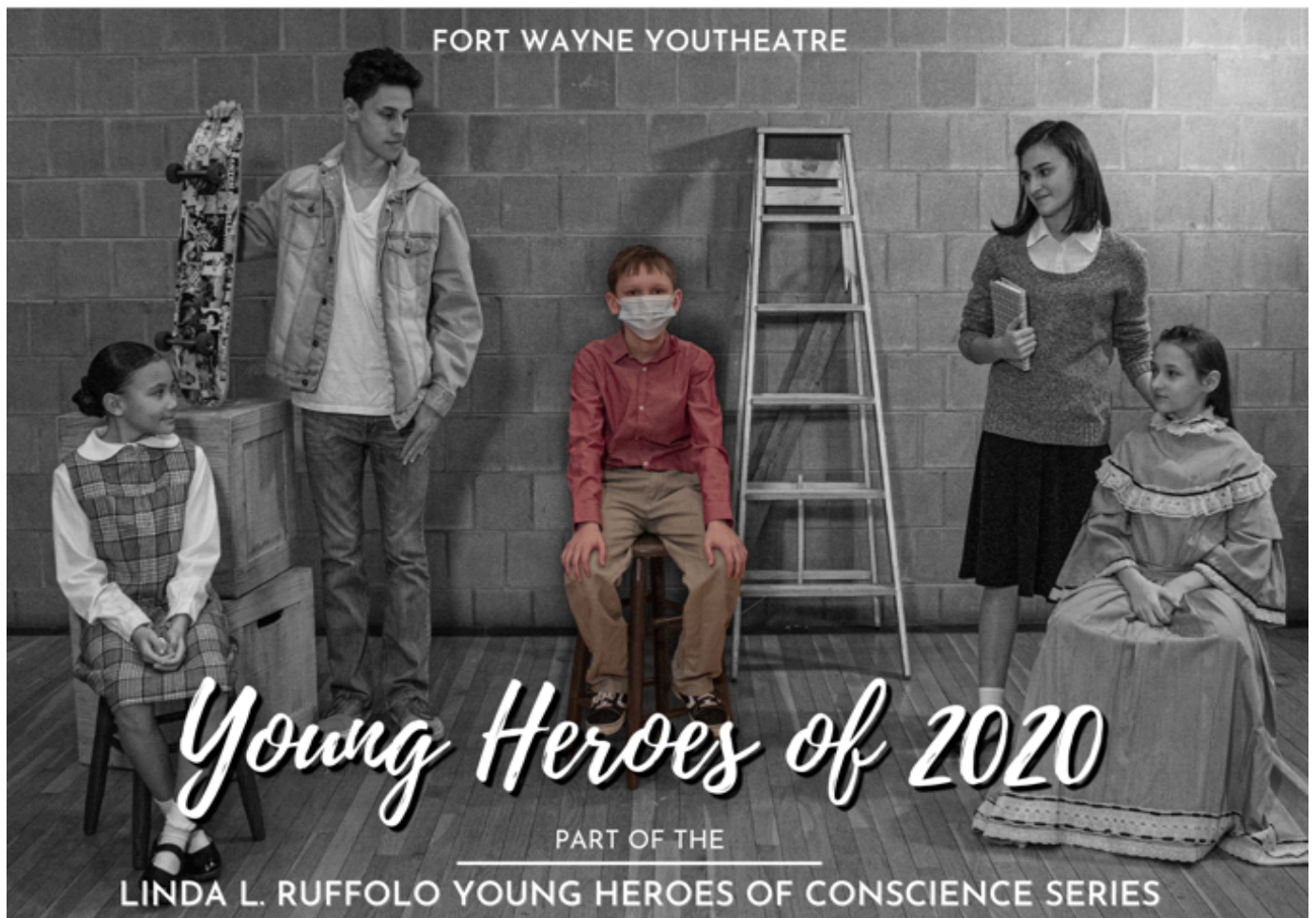




Education Guide



As the fifth oldest active children’s theatre in the nation, Youtheatre is dedicated to its mission to “educate, engage and entertain” through quality theatrical experiences. In 1934, Dr. Clive McAllister, president of the Old Fort Players (now the Civic Theatre), appointed a committee to create a junior or children’s theater branch of the organization. The committee established the philosophy that the new “Children’s Theatre” would develop poise, better diction, and self-esteem for children through dramatic instruction. They would give at least one play a year, and awaken enthusiasm in children for beauty in art and integrity in dramatic literature.

