continues to live on to this day.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WAS...THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT?

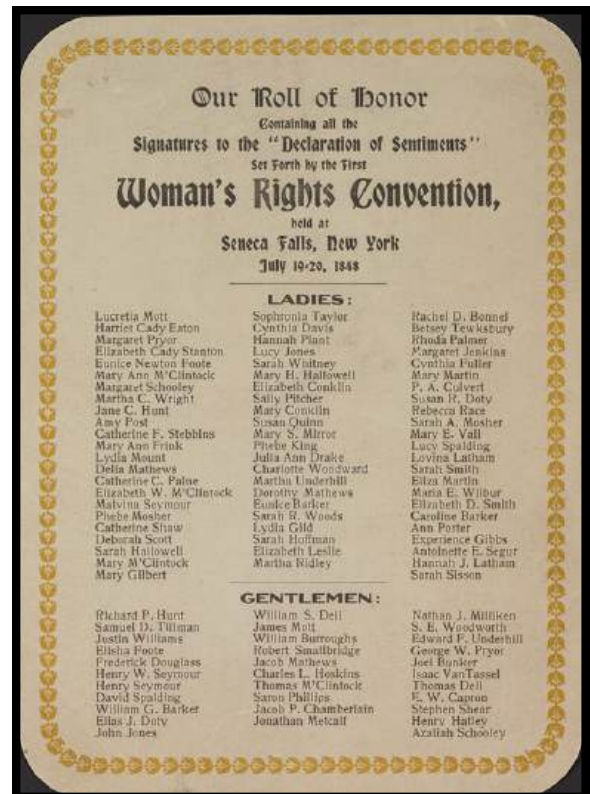
THE SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT

It might seem easy to forget, but for the longest time, women in the United States did not have many rights. They weren't encouraged to go to college, they weren't able to vote, they couldn't own property, once married they were entirely dependent on their husbands...I think you're starting to get the picture. When the 1840s rolled around, women started to fight back and demand suffrage, or the right to vote, thus coining the term suffragettes.

In 1848, two women, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls. It drew over 300 people! On the second day of the convention, the attendees signed the Declaration of Sentiments, which was modeled after the Declaration of Independence, and stated that women should have equal rights as men, including the right to vote.

In 1869, years after the end of the Civil War, the 15th Amendment was passed, giving Black men the right to vote - but not women. Some suffragettes saw this as an opportunity to move forward, but some saw it as a continued drawback. From this, two parties were formed. The National Woman Suffrage Association, led by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, opposed the passing of the 15th Amendment without including women. They, along with their coalition of 90 other women, would send letters to Congress, most of which would go unanswered. Lucy Stone and her husband, Henry Brown Blackwell, founded the American Woman Suffrage Association and supported the 15th Amendment, fearing it wouldn't pass if women were included. The two traveled the country and appealed to governments at the state level, hoping that the change would be forced at the federal level if all the states enacted change.

The two groups would merge together in 1894 under the leadership of Susan B. Anthony and became the National American Woman Suffrage Association, with the main goal of getting the 19th Amendment passed, which would allow women to vote. While they were open to all women, there were times when women of color would not be included. Two years later in 1896, three smaller organizations would merge together and become the National Association for Colored Women



Copy of the Declaration of Sentiments and all those who signed it.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WAS...THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT?

under the leadership of Mary Church Terrell. Their goal was the same as NAWSA, but strongly advocated for the voting rights of black men, who still continued to struggle despite the 15th Amendment being passed.



Suffragettes striking outside the White House in 1917



Members of the National Association for Colored Women

The movement of both organizations pushed into the early 1900s, where some women started to utilize different methods, often much more public and vocal, to attract attention to the problem. Like the silent protest started by suffragist Alice Paul, who led thousands to picket outside the White House. She, along with 218 other women, would go on to be arrested in 1917 for various reasons tied to their protesting. In jail they experienced horrible conditions, like being served rotten food and having to sleep on dirty beds. Alice Paul even went on a hunger strike in jail until some doctors forced her to consume food.

When the U.S. entered World War I, and women began to fill jobs in the states or volunteer as nurses overseas, President Woodrow Wilson began to see how important women were. He proposed the 19th Amendment to Congress in 1918, which would require three-quarters of the states to ratify the amendment. Thanks to the work of organizations like the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the National Association for Colored Women, different states flocked to the cause and supported the ratification. Tennessee became the 36th and final state to ratify, and in 1920, the 19th Amendment was officially ratified and women were finally able to vote in the U.S.

One of the principles that the Founding Fathers created the United States on was that all citizens had the freedom to speak their opinion and help shape the country that they wanted to live in. The ability to vote is a key part of this. However, for over a 100 years, this right was prohibited from so many people, primarily women and people of color. These were people that were active contributors to society. They worked. They had friends and families. And yet, they had no voice in how society was shaped. How it was run. This is why the amendments of the 1900s, which gave women, and later, people of color, the ability to vote, are so crucial to our democracy and the ability to create the future that all citizens of a country want to live in. The suffragettes remind us of how important it is to protect those rights, and how we should continue to do so.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHO WAS...MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.?

QUICK FACTS

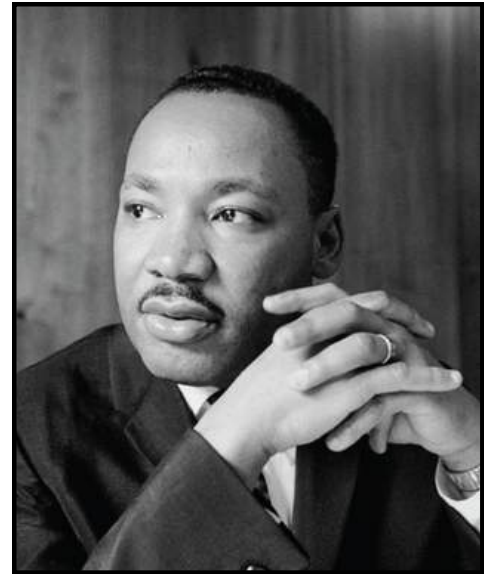
OCCUPATION: Minister, Activist, Writer

BORN: January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia

DIED: April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee

KNOWN FOR: Being an activist for most of his life, MLK led a march of almost 250,000 people on Washington D.C. as a protest against segregation. This is where he gave his iconic "I Have A Dream Speech." He was a leader of the Civil Rights Movement, where he advocated for equal rights through peaceful protesting.

FUN FACT: The name on Martin's birth certificate was originally "Michael King," which was a mistake that wouldn't be officially changed until he was 28.



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BIOGRAPHY

In Atlanta, Georgia, in January 1929...a King was born. Martin Luther **King**, Jr., of course. His parents, Michael and Alberta, were religious and wanted to name him after the leader of the Christian reformation movement. From a young age, Martin remembers experiencing racism and discrimination. Martin said the first time he remembered experiencing discrimination was right after turning six and was sent to an all-black school, and one of his friends was sent to an all-white school.

Martin was incredibly smart. He attended public school in Georgia at Booker T. Washington High School, and skipped the ninth and eleventh grade, letting him graduate from high school at age 15 (and to think, I barely made it through Algebra). Around this time he joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a civil rights organization that was focused on creating more rights for African-Americans. His father led the Atlanta chapter of the NAACP. He started college soon after he graduated high school at Morehouse College, in Atlanta. After he graduated there with a degree in sociology, he went on to study to become a pastor at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. He graduated from there with honors and as class valedictorian. It was at Crozer that Martin studied the non-violent methods of protesting like Mahatma Gandhi used. He believed that these methods could be used to advance the civil rights movement. Believe it or not though, he wasn't quite done yet with school. From there, he enrolled in a Ph.D. Theology program at Boston University (B.U.) and it was here that he met his wife, Coretta Scott. The two were married in 1953 and went on to have two sons and two daughters. Soon after him and Coretta married, they moved back to Montgomery, Alabama.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

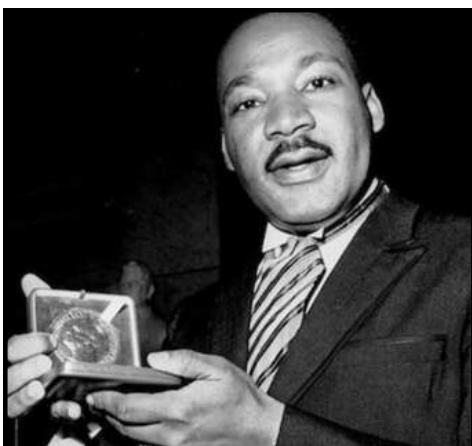
WHO WAS...MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.?

