

A STUDENT'S

FIELD GUIDE

CHANGEMAKERS



HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES 9 - 12



CENTER FOR CIVIL
AND HUMAN RIGHTS



VOICE TO THE VOICELESS: THE MOREHOUSE COLLEGE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COLLECTION (FIRST FLOOR)

Martin Luther King Jr. is one of the best known leaders from the Civil Rights Movement. Did you know that he was just 26 years old when asked to lead the Montgomery Bus boycott?

Find the graphic image of a bookshelf filled with books. This is a reconstruction of King's own bookshelf at the time of his death. Are you surprised that Dr. King was such an avid reader?

This gallery is filled with objects that once belonged to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Can you find a theme that unites all of these objects?



PAINTINGS BY THE
ARTIST BENNY ANDREWS
(on display through 2014)

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION (FIRST FLOOR)

The temporary exhibition space will feature exhibitions that connect to the Center for Civil and Human Rights's mission to empower people to take the protection of every human's rights personally. Reflect on why these objects might have been selected to be exhibited at The Center for Civil and Human Rights. What story do they tell?



THE PASSAGE (WATER FEATURE)

Look for the water feature through the glass doors near the temporary exhibition space on the first floor. Learn more about the influential individuals behind the quotes.

“For to be free is not merely to cast off ones chains but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.” – Nelson Mandela

A global symbol of peaceful resistance, Nelson Mandela (1918 – 2013) served as the most significant leader of the anti-apartheid movement, protesting against South Africa’s oppressive regime and racial segregation. Despite being held as a political prisoner for 27 years, he eventually went on to become the first black president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. In 1993, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his dedication to nonviolence and democracy, and he remained devoted to the causes of human rights and social justice for the rest of his life.

Nelson Mandela spent his life working to change race relations in his country. Consider race or place of origin relations in a different context: reimagine a familiar story (maybe from a book, movie, or a television show) if the race or place of origin of the main character was different. How would the story change? Discuss this switch with one of your classmates.

1. How would this affect the character’s relationship with other people?
2. How would this affect the character’s perception of themselves?
3. Would the story have a different ending? In what way?

“Never doubt that a small group of committed individuals can change the world.” – Margaret Mead

An influential and at times controversial cultural anthropologist, Margaret Mead (1901 – 1978) was best known for her studies of childhood development and gender roles in Samoa, New Guinea, and Bali. Many believe that her writings on the behavior of the primitive societies she observed would eventually help spur the sexual revolution of the 1960s. She also served as an advocate for a wide variety of social and political issues, ranging from women’s rights to environmental preservation. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously in 1978.

A large part of Margaret Mead’s work dealt with how gender roles vary across different cultures. Consider gender roles in a different context: reimagine a familiar story (maybe from a book, movie, or a television show) if the gender of the main character was different. How would the story change? Discuss this switch with a classmate.

1. How would this affect the character’s relationship with other people?
2. How would this affect the character’s perception of themselves?
3. Would the story have a different ending?



ROLLS DOWN LIKE WATER: THE AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT (SECOND FLOOR)

CROSSROADS OF CHANGE (FIRST GALLERY)

You may recognize some of the figures featured on these 1950s period television sets. They are people who used their positions of power to vocally and sometimes violently enforce segregation. You may hear from Jim Clark, who mass arrested 300 students who were holding a silent protest, or Bull Connor who directed the use of firehoses and dogs against peaceful protestors, including children.

JIM CROW LAWS

Learn more about segregation laws in each of the southern states. Click on Georgia to learn about one of the Jim Crow laws imposed on the classrooms. No teacher teaching white and colored pupils in the same school shall be allowed.....

MOVEMENT CATCHES FIRE (SECOND GALLERY)

MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

"It is my constitutional right!" – Claudette Colvin (15 years old at the time of her arrest)

Little-known desegregation pioneer Claudette Colvin, at age 15 refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus nearly a year before Rosa Parks became famous for her similar act of defiance. Find this panel and learn why we know about Rosa Parks and not her teenaged fellow protestor.

THE INTEGRATION OF CENTRAL HIGH

Find the panel on The Integration of Central High and find the photo of Elizabeth Eckford. Eckford was just 15 years old when she and eight of her classmates attempted to desegregate Little Rock Central High School in 1957. In this photo, we see her bravely ignoring the hostile screams from protestors. How might have you felt if you were in her shoes?

FREEDOM RIDERS

"...It was young folk across this country who believed that there were wrongs being done and they wanted to correct it." – Charles Person (18 years old at the time of the Freedom Rides)

In 1961, groups of white and black "Freedom Riders" traveled together on buses through the South to test the Supreme Court ruling that segregated seating on interstate buses was unconstitutional. Find the bus and listen to Charles Person's and other Freedom Riders accounts of what it was like to protest segregated interstate travel.