The first class began with an enrollment of a whopping 40 students, each of which paid just \$1.00 for 8 classes! The first production, “The Steadfast Tin Soldier,” was performed at the Majestic Theatre in Fort Wayne and had a cast of 75 young people. Tickets were only 10 cents for children and 25 cents for adults.

In 1954, the Majestic Theatre was deemed unsafe for children by the fire department and so the Children’s Theatre spent the next 10 years at various locations in the city. By the time it rejoined the Civic Theatre at the Old Palace Theatre, it had a new name, the “Fort Wayne Youtheatre.” In 1973, both organizations moved to their current home in the Arts United Center on E. Main Street in downtown Fort Wayne. The Youtheatre became autonomous in 1984.

In 1978, Broadway star Harvey Cocks became the Executive Director of Youtheatre. Even after retiring from that position, Harvey has remained as our Artist in Residence; and after 40+ years, he is still inspiring young actors and actresses! In 2010, he was joined by Leslie Hormann, who served as Executive/Artistic Director until 2018.

Youtheatre is currently managed by Executive/Artistic Director Todd Espeland, who came to us in 2018 after serving as Artistic Director of the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre. He is joined by Assistant Director/Director of Outreach Christopher J. Murphy, Marketing Director Megan Ebbeskotte, Administrative Assistant Kimberlee Gearhart and a staff of outstanding local artists who serve as teachers, guest directors, choreographers, music directors and designers.

For over three quarters of a century, Youtheatre has produced classes, camps and theatrical productions for the artists and audiences of northeast Indiana. Recent productions include “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” “Frozen,” “Wind in the Willows” and “Treasure Island.” Our touring “Storybook Theatre” troupe takes literature-based shows into the community, performing in hospitals, libraries, community centers and more. In 2018, our Linda L. Ruffalo “Young Heroes of Conscience Series, which has spotlighted the likes of Anne Frank, Ryan White, Harriet Tubman and Ruby Bridges, won the “Mayor’s Arts Award.”



ELEMENTS OF A PRODUCTION

SET- the scenery pieces that form the area in which the performers act out the play. Sometimes scenery is very realistic, making the audience think they are inside a real house, for example. Other times the scenery is quite fanciful or limited. What different sets can you name in "Young Heroes of 2020?" What time and place does it look like?

LIGHTS- the lighting instruments that help to create the right atmosphere on the stage. Lights direct the attention of the audience to specific areas of the stage or to a specific performer. The lights may be different colors to add special effects such as nighttime or a storm. How do the lights in "Young Heroes of 2020" show changes in the time and place?

PROPS (Properties)- the objects performers carry to help them act out the story. Look for important props that help define character or place. Can you name a few?

MAKE-UP- the cosmetic bases, blushes, lipsticks, mascara and eye liners which helps the performer physically become the character he/she is playing. Make-up is also used so that the performers' facial features can be seen clearly under the bright stage lights from a distance. Do you notice any special make-up in "Young Heroes of 2020?"

COSTUMES- the clothing the performers wear. Depending on the story being acted out, this clothing may be what a character of the time would have actually worn. It may also be very exaggerated or fantastic in the case of a dream or a fairy-tale. Costumes help the audience know what a character is like or where and when he/she lived. Are the costumes drab or colorful? Do they look realistic? What do they tell you about the time and place?