Back in Alabama, Martin would begin to embrace his position as a civil rights leader. After a woman named Rosa Parks was arrested on a public bus for refusing to give up her spot to a white passenger, the NAACP approached Martin about leading the protest. He called for members of the Black community to enact a city-wide boycott on the Montgomery bus system. Ultimately various legislation through numerous court case rulings led to a determination that segregation on buses was unconstitutional. He would go on to lead a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, which sparked national attention after the police used violent methods to quell the protest. He himself was arrested during this protest, where he would go on to write his "Letter From Birmingham Jail," which called for an end to injustice and a unity amongst the people. It should be noted, this was not the first time that Martin had been arrested. In fact, he had been arrested multiple times throughout his life and career in activism. In 1960, he joined black college students during a sit-in that was held in a segregated lunch room on the counters. John F. Kennedy, who was just a presidential candidate at the time, had to step in to help him be released (which was later noted as an action that helped him secure the presidency).

Shortly after he got out of jail in Birmingham, he would help organize the March on Washington. On August 28, 1963, in front of the Lincoln Memorial, Martin gave his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. The next year, the U.S. government finally passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination illegal, and Martin was present for the signing of. In 1964, Martin was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize - he was 35 years old and the youngest person ever to have received the award.



Scan to listen to MLK's "I Have A Dream Speech" (with subtitles).
Or click [here](#) to read a transcription.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. receiving his Nobel Peace Prize

A few years later, Martin traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to support sanitation workers on strike. It was there, on April 4, 1968, that Martin was shot while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel. He was rushed to the hospital, but died later in the day. He was 39 years old.

After his death, Martin was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and foundation of civil rights activism persists to this day.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WAS...THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT?

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

What is the Civil Rights Movement and when did it begin? While people of color have fought for equal rights all throughout history, the Civil Rights Movement grew exponentially in the 1950s and 1960s with nationwide demonstrations and protests seeking to end forced segregation, discrimination, and injustices toward people of color.

WHAT ARE CIVIL RIGHTS?

Civil rights are the idea that every citizen, under the laws of a government body, has access to basic rights. This includes (but is not limited to) freedom of speech, religion, assembly, privacy, and more. These rights are accessible to ALL citizens, regardless of...gender, skin color, religion, age, ethnicity, sexuality, disability...anything!

WHEN DID THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT BEGIN?

It's important to remember that the Civil Rights Movement did not occur due to one person or one moment, but rather is something that happened over many years. The foundation of the Civil Rights Movement can be traced back to the late 18th century, with the end of the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation which outlawed slavery. Despite this, Black Americans continued to face discrimination. This persisted for decades, and many Black Americans were subjected to intolerance, hatred, and sometimes acts of violence.

WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE 1950S - 1960S?

The formation of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) marked the first time that Black Americans were able to use a platform that carried power in courts to protest and be heard. Incidents like Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (a 15-year-old girl) who were arrested for refusing to give up seats on buses to white patrons sparked outrage. The case *Browder v. Gayle* would eventually rule that bus segregation was unconstitutional.



Photo taken of Rosa Parks being fingerprinted in Montgomery, Alabama, after being arrested December 1, 1955.

In 1954, the United States Supreme Court ruled that segregated schools were illegal and in 1957, nine black teenagers enrolled at a formerly all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas. They were met with backlash from the community. The violence escalated to the point that the National Guard had to be called in to protect them. Demonstrations took place all over the country in the late 1950s and many were successful, despite police intervention or violent counter-protestors.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WAS...THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT?

The year 1963 saw two monumental civil rights protests. The first in Birmingham, Alabama, which turned violent with police using drastic measures to end the protest. The photos from the protest, which showed black Americans being attacked by dogs and brutalized by police, sparked national outrage. Many calling for President Kennedy to get involved. A few months later in the summer of 1963, the second protest included a march on Washington D.C., which 200,000 people joined. The combination of the protests, along with other demonstrations that had popped up all over the nation, led the passing of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, which stated that any American citizen could not be discriminated against based on race, religion, or gender.



MLK, with the Rev. Ralph Abernathy (center) and the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, in Birmingham, 1963



March on Washington, August 28, 1963, where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his iconic 'I Have a Dream' speech



Photo of members of the Black Panthers taken outside the New York City Courthouse in 1969.

In the mid-1960s, new organizations emerged, like The Black Panthers, which believed in less peaceful means of conveying their message. In March 1965, a demonstration was organized that had protestors marching from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama - nearly 54 miles. The marchers were attacked all along the route, one particular outbreak turning so violent that 17 marchers had to be hospitalized, and many more were injured. The photos and videos from which only brought more people from all over the country to support the activists. President Lyndon B. Johnson eventually sent soldiers to support the marchers. At the end of it, President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which ensured that all eligible Americans were legally registered to vote.

A few years later, Martin Luther King, Jr., would be assassinated and would caused national protests. Followed by pleas from Martin's wife Coretta to not let her husband die in vain, the Civil Rights Act of 1968 was passed, which banned housing discrimination based on race.

WHEN DID THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT END?

While the passing of legislation in the 1960s saw improvements in the civil rights that many Black Americans were calling for, the fight continues to this day. People of color continue to be discriminated against all over the world. Despite this, we continue to honor the brave activists who took a stand against hate and injustice in the 1950s and 1960s by working to build the better future that they envisioned.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WERE...JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT CAMPS?

Amidst growing panic and unrest in the wake of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, an executive order signed by President Roosevelt forced 122,000 Japanese-Americans to be uprooted from their lives, and be sent to internment camps. They lost their freedom, civil liberties, jobs, and most of what they owned. But why did this happen? What were they like? Who was sent there? Don't worry, we've got all of that and more!

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?

In the years leading up to the start of WWII, there was already growing unrest from anti-Asian organizations as the number of Japanese-Americans grew in the U.S., along with fear of Japanese spies within the U.S. government. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, those fears were blown out of proportion as people became paranoid that Japanese-Americans would aid Japan in their fight against the U.S., an ideology was not founded on any concrete evidence. President Franklin Roosevelt signed executive order 9066, which designated the entire West Coast as a "military exclusion area" and authorized the forced relocation of Japanese-American citizens into designated camps. It should be noted that these camps were very different to the concentration camps in Europe, despite the fact that they were occurring at the same time.

WHAT WERE THEY?

Conditions in the camps were not great. The camps were established as large compounds surrounded with tall gates, barbed wires, and armed guards. Most lived in cramped barracks, with minimal privacy, and shared a lot of facilities like bathrooms. There were minimal supplies and food. The people in the camps had little to no freedom. Despite their liberties being stripped, many did their best to maintain some kind of normalcy. Every camp was different - with unique communities and cultures. They cooked, farmed, created schools, established churches, and celebrated holidays. However, the internment took a toll on many, as it was three years of living in uncertainty and tension, not knowing what the future would hold.

WHO WAS SENT THERE?