WOOLWORTH'S LUNCH COUNTER SIT-INS

Students in the south participated in workshops where they were trained in nonviolence and then staged nonviolent “sit-ins” asking to be served at white-only lunch counters to protest segregation. Take the place of a protestor and have a seat at the lunch counter. Do you feel like you were able to get a sense of the discipline and courage that was necessary for protestors to maintain composure at sit-ins?

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM (THIRD GALLERY)

“To those who have said, ‘be patient and wait’ we must say that we cannot be patient. We do not want our freedom gradually but we want to be free now.” – John Lewis (23 years old at the time of the March on Washington)

More than 250,000 demonstrators came to Washington on August 28th, 1963 to peacefully demand jobs and freedom. This film, made up of archival footage from the march, was created specifically for The Center. While you watch this video, remember that John Lewis was just 23 years old when he spoke at the march and addressed over 250,000 demonstrators there.

THREE HYMNS (FOURTH GALLERY)

A shocking act of violence occurred only eighteen days after the successful March on Washington. The beautiful stained glass pieces were commissioned by the Center to memorialize the 1963 bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama and the deaths of four young African American girls. Each window features the face of one of the murdered girls, all aged between 11 and 14 years old. Here, you can read Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s eulogy for the girls, who he considered, “martyred heroines of a holy crusade for freedom and human dignity.”

POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS (FIFTH GALLERY)

“A lot of people are waiting for Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi to come back – but they are gone. We are it. It is up to us. It is up to you.” – Marian Wright Edelman

Meet some of the individuals who were involved in the civil rights movement; learn more about them then and now. Look for Joyce Ladner, who joined the movement in Mississippi while she was still in high school and Marian Wright Edelman who became involved with the student sit-in movement while attending Spelman College here in Atlanta.

REQUIEM (EIGHTH GALLERY)

This gallery pays tribute to some of the martyrs of the civil rights movement and offers us a space to reflect on and honor their achievements. Learn more about some of the individuals who lost their lives during the movement.



SPARK OF CONVICTION: THE GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT (THIRD FLOOR)

HUMAN RIGHTS TRANSFORM THE WORLD (FIRST GALLERY)

When you approach these mirrors, words associated with an individual's identity will appear in front of you, select a word - one that describes you - then you will meet a person whose human rights have been violated because of the characteristic that you share. Who did you meet?

WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS? FREEDOM AND DIGNITY (BEGINNING OF MAIN GALLERY)

Do kids have rights? In 1948, the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Since young people cannot vote and often do not have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives, world leaders created the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Learn the goals every nation should achieve for its young people. This means YOU!

DEFENDERS TODAY (CENTER OF MAIN GALLERY)

We can't allow ourselves to be seen as people who are something less than human."

- Anastasia Smirnova (27 at the time of her arrest at an Olympics protest in St. Petersburg)

This gallery prominently features portraits of everyday heroes who are working in different areas of human rights. Look for Anastasia Smirnova, who coordinates a coalition of LGBT activist organizations and was arrested along with other LGBT activists at an Olympics protest in St. Petersburg in 2014. Which issue or issues are most important to you?

HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Throughout history, brave and visionary people have devoted themselves to fighting for equality, dignity and freedom. The wall on the right side of the gallery features portraits of prominent human rights defenders – people who experienced or witnessed injustice and decided to take action.

Find the pioneer for nonviolence who said, "An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind." And the mother of human rights who said, *"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."*

MASS MURDER ON AN EPIC SCALE

These are some of the most notorious criminals in recent history and none of them were ever brought to justice. After the formation of the United Nations and the drafting of the UDHR, why do you think these individuals and others like them are able to get away with human rights violations on such an epic scale?



HUMAN RIGHTS IN DEPTH (BACK OF MAIN GALLERY)

Suspended from the ceiling are mini theaters featuring short documentaries commissioned by the Center on Women's and Girls' issues and Immigration. Step inside one of our theatres learn about the ways that we can affect change.

WHAT IS YOUR ETHICAL FOOTPRINT?

This display features a selection of stories to inspire us and highlight the importance of making informed choices as consumers. Look for the soccer ball and learn about how they are made. Rather than attending school, children work from home to hand-sew the white and black panels on the balls. Find out what you can do to demand company responsibility.

TECHNOLOGY: A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

Over the past decade, the digital world has become an increasingly important arena for promoting and protecting human rights. The internet, texting, and social media, allow people, especially young people to expose abuse, organize, and mobilize as never before. But just as technology can be a tool for freedom, it can also be used to crush dissent.

The worst thing about censorship is

MOVE FREE ACT GALLERY (FINAL, ELLIPTICAL GALLERY)

"Dear sisters and brothers, now it's time to speak up." – Malala Yousafzai

(16 years old at the time of her speech at the Youth Takeover of the United Nations)

Immerse yourself in the visual soundscape and listen for the words of Malala Yousafzai. She is a young person who was born in Pakistan advocates for women's rights and girl's education. She was shot by the Taliban in 2012 in an unsuccessful assassination attempt. How did this video make you feel?