Pictured above: Youtheatre's productions of SLEEPING BEAUTY & REMEMBERING ANNE

About the Director/Playwright
GREGORY STIEBER



GREGORY STIEBER has been with Youtheatre for more than 25 years as an actor, teacher, playwright and director. He is the creator of our "Linda L. Ruffolo Young Heroes of Conscience Series," writing & directing *Mary's Story*, *The Kid from Kokomo: The Ryan White Story*, *Ruby Bridges*, *Remembering Anne*, *Harriet Tubman*, *After the Miracle: Helen Keller* and *Building the Dream: MLK Jr.* He has directed for Civic, Arena & FW Ballet. His other creations include *Star Crossed* for the Fort Wayne Dance Collective, *An Evening of Hamlet* for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and *I Will Wait: The Veterans Spouse Project* with George John Productions. He was named Artist of the Year by Arts United in 2011, 2015 and 2020. He was also awarded "One of the Righteous" from the Jewish Federation for his continued dedication to social justice through theatre.

"YOUNG HEROES OF 2020" FILMED BY



THE LINDA L. RUFFOLO YOUNG HEROES OF CONSCIENCE



2015:

THE KID FROM KOKOMO:

THE RYAN WHITE STORY



2016:

RUBY BRIDGES



2017:

REMEMBERING ANNE:

ANNE FRANK



2018:

YOUNG HARRIETT TUBMAN



2019:

AFTER THE MIRACLE:

HELEN KELLER



2020:

BUILDING THE DREAM:

MLK Jr.





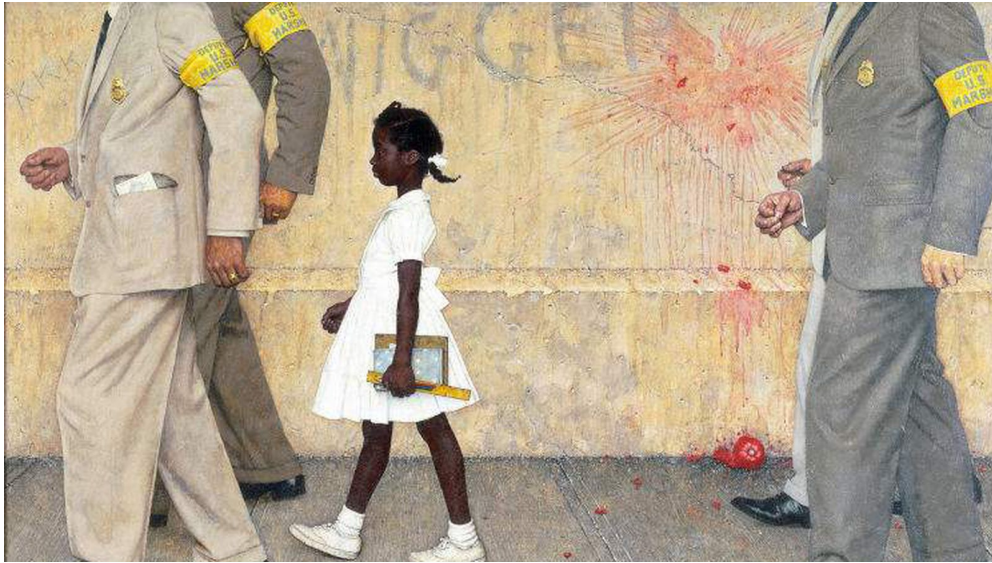
BIOGRAPHY: RYAN WHITE

(1971-1990)

Ryan White became a national symbol after he contracted AIDS from an injection of factor VIII, a substance necessary to treat his hemophilia. The stigmatization that White faced because of the disease, and his family's subsequent fight against that mistreatment, made him a spokesperson for the fair treatment of HIV/AIDS sufferers and served to educate the American public about the disease.

White was diagnosed with AIDS in 1984, at a time when very little was known about the disease and how it was spread. In 1985 the local school in Russiaville, Indiana had refused to admit him over ignorant fears of his condition. Although the White family eventually prevailed and White was admitted, he was verbally abused and harassed. White and his mother then moved to the nearby town of Cicero, where the local school board sponsored public educational talks confronting myths about AIDS.