It is estimated that close to 122,000 Japanese-Americans were uprooted from their homes and lives and moved to one of 10 camps. The majority of which were from West Coast states like Oregon or California (which is where Jenny's great-grandmother lived in *The History Mystery*). People who were moved were divided into three groups - the Issei (those who had immigrated to the U.S.), the Nisei (families whose parents were from Japan, but themselves were born in the U.S.), and the Sansei (those who were third generation Japanese-Americans). Of the 122,000 who were moved, 70,000 were full American Citizens, many being children or people who



Japanese-American Internment camp located in Poston, AZ

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

WHAT WERE...JAPANESE-AMERICAN INTERNMENT CAMPS?

had been born and raised in the U.S.. Estimates showed that a third of people in the camps would have been school aged children. Around 12,000 Germans and Italians were sent to internment camps as well, but a lot were able to avoid detainment by moving or changing their last names. Because of their ethnicity, Japanese-Americans were more susceptible to racial discrimination. At the camps, people were required to fill out a "loyalty" questionnaire that was supposed to determine how "American" they were. Those who were determined as disloyal were sent to a high-security camp.

WHERE WERE THEY?

The majority of the Japanese-Americans who were displaced were sent to one of 10 different internment camps. See the map!



Japanese-American were sent to 1 of different camps all across the U.S., the bulk of which were on the West Coast, but some reaching as far as Arkansas!



HOW LONG DID THEY EXIST FOR? HOW DID IT END?

The internment camps were operational for around 4 years. In December 1944, the government announced that all of the camps would be closed by the end of 1945. The last camp, Tule Lake, California, which was the camp with the highest security, closed in March 1946. Most of the families in the camps had been there for two or more years and had lost most of everything they had before they were moved. Their homes. Their jobs. They were forced to rebuild from scratch. A law that was passed in 1948 aimed to return lost property to the families, but most received little compensation, so it was widely regarded as a failure. It would take almost 40 years for the U.S. government to officially apologize for the internment camps. President Ronald Reagan oversaw the passing of the Civil Liberties Act, which provided more than 80,000 Japanese-Americans \$20,000 each as compensation.

The internment camps are regarded by many as a stain on the history of America. To quote President Gerald Ford, who officially repealed Executive Order 9066 in 1976, "I call upon the American people to affirm with me this American Promise—that we have learned from the tragedy of that long-ago experience forever to treasure liberty and justice for each individual American, and resolve that this kind of action shall never again be repeated."

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

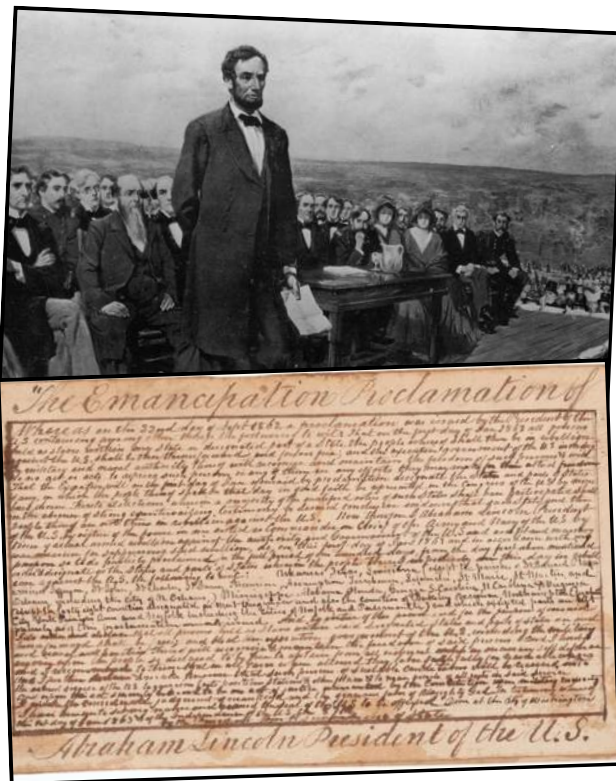
There are a lot of super important historical documents, bills, and acts mentioned in *The History Mystery* and in our *Time Travelers' Tool Kit*! Here is a guide to help you keep track of them.

Declaration of Independence - Made official on July 4, 1776, and stated the principals on which the U.S. would establish their government and how it would be an independent nation. Signed by many of the Founding Fathers.

Bill of Rights - Details the rights that American citizens have in relation to the government. It ensures liberties and different rights - freedom of speech, press, religion, etc. - and puts checks and balances in place for the government. It contains the first 10 Amendments.



The Declaration of Independence on display at the National Archives in Washington D.C.



TOP: Painting by Fletcher C Ransom of Lincoln giving the Gettysburg Address.

BOTTOM: handwritten note of the Emancipation Proclamation. On display Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

Gettysburg Address - Speech given in November 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln where he famously started with "Four score and seven years ago..." It was given at the site of one of the deadliest Civil War battles, where he talked about human equality and the preservation of freedom for all.

Emancipation Proclamation - Document signed by Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War on January 1, 1863, that was designed to abolish slavery. It also made it possible for African Americans to join the Union Army.

15th Amendment - Amendment to the constitution that was made official February 3, 1870, that gave African American men the right to vote.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHT

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

19th Amendment - Officially passed by Congress, in 1920 this amendment finally gave women the right to vote. Stating that the right to vote cannot be denied based on your gender.

United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Internationally accepted document by the countries of the United Nations. Published December 1948 and stated that as a person, you should have access to universal rights regardless of the country you're in.

Executive Order 9066 - Order that President Franklin Roosevelt enacted in February, 1942 which designated the West Coast as a "military exclusion area" and authorized the military to relocate Japanese-American citizens within the zone to designated camps.

Civil Rights Act of 1964 - Started by President Kennedy and officially signed by President Johnson, this piece of legislation stated that no American citizen could be discriminated against based on race, religion, or gender. It aimed to strengthen voting rights and end segregation.



President Johnson shaking hands with MLK after he signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



President Johnson, MLK, and Rosa Parks after the signing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Voting Rights Act of 1965 - Another piece of legislation passed by President Johnson that worked to strengthen voting rights in areas where there was more racial discrimination.

Civil Rights Act of 1968 - A follow up to Civil Rights Act of 1964 and enacted quickly after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by President Johnson, banned discrimination in housing based on someone's race, religion, sex, national origin, disability, and familial status.

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

WORD SEARCH

Waiting for the show to get started? Why don't you check down below and see if you can find all the keywords related to *The History Mystery*?

Word Search

P L P U N X A R Z F Q Z B Z X Q E B D A
V O I B C N G I P O H O K F N P S E D T
L P G T J E D E N V S I V N T D U N Z V
X T M R T F A A Q D Y D S Y P T C F F Y
D B R Y D L V O N D E S V T J L G R Z N
L S W J E C E J M U J P H A O T A A M E
E E K Y C O O H T A S U E A A R W N G W
G M H Y L E D R O P R T L N O X Y K T Y
X A E U A T R A U U Y T U M D O H L I O
L N R Q R F A A N I S J I D W A C I M R
A C S V A G I T M D L E P N Y V N N E K
M I T Z T Y R J J E V N L X L S J C M C
V P O A I J P C P V N N N I O U F A E I
I A R B O F L F X T I D H X D C T O H T
G T Y B N W A I K D V B M H E S X H W Y
S I Z T E P N A C T R D U E C V G D E T
D O G X X R E G U T Z A Y H N O E C D R
R N B N M Y S T E R Y O Y B H T E G G D
D D S F R E E D O M H S Z S N E Z K C Y
B E D Z H T O T I P I R W E C J L W Z P