White's youth, the tragedy of his disease, the harassment and bullying he received at school, and his remarkably positive attitude brought him to national attention. He soon became a public face of the AIDS epidemic, and he quickly drew supportive attention from many celebrities and other public figures. In 1988 he testified before the President's Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic. The unfolding of his story helped to increase public awareness of the fact that HIV/AIDS is transmitted not through casual contact but rather by means of the direct transfer of bodily fluids, primarily in blood transfusions, shared hypodermic needles, or sexual activity. When White died in 1990, his funeral was attended by more than 1,500 people, including Michael Jackson, Elton John, and first lady Barbara Bush. In the same year, the federal Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resource Emergency (CARE) Act was adopted to provide funding for medical care and support services for individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS.



BIOGRAPHY: RUBY BRIDGES

(1954-)

Ruby Bridges was six when she became the first African American child to integrate a white Southern elementary school. On November 14, 1960, she was escorted to class by her mother and U.S. marshals due to violent mobs. Bridges' brave act was a milestone in the civil rights movement, and she's shared her story with future generations in educational forums.

Ruby Nell Bridges was born on September 8, 1954 (the same year that the Supreme Court handed down its *Brown v. Board of Education* decision desegregating schools). When Bridges was in kindergarten, she was one of many African American students in New Orleans who were chosen to take a test determining whether or not she could attend a white school. In 1960, Bridges' parents were informed by officials from the NAACP that she was one of only six African American students to pass the test. Bridges would be the first Black child to attend an all-white elementary school in the South.

On the morning of November 14, 1960, federal marshals drove Bridges and her mother five blocks to her new school. When they arrived at the school, large crowds of people were gathered in front yelling and throwing objects. There were barricades set up, and policemen were everywhere. On her second day of school, a woman threatened to poison her. On another day, she was "greeted" by a woman displaying a Black doll in a wooden coffin. Several years later, federal marshal Charles Burks, one of her escorts, commented with some pride that Bridges showed a lot of courage. She never cried or whimpered, Burks said, "She just marched along like a little soldier."

Only one teacher, Barbara Henry, agreed to teach Bridges. She was from Boston and a new teacher to the school, and greeted her with open arms. Bridges was the only student in Henry's class because parents pulled or threatened to pull their children from Bridges' class and send them to other schools.

By Bridges' second year at Frantz School, it seemed everything had changed. Mrs. Henry's contract wasn't renewed, and so she and her husband returned to Boston. There were also no more federal marshals; Bridges walked to school every day by herself. There were other students in her second-grade class, and the school began to see full enrollment again.

Bridges finished grade school and graduated from the integrated Francis T. Nicholls High School in New Orleans. She then studied travel and tourism at the Kansas City business school and worked for American Express as a world travel agent. In 1984, Bridges married Malcolm Hall in New Orleans. She later became a full-time parent to their four sons.



BIOGRAPHY: ANNE FRANK

(1929-1945)

Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl, her sister, and her parents moved to the Netherlands from Germany after Adolf Hitler and the Nazis came to power there in 1933 and made life increasingly difficult for Jews.

Anne's sister, Margot, received a letter ordering her to report to a work camp in Germany in July 1942 and the Franks went into hiding in an attic apartment behind Otto Frank's business in Amsterdam. They were joined in hiding by a dentist named Fritz Pfeffer, as well as Otto's business associate Hermann van Pels, his wife, and his son, Peter, who were also Jewish. A small group of Frank's employees, including his Austrian-born secretary, Miep Gies risked their own lives to smuggle food, supplies and news of the outside world into the secret apartment, whose entrance was situated behind a movable bookcase.

Anne passed the time by chronicling her observations and feelings in a diary she had received for her 13th birthday, a month before her family went into hiding. While she detailed typical teenage issues such as crushes on boys, arguments with her mother and resentments toward her sister, Frank also displayed keen insight and maturity when she wrote about the war, humanity and her own identity.

After 25 months, Anne and the seven others in the Secret Annex were discovered by the German secret state police. Anne and Margot Frank were spared immediate death in the Auschwitz gas chambers and instead were sent to Bergen-Belsen, a concentration camp in northern Germany. In February 1945, the Frank sisters died of typhus at Bergen-Belsen; their bodies were thrown into a mass grave. Several weeks later, on April 15, 1945, British forces liberated the camp.

When Otto Frank, the group's lone survivor, returned to Amsterdam after the war, Miep gave him five notebooks and some 300 loose papers containing Anne's writings. They were eventually published in America in 1952 as "The Diary of a Young Girl." The book, which went on to sell tens of millions of copies worldwide, has been labeled a testament to the indestructible nature of the human spirit. It is required reading at schools around the globe and has been adapted for the stage and screen.



BIOGRAPHY: HARRIETT TUBMAN

(1820-1913)

Harriet Tubman was an American bondswoman who escaped from slavery in the South to become a leading abolitionist before the American Civil War. She led hundreds of enslaved people to freedom in the North along the route of the Underground Railroad—an elaborate secret network of safe houses organized for that purpose.

In 1849, Tubman fled to Philadelphia, leaving her family behind. In December 1850 she led her sister and two children to freedom. That journey was the first of some 19 increasingly dangerous forays into Maryland in which, over the next decade, she conducted upward of 300 fugitive enslaved people along the Underground Railroad to Canada. Tubman displayed extraordinary courage, persistence, and iron discipline. She also was inventive, devising various strategies to better ensure success. One such example was escaping on Saturday nights, since it would not appear in newspapers until Monday. The railroad's most famous conductor, Tubman became known as the "Moses of her people." It has been said that she never lost a fugitive she was leading to freedom.

From 1862-1865 she served as a scout for Union forces in South Carolina during the Civil War. For the Second Carolina Volunteers, under the command of Col. James Montgomery, Tubman spied on Confederate territory.

Tubman also became involved in various other causes, including women's suffrage. In the late 1860s and again in the late '90s she applied for a federal pension for her work during the Civil War. Some 30 years after her service a private bill providing for \$20 monthly was passed by Congress.



BIOGRAPHY: HELEN KELLER

(1880- 1968)

The name Helen Keller is known around the world as a symbol of courage in the face of overwhelming odds. She was a woman of luminous intelligence, high ambition and great accomplishment who devoted her life to helping others.

Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama on June 27th, 1880. At 2 years old, following a bout of illness, Helen loses her sight and hearing. Helen's parents decided to hire Anne Sullivan, a graduate of the Perkins School for the Blind, as her tutor. Anne taught Helen that objects have names, to use her fingers to spell them, to communicate via sign language, to read and write in Braille, to touch-lip read, and to speak.

With the help of Anne, Helen published her autobiography called, "The Story of My Life" in 1900. At 24 years old, Helen graduated cum laude from Radcliffe College, becoming the first deaf/blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

She co-founded the organization that will later become Helen Keller International and the ACLU. In 1924, she joined the American Foundation for the Blind and toured the world, continuing her advocacy for people with vision impairment. Helen was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964.

On June 1, 1968, Helen died peacefully at her home in Connecticut.



BIOGRAPHY: MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.

(1929-1968)

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. His leadership was fundamental to that movement's success in ending the legal segregation of African Americans in the South. King promoted nonviolent tactics, such as the massive March on Washington (1963), to achieve civil rights. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

King spent three years at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania, where he became acquainted with Mohandas Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence. From Crozer, King went to Boston University and received a doctorate in 1955. While in Boston, King married Coretta Scott and had four children.

From 1960 to 1965, King's influence reached its zenith. Handsome, eloquent, and doggedly determined, King quickly caught the attention of the nation.