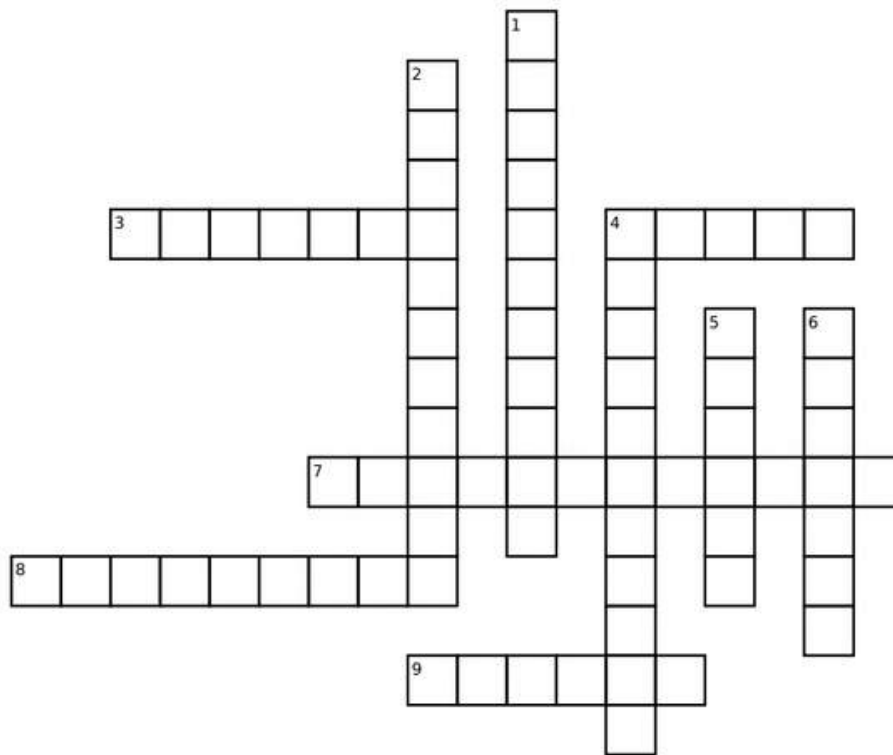
INDEPENDANCE	EMANCIPATION	DECLARATION	TIME
MARTINLUTHER	BENFRANKLIN	NEWYORKCITY	
LITTLEHOUSE	AMENDMENT	HISTORY	
FREEDOM	MYSTERY	STUDY	
HERSTORY	AIRPLANE	VOTE	

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

CROSSWORD

Looking for something to do? Let's test a little history and puzzle solving knowledge. Try to solve this crossword puzzle with words related to *The History Mystery* down below!

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. A key moment in WWII that led to the U.S. entering the war.
2. The first woman's rights convention was held in 1869 at _____.
4. The Founding Fathers on July 4, 1776, signed the _____ of Independence.
5. The inventors of the first airplanes were the _____ Brothers.
6. A word used to describe something that is unknown to you, or something you have to uncover.

Across:

3. Laura Ingalls-Wilder wrote the Little House on the _____ book series.
4. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a _____" speech in Washington D.C. in 1963.
7. Details the rights that American citizens have in relation to the government.
8. She was arrested in 1955 for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.
9. The city where Benjamin Franklin was born.

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

MATCH THE INVENTOR TO DATE INVENTED

Want something to do before the lights go down and the show begins? Why don't you try to figure out which inventions belong with the inventor and / or time period!

INVENTIONS



Chocolate Chip Cookie
RUTH GRAVES WAKEFIELD
Invented: _____



Doorknobs
OSBOURN DORSEY
Invented: _____



Toilet
ALEXANDER CUMMINGS
Invented: _____



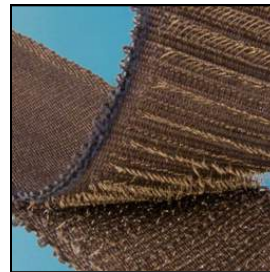
Traffic Light
GARRETT MORGAN
Invented: _____



Ice Cream Maker
NANCY JOHNSON
Invented: _____



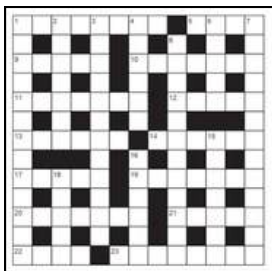
Peanut Butter
DR. JOHN HARVEY KELLOGG
Invented: _____



Velcro
GEORGE DE MESTRAL
Invented: _____



iPhone
STEVE JOBS
Invented: _____



Crossword
ARTHUR WYNN
Invented: _____



Color Computer Monitor
DR. MARK DEAN
Invented: _____



Potato Chip
GEORGE CRUM
Invented: _____



Telephone
ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL
Invented: _____

DATES

1981

1843

1955

1775

1923

1853

1878

1913

2007

1938

1895

1869

Answers on page 37 and page 38

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

WORD SEARCH - ANSWERS

How did you do? Did you find all the words related to
The History Mystery?

Word Search

P L P U N X A R Z F Q Z B Z X Q E B D A
V O I B C N G I P O H O K F N P S E D T
L P G T J E D E N V S I V N T D U N Z V
X T M R T F A A Q D Y D S Y P T C F F Y
D B R Y D L V O N D E S V T J L G R Z N
L S W J E C E J M U J P H A O T A A M E
E E K Y C O O H T A S U E A A R W N G W
G M H Y L E D R O P R T L N O X Y K T Y
X A E U A T R A U U Y T U M D O H L I O
L N R Q R F A A N I S J I D W A C I M R
A C S V A G I T M D L E P N Y V N N E K
M I T Z T Y R J J E V N L X L S J C M C
V P O A I J P C P V N N N I O U F A E I
I A R B O F L F X T I D H X D C T O H T
G T Y B N W A I K D V B M H E S X H W Y
S I Z T E P N A C T R D U E C V G D E T
D O G X X R E G U T Z A Y H N O E C D R
R N B N M Y S T E R Y O Y B H T E G G D
D D S F R E E D O M H S Z S N E Z K C Y
B E D Z H T O T I P I R W E C J L W Z P

INDEPENDANCE

EMANCIPATION

DECLARATION

TIME

MARTINLUTHER

BENFRANKLIN

NEWYORKCITY

LITTLEHOUSE

AMENDMENT

HISTORY

FREEDOM

MYSTERY

STUDY

HERSTORY

AIRPLANE

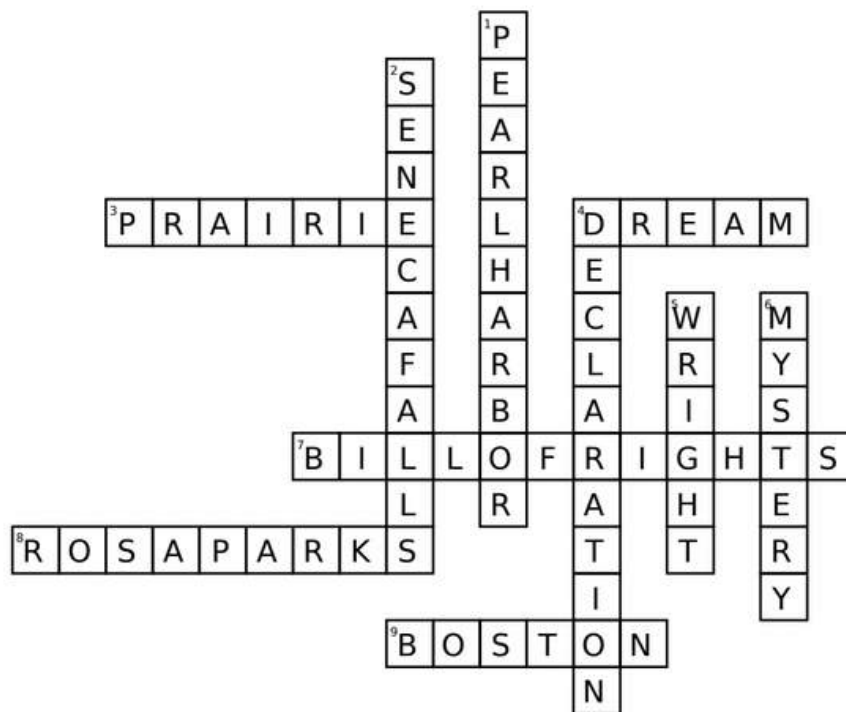
VOTE

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

CROSSWORD - ANSWERS

Did you make Arthur Wynn proud and solve the crossword puzzle down below?

Crossword Puzzle



Down:

1. A key moment in WWII that led to the U.S. entering the war.
2. The first woman's rights convention was held in 1848 at _____.
4. The Founding Fathers on July 4, 1776, signed the _____ of Independence.
5. The inventors of the first airplanes were the _____ Brothers.
6. A word used to describe something that is unknown to you, or something you have to uncover.

Across:

3. Laura Ingalls-Wilder wrote the Little House on the _____ book series.
4. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a _____" speech in Washington D.C. in 1963.
7. Details the rights that American citizens have in relation to the government.
8. She was arrested in 1955 for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.
9. The city where Benjamin Franklin was born.

ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

MATCH THE INVENTOR TO DATE INVENTED

Did any of these stump you? Here are when these inventions were invented!

Part 1!

Ice Cream Maker

Invented:1843

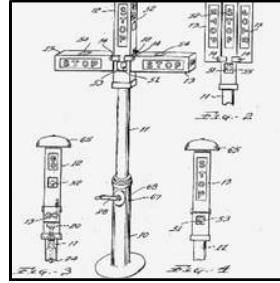
Once a luxury reserved for upper class citizens, inventor Nancy Johnson created the world's first hand-cranked ice cream maker in 1843 making it more accessible to everyone.



Traffic Light

Invented:1923

This black inventor witnessed a horse-drawn carriage and a car crash into each other, and thought to himself that there's got to be a better way to help navigate traffic. In 1923, Garrett Morgan invented the first version of a street light, which at the time was hand operated!



Doorknobs

Invented:1878

A fairly simple mechanism that you might think we've had for a while, but the actual device that lets us turn and unlock doors wasn't invented until 1878 by Osbourn Dorsey.



Peanut Butter

Invented:1895

Any peanut butter historian, like myself, would tell you that there were numerous inventors and moments that went into the creation of peanut butter. But it was in 1895, Dr. John Harvey Kellogg (ring a bell?) patented a process for creating peanut butter from raw peanuts.



Toilet

Invented:1775

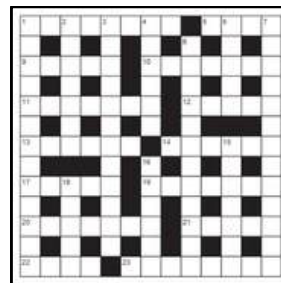
Unfortunately it was not invented by "John Crapper," but rather Alexander Cummings in 1775, who issued the first patent for a toilet that flushed.



Crossword Puzzles

Invented:1913

Did this one stump you? The crossword was invented by a British man, Arthur Wynn, who originally published a diamond-shaped puzzle in a 1913 of the New York World newspaper that he called "Word-Cross" which was later switched around.



ACTIVITY: PRE SHOW

MATCH THE INVENTOR TO DATE INVENTED

Did any of these stump you? Here are when these inventions were invented!

Part 2!



Chocolate Chip Cookies

Invented:1938

While the exact origin of the chocolate chip cookies are a hot topic debate amongst historians, they are claimed to have been invented by Ruth Graves Wakefield in 1938 when she chopped up a chocolate bar and added it to her cookie recipe.



iPhone

Invented:2007

By far one of the most important inventions of the 21st Century, the first model of the iPhone was officially announced and released in 2007. This device was the first smartphone ever developed and revolutionized the tech industry.



Telephone

Invented:1869

"Mr. Watson, come here. I want to see you," were the first words transmitted through electricity by Alexander Graham Bell to his assistant in 1869. Alexander held the first patent for a phone that used electricity.



Velcro

Invented:1995

After noticing the way that tiny barbs from a plant stuck to his dog's fur after a walk one day, Swiss engineer George De Mestral worked to try and create his own kind of fabric that would replicate the hook from the barbs. After 10 years, in 1955, he finally did!



Color Computer Monitor

Invented:1981

Dr. Mark Dean, a black computer scientist and engineer, played a key role in modernizing computers. In 1981 he co-created the IBM personal computer and helped develop the first color PC monitor and the first gigahertz computer processor chip.



Potato Chip

Invented:1853

Best...prank...ever! Native and African American chef George Crum was upset one day in 1853 when business tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt had his fried potatoes sent back to the kitchen saying they were too thick. Crum sliced them as thin as possible, fried them, and had them sent back out to Vanderbilt. Instead of being upset, Vanderbilt was happy with the tasty snack!

ACTIVITY: POST SHOW

MATCH THE AMENDMENT TO THE RIGHT

Think you were paying attention during *The History Mystery*? Think you read through the *Time Travelers' Toolkit* closely? Why don't we put that knowledge to the test! Below are some amendments and a list of what they did. They seem to be scrambled up though. Think you can match them?

Amendment 1

The right to be secure in your own home. The government cannot enter without a warrant or reasonable cause.

Amendment 4

The right to vote regardless of gender - gave women the right to vote.

Amendment 6

Protects several rights - freedom of speech, press, and religion. As well as the right to assemble and the right to petition.

Amendment 14

Made it so that if the Vice President passes away in office, then the Vice President becomes the President.

Amendment 15

Gave all U.S. citizens the right to vote if they are age 18 or older.

Amendment 19

The right to a fair criminal trial. Including impartial jury, knowledge of crimes accused, right to legal representation, and more.

Amendment 22

Made it so that Presidents can only serve two terms in office.

Amendment 25

Prohibits slavery and indentured servitude in any kind of form.

Amendment 26

The right for all male citizens to vote - gave Black men the right to vote.

Answers on page 42

ACTIVITY: POST SHOW

WHERE'S THAT CITY?

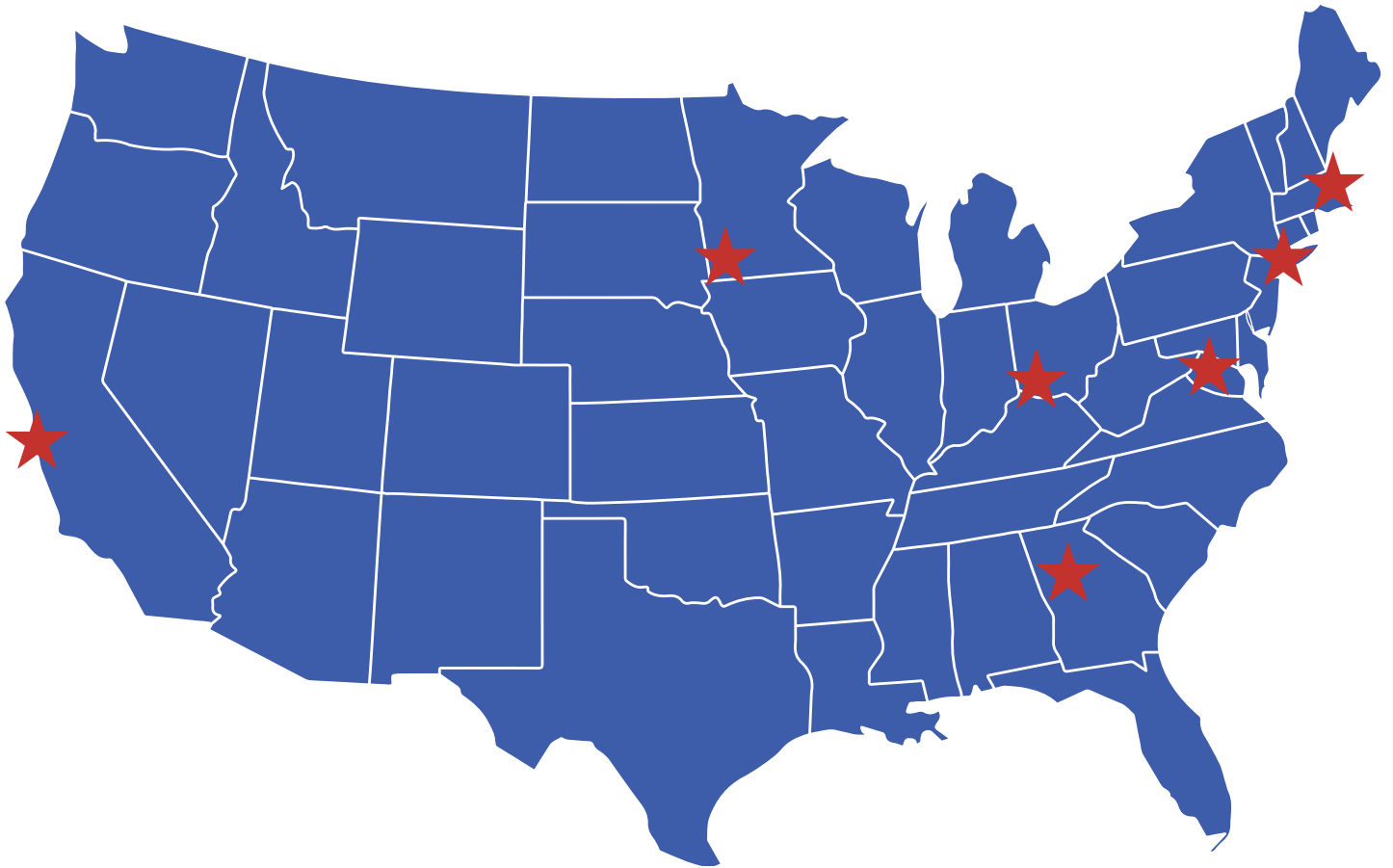
Toni, Jenny, and Marty travel all over time...and the United States! Can you remember and piece together all the cities and states they travel to in their journey through time?