King joined other civil rights leaders in organizing the historic March on Washington. On August 28, 1963, an interracial assembly of more than 200,000 gathered peaceably in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial. Here the crowds were uplifted by the emotional strength and prophetic quality of King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

His strong effect on national opinion and resulted in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. That eventful year was climaxed by the award to King of the Nobel Peace Prize.



At the Presidential Inauguration, U.S. Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman kicked off 2021 with words to inspire us all, young and old, toward tomorrow.

THE HILL WE CLIMB
by Amanda Gorman

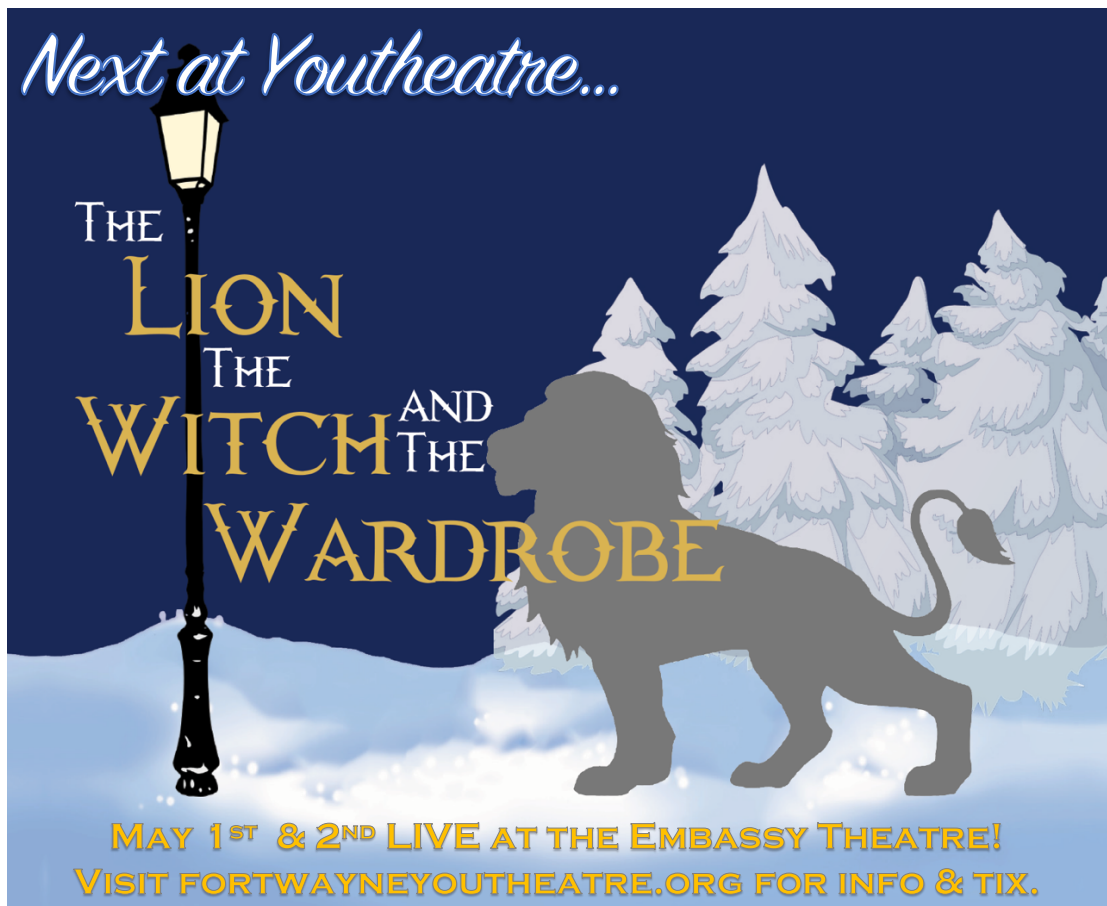
When day comes we ask ourselves,
where can we find light in this never-ending shade?
The loss we carry,
a sea we must wade.
We've braved the belly of the beast,
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace,
and the norms and notions
of what just is
isn't always just-ice.
And yet the dawn is ours
before we knew it.
Somehow we do it.
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken,
but simply unfinished.
We the successors of a country and a time
where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother
can dream of becoming president
only to find herself reciting for one.
And yes we are far from polished.
Far from pristine.
But that doesn't mean we are
striving to form a union that is perfect.
We are striving to forge a union with purpose,

to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man.