**DAYTON,
OHIO**

**ATLANTA,
GEORGIA**

**BOSTON,
MASSACHUSETTS**

WASHINGTON D.C.



**WALNUT GROVE,
MINNESOTA**

**ATLANTA,
GEORGIA**

CALIFORNIA

Answers on page 43

ACTIVITY: POST SHOW

THE HISTORY ALL AROUND US

From a locket that was passed down through family generations to the Declaration of Independence, the characters of *The History Mystery* encounter objects with histories attached to them. This discussion is meant to help participants understand that everything has a history and has a story, no matter what it is!

WHAT YOU NEED

- A group of participants
- An object of their choosing that has a "history"
- Paper
- Pen

HOW TO DO IT

1. Start by gathering a group of people - friends, people you know at school or in a club, anyone! Tell them that next time you meet, each of them should bring an object important to them that has a "history." Let them know it can be anything, as long as it is important to them or to their family. (if the object is too large or difficult to transport, photos could work too!)
 - a. If it is helpful, provide an example - *This pen you see me writing with was actually a gift from my mother. She gave it to me on my first day of school. I think about her every time I use it.*
2. Next time everyone is together with their objects, break off into small groups! Duos, trios... whatever is best! Have everyone in these small groups explain the objects, and its history, to one another.
3. Come back together as a group and give a moment to anyone who wants to share their object and its history with everyone. The more the merrier!
4. Likely there will be a pretty wide range of objects and stories that are shared with everyone. When they're all done explaining, talk about the different histories that were shared with one another! Reflect on the fact that there was a wide range of objects brought (hopefully) from family heirlooms to favorite toys. Think about how each of them have a history and story to them and about how we are all contributing to history bit by bit every single day, even if we aren't doing things on a grand scale.

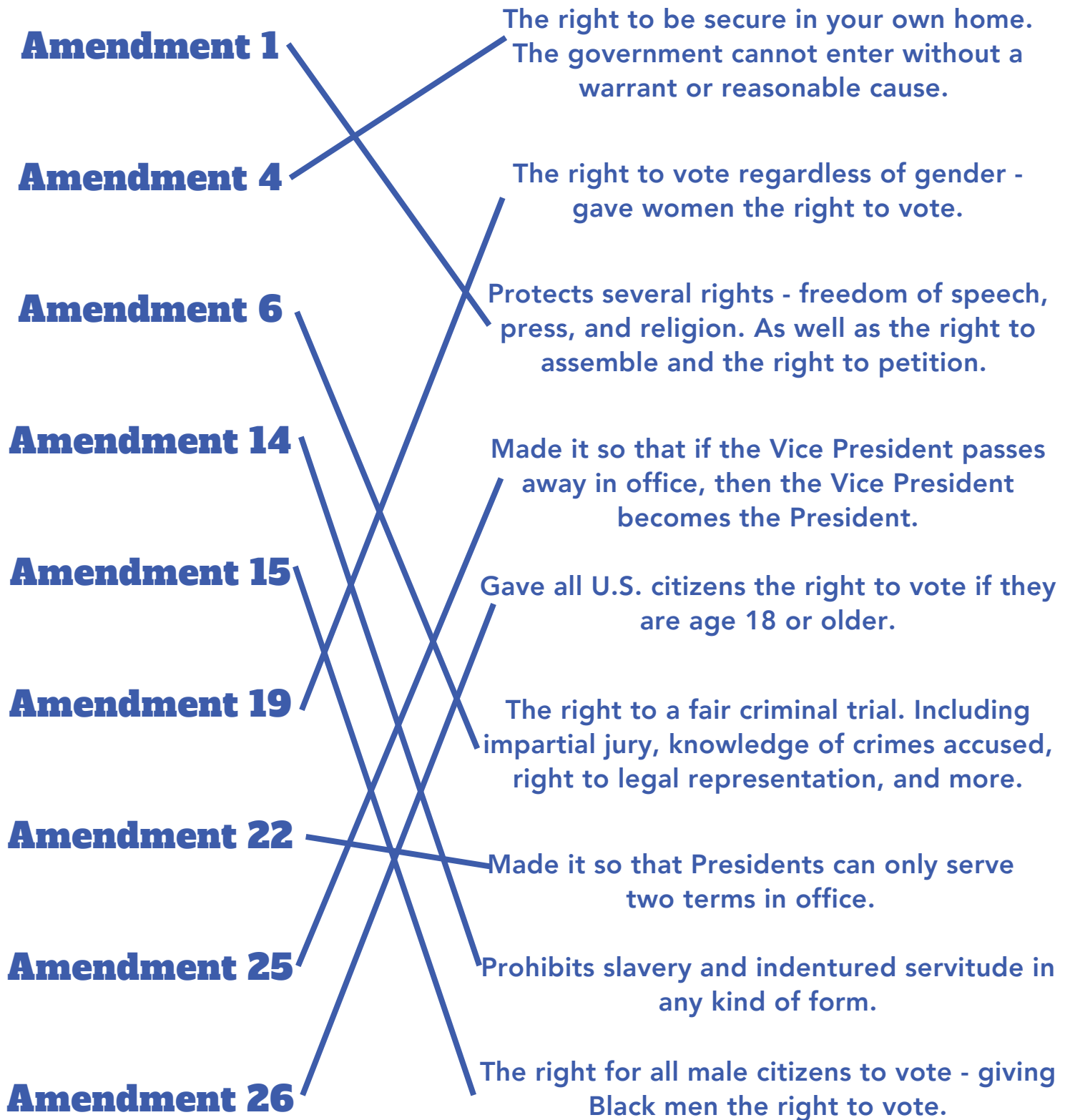
TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER - MAKE A MUSEUM

1. If everyone had a fun time doing that, take it a step further! Arrange some tables or desks with the objects on them.
2. Have everyone who brought an object write on an index card a brief summary of what the object is - like a plaque at a museum.
3. Once it's all set up, give everyone time to explore and check out all the different objects. Invite other folks to come and explore as well.
4. At the end, discuss what everyone's favorite objects were. Why? What did reading the history of the other objects make them realize about their own?

ACTIVITY: POST SHOW

AMENDMENT - RIGHTS ANSWER KEY

Think you got them all? Check out all the answers down below!



ACTIVITY: POST SHOW

WHERE'S THAT CITY? - ANSWER KEY

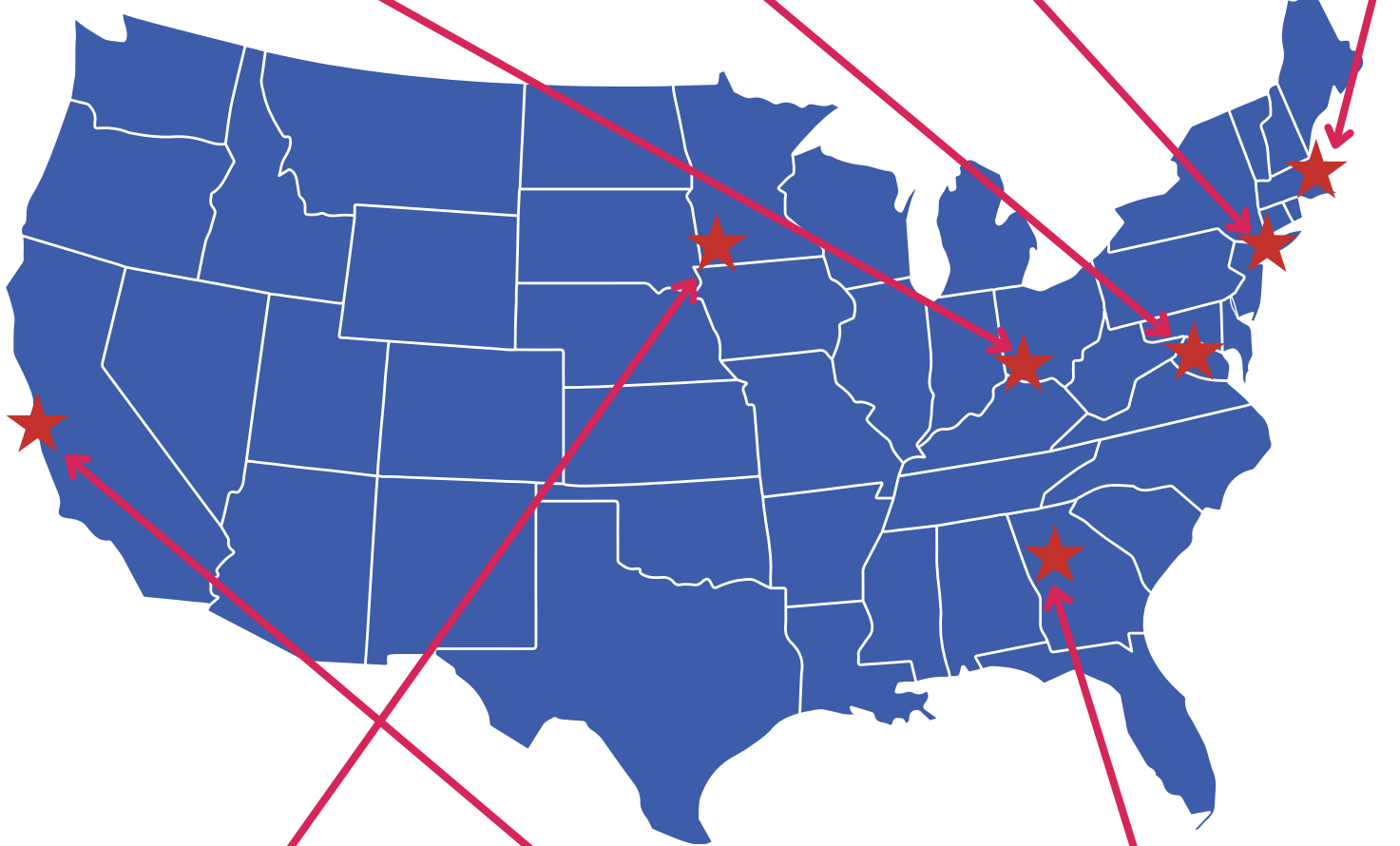
How good was your memory? Did you remember all the cities that Toni, Jenny, and Marty travel to in *The History Mystery*?

**DAYTON,
OHIO**

**NEW YORK CITY,
NEW YORK**

**BOSTON,
MASSACHUSETTS**

WASHINGTON D.C.



**WALNUT GROVE,
MINNESOTA**

**ATLANTA,
GEORGIA**

CALIFORNIA

GLOSSARY

WHAT DOES THAT WORD MEAN?

The History Mystery has a lot of words, phrases, or references that might be unfamiliar or entirely unknown to some people. Here is a list to help you out!

Amendment: a change or addition to a law or piece of legislation or any other kind of text. In U.S. History, Amendments are referred to as additional articles to the Constitution.

Assemble: to bring together; gather into one place, company, body, or whole.

Attain: to reach, achieve, or accomplish; gain; obtain.

Boycott: the act of deciding to stop buying something or using a certain service because you are unhappy. Often used in protest of something.

Chauvinistic: the thinking that one group, or gender, is better than another one, and treats the other group unfairly because of that.

Citizen: someone who belongs to a country and has rights and responsibilities there, like following the rules and helping the community.

Consequence: the results or outcome of the actions you took towards something.

Creed: a set of beliefs or ideas that guide how someone lives or what they believe in.

Demand: to ask for something with the belief that you have the right to get it.

Deny: to say "no" or refuse to give something that someone asks for.

Endow: to give someone a special talent, ability, or a gift, like money or resources.

Esteem: to think very highly of someone and admire or respect them.

Etiquette: set of rules about how to behave properly and politely in different situations. Someone might ask you to use proper dinner "etiquette" at a fancy dinner.



Members of the Black Community in Montgomery, Alabama walking during the Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1955

GLOSSARY

WHAT DOES THAT WORD MEAN?



The Gutenberg printing press. Kind of like the one that Benjamin Franklin would have used to print his newspaper - The Pennsylvania Gazette!

Gazette: a newspaper (now used mostly used in the names of newspapers).

Gutenberg: Last name of German Inventor Johannes Gensfleisch zur Laden zum Gutenberg (what a mouthful!) who invented the movable-type printing press.

Hunger strike]: a deliberate refusal to eat food, usually done in an act of protest against anything - unfair treatment, imprisonment, etc.

Inalienable: something that can't be taken away from you, like a right or freedom you have no matter what.

Independence: freedom from the control, influence, support, aid, or of others.

Interfere: to enter a situation and get often act as the opposition of one or more parties, usually with the hope to slow or end whatever is happening.

Jealous: feeling upset or angry because someone else has something you want or is successful in a way you don't believe they deserve.

Judge: form an opinion or make a decision about someone or something.

Justice: means fairness, treating people the right way, and making sure everyone gets what they deserve.

Justifiable: something that can be explained or defended as being fair or right.

Liberty: being free to make your own choices and live without control from others.

Locket : a small case for a miniature portrait, a lock of hair, or other keepsake, usually worn on a necklace.

GLOSSARY

WHAT DOES THAT WORD MEAN?

March: a group of individuals who organize a date and come together and walk for a common purpose or protest.

Mystery: a story or something that is difficult to understand or hidden to you at first.

Neophytes: a word used to describe someone who is brand new to something - whether it's a skill or subject knowledge.

Pioneer: someone who is the first to explore or settle on a piece of land. Just like Laura Ingalls-Wilder and her family!

Rally (as it pertains to activism): a mass grouping or gathering of people who have come together to advocate for a cause. Usually involves marching (like was mentioned a few words above) or staying in a single location with signs.



Suffragette Millicent Fawcett, leading a rally with other supporters in Hyde Park in 1913



A chilly rally outside of Trump International Hotel on December 9, 2017 in New York City.