And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us,
but what stands before us.
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,
we must first put our differences aside.
We lay down our arms
so we can reach out our arms
to one another.
We seek harm to none and harmony for all.
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true,
that even as we grieved, we grew,
that even as we hurt, we hoped,
that even as we tired, we tried,
that we'll forever be tied together, victorious.
Not because we will never again know defeat,
but because we will never again sow division.
Scripture tells us to envision
that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree
and no one shall make them afraid.
If we're to live up to our own time,
then victory won't lie in the blade.
But in all the bridges we've made,
that is the promise to glade,
the hill we climb.
If only we dare.
It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit,
it's the past we step into

and how we repair it.
We've seen a force that would shatter our nation
rather than share it.
Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy.
And this effort very nearly succeeded.
But while democracy can be periodically delayed,
it can never be permanently defeated.
In this truth,
in this faith we trust.
For while we have our eyes on the future,
history has its eyes on us.
This is the era of just redemption
we feared at its inception.
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs
of such a terrifying hour
but within it we found the power
to author a new chapter.
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves.
So while once we asked,
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?
Now we assert,
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?
We will not march back to what was,
but move to what shall be.
A country that is bruised but whole,
benevolent but bold,
fierce and free.
We will not be turned around
or interrupted by intimidation,

because we know our inaction and inertia
will be the inheritance of the next generation.
Our blunders become their burdens.
But one thing is certain,
If we merge mercy with might,
and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy,
and change our children's birthright.
So let us leave behind a country
better than the one we were left with.
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one.
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west.
We will rise from the windswept northeast,
where our forefathers first realized revolution.
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states.
We will rise from the sunbaked south.
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover.
And every known nook of our nation and
every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful.
When day comes we step out of the shade,
afire and unafraid,
the new dawn blooms as we free it.
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it.
If only we're brave enough to be it.



Reader's Digest

10 Extraordinary Ways Kids Are Giving Us Hope in the Time of Coronavirus

by Lisa Kanarek, Reader's Digest

Updated: Sep. 11, 2020

Meet These 10 Real Life Young Heroes of 2020

Kids are resilient. After a few tears, a skinned knee is easily forgotten and they go on to play, learn, grow, and build the future. As Zoom classes have replaced school and walking with the family has replaced roughhousing on the playground with friends, the COVID-19 crisis has changed their lives. Still, despite it all, kids across America are doing extraordinary things to brighten spirits, alleviate suffering, and bring hope to all of us. These ten examples will inspire you and the children in your lives to shake off the pain of the pandemic and help build a better tomorrow.



1. Jewelry sales helping to feed America

Dori Kaplan, home from her freshman year at Tulane University due to COVID-19, was eager to volunteer at a local non-profit, but with the stay-at-home order, that wasn't possible. Instead, the 19-year-old is selling handmade jewelry to benefit Feeding America. All of the proceeds from the beaded earrings, bracelets, and necklaces she creates from her Westfield, New Jersey, home, go directly to the organization meeting the needs of individuals struggling with food insecurity. So far, she has raised \$1,000 and her father's employer is matching her donations. "For those of us who are in the fortunate position of having enough money to support ourselves and our families, we cannot sit comfortably at home while people go hungry," said Kaplan.