Ratify: a term used to describe when something is made official, through the signing of a contract or deciding upon an agreement. Most of the documents mentioned in our Time Travelers' Toolkit had to be "ratified" before they became law.

Segregation: the act of separating something or someone apart from others.

THEATER TERMS

WHAT DOES THAT THEATER TERM MEAN?

The Theater Arts have so many terms and phrases that it can be so hard to keep track of them all! Here is a quick guide to help you out.

Actor: The individual(s) who inhabit the characters on stage! They are the ones who are performing for the audience.

Blocking: The instructions that the Director gives to the Actors on where to move on stage during their scene.

Book and Lyrics: the individual who writes out all of the scenes and the words for the musical numbers.

“Break a leg”: theater slang for “good luck!”

Choreographer: The person who comes up with all of the dance moves for the musical numbers.

Choreography: the dance movements taught to the actors for musical numbers.

Composer: the individual who creates the music, tunes, or score for the show.

Costume: Anything that an actor wears on stage is referred to as a costume. The Wardrobe department provides clothes, shoes, hats, & any personal accessories such as umbrellas, purses & eyeglasses.

Designer: The people who work with the director to decide what the production will look like. There are several areas that need to have designers: costumes, set, lighting and sound. The designers work very closely with the director to create the environment,

Director: The individual responsible for envisioning the presentation of a show, collaborating with actors on their characters, creating the blocking, and overseeing rehearsals.

House Manager: The person responsible for managing the theater auditorium and handling everything related to the audience.



Four RYET members performing choreography in TADA!'s production of Princess Phooey (2023)

THEATER TERMS

WHAT DOES THAT THEATER TERM MEAN?

House: A term used to describe the space where the audience sits during the performance.



A RYET member a laptop prop in TADA!'s production of Common Ground (2024)

Monologue: a long line of dialogue given by one actor.

Platform: In theater, a platform is a stationary, flat walking surface for actors to perform on. They are usually built and assembled in varying levels, which provides depth to the show as well as allows for different locations to be portrayed simultaneously on stage.

Props: A property or "prop" is anything that the audience sees that is not worn by an actor & is not a structural part of the set such as: food eaten during a play, dishes, briefcases, books, pens, telephones, curtains & anything else you can imagine.

Props Master: The person who buys items that will be used or adapted to become props. Props masters also purchase the raw material used to build props.

Props: A property or "prop" is anything that the audience sees that is not worn by an actor & is not a structural part of the set such as: food eaten during a play, dishes, briefcases, books, pens, telephones, curtains & anything else you can imagine.

Props Master: The person who buys items that will be used or adapted to become props. Props masters also purchase the raw material used to build props.

Score: another word for the music on the show.

Set: The physical elements and setting on stage that the actors inhabit when performing.

Stage Manager: The individual who oversees the entire production from the beginning of the performance to the end, managing everything both on and behind the stage.

Stage: Where the actors perform and all the action of the story happens.

Transition: The process of moving from one scene or set to the next. These can happen in blackouts (when the stage is dark) or seamlessly.

THEATER ETIQUETTE

WHAT IS GOING TO THE THEATER LIKE?

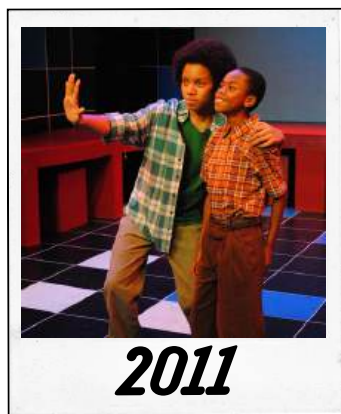
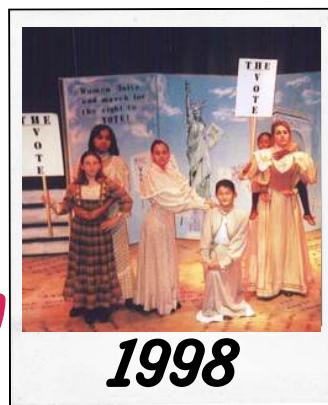
Going to see a live theater performance isn't quite like going to the movies. There's a couple of things you'll want to keep in mind to make the most of your experience at TADA!'s theater.

- 1. Be sure to arrive on time to the theater.** All of our performances of *The History Mystery* are at 7:00 PM on Fridays, or 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. We've all seen someone do the awkward shuffle to their seats after the show has already started. Don't be that person!
- 2. Don't go into the theater until the "house opens."** In theater we call the audience the "house." The house doesn't open until all the cast and crew are done with all of their pre-show preparations. Until then, feel free to hang out in the lobby and get a snack! Once the House Manager says "the house is open," and Usher will show you to your seat.
- 3. When you're in the theater, be sure to listen to the ushers!** They can help you find where your seat is, and also have important information about where to go if there's ever an emergency. So be sure to be nice to them!
- 4. Snacks are for the lobby, not the theater!** Make sure you leave all juices, sodas, gum, crumbly chips, sticky desserts, and ALL messy foods in the lobby. Munching on a super loud snack or unwrapping a candy wrapper can be really disruptive for your audience neighbor...and the actors on stage! We also have to make sure that we keep the theater clean for the next show!
- 5. Turn off your cell phones.** Science has proven that there's no sound louder than someone's cell phone that goes off during the middle of a theater performance (it's true, no need to look it up). Don't disrupt the show, especially when it's so easy to prevent!
- 6. When the lights go dark, it's time to focus on the stage.** Before then, feel free to chat with your neighbor and the people around you (ask them what their favorite TADA! show is, or if it's their first one, talk about what you're most excited to see). But once the house lights (remember what the "house" is?) start to dim, it's time to quiet our voices and focus on the stage.
- 7. During the show - laugh, cry, applaud.** The actors love it! It lets them know what you're enjoying. Any reaction you have supports the performers on stage. But be sure not to talk to the actors or your audience neighbor during the show. THAT would be disruptive.
- 8. During the show - do not record or take photos of the performance.** This is strictly prohibited, and can be very distracting for actors and audience members alike. If an Usher sees a photo or video being taken, they will ask you to delete that. And that would just be embarrassing...right?
- 9. After the show - be sure to be respectful of the space as you leave!** Pick up any trash or programs you brought in with you. If you see your favorite actor in the lobby, be sure to tell them how good they did.
- 10. Tell a friend about TADA!.** Did you like the show? Then be sure to tell a friend about us and know that you are welcome back anytime. In fact, we hope to see you at our next show - *Game Changers* in Spring of 2025!

LET'S TIME TRAVEL!

THE HISTORY MYSTERY THROUGH THE YEARS

Toni, Jenny, and Marty aren't the only ones who can time travel. Did you know this is the 6th production of *The History Mystery*? Check it out down below!



Yep! There were two productions in 2016, with different casts.





HOW TO SUPPORT TADA!

Thanks for checking out the first production of our 40th Anniversary Season! As TADA! heads into this year, we need your help more than ever, and there is so many ways you can support!

Support us financially by donating online or by dropping cash / checks in the contribution jar in the lobby! Or if you want to use a credit card, find the House Manager. Or

If you're able to volunteer your time or offer pro-bono services (legal, DEI training, IT, event planning, etc.) please feel free to reach out to us via email (info@tadatheater.com).

TADA! has a long list of items we're always looking for, such as dance shoes, musical equipment, tech equipment, building supplies, and more!

Dedicated to TADA!'s mission and wanting to contribute in a more hands on capacity? Join our board of directors! Email us for more information at development@tadatheater.com.

If you want to help TADA! but aren't sure how you can, just reach out to us! We love to hear from folks who are looking to help out.



DONATE NOW!

ABOUT TADA!



HOW TO SUPPORT

CELEBRATING
40
YEARS
TADA!
Original Youth Theater

1716

Freedom

1938

1963

Rights

Dream

1942

**Educational Dramaturg:
Grantland Tracy**