2. Siblings making masks

In early April, Etsy sent its sellers an email asking them to offer face masks for sale in their stores. The England sisters from University Park, Texas, didn't hesitate to join the effort. Lydia, an 11th grader, and Caleigh, an eighth-grader, began spending 12 hours a day making masks and selling them through Lydia's Etsy store, Twinkle Toes, and Bows. Using a portion of their proceeds, they purchase materials to make masks for First Responders at no charge. When Lydia isn't sewing or Caleigh isn't cutting out patterns, the two focus on their online school

schedules as well as participate in online ballet and gymnastics training. Their customers are grateful for the masks. One wrote, "You are making a difference in these challenging times, especially for those of us who do not have the resources to sew our own." In addition to sharing their praise, many buyers are donating money to cover the cost of additional masks for donation.

3. Teens tutoring students for free

Aidan and Erin Finn heard about parents struggling to work from home and homeschool their children. Focusing on their knowledge of school and screens, they started Tutor Teens to provide support and relief to the parents and children in their Cincinnati, Ohio, community. Aidan, a junior, and Erin, a freshman, along with about 40 other high school students, work remotely with students in grades K-8. The dedicated teens from area schools offer free homework help, coaching for music and art projects, and other services to keep children engaged and interested in learning. They offer 30-minute or 45-minute sessions, one-to-two times per week.



4. Teen celebrates 16th birthday by honoring essential workers



In mid-April, Gaby Zola turned 16 years old. Knowing that the shelter-in-place order would nix her plans for a party, she asked her mom if she could start a GoFundMe campaign instead. Her goal: Feed essential workers and support local restaurants. So far, the Stoughton, Massachusetts, teen has raised over \$6,000 and fed over 600 workers. Along with providing meals to healthcare workers, she has delivered food to fire and police stations, teachers at various schools, pharmacies, and even essential workers at a company focused on making labels for cleaning and antibacterial products, among other businesses. The busy teen also stops by grocery stores and small shops to thank employees with gift cards to local restaurants.



5. Offering protection for essential workers

Two years ago, the only Christmas present Ryan Washington wanted from his parents was a 3D printer. Initially, he made keychains and plastic toys for his friends and family from his Brick, New Jersey, home. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, his mother showed him an online story about police officers needing protective shields. The eighth-grader researched patterns online and discovered a YouTube video of a guy making shields for nurses. Washington spent hours creating the shields to donate to the Brick Police Department. "They were so thankful," the soon-to-be Eagle Scout said in a Facebook post on the police department's page. "It feels so good that I can help them this way."

6. Spreading cheer through seashells

Thomas Bonadonna wanted to bring cheer and a little joy to his North Babylon, New York, neighborhood. The 14-year-old painted "kindness shells" with various sayings from "Love life" and "Don't worry about a thing" to "Be kind" and "Don't worry, be happy." Bonadonna, who has down syndrome, will start high school next fall. He and his mom, Lori, strolled through the neighborhood and left the inspirational gifts on their neighbors' stoops. "He had a ball," said Lori. "We hope it brought a smile to someone's face during this crazy time."





7. Children of healthcare workers feeding frontline heroes

The children of healthcare workers, Jeffrey Chuong, Bryce Liu, and Omar Busaidy, saw the strain the pandemic was putting not only on their parents but other medical staff. Their parents' long shifts and their concerns about slowing the pandemic left the healthcare professionals with little time to focus on food. As a way to give back, the high school juniors formed Food For Heroes, a nonprofit organization that coordinates the deliveries of fresh meals to healthcare workers on the frontlines, with Houston, Texas, restaurants. Through their GoFundMe account, they have raised over \$4,500 and donated 180 meals.

8. Creating a rock-solid program to help others



Ty Scherer and Lily Ryan were concerned about the future of local Glen Rock, New Jersey, businesses, shuttered after the start of the coronavirus pandemic. At the same time, they were searching for a way to bring the community together. In mid-March, they designed and sold “Rock Solid” T-shirts to raise funds for gift cards to give to teachers and healthcare workers. The high school juniors’ initiative, called “Glen Rock Solid,” has raised almost \$14,000, far exceeding their goal of \$3,000. After covering the cost of ordering the T-shirts, they were left with enough money to buy gift cards for distribution to area organizations, according to their GoFundMe page.

9. Neighbors helping neighbors

When the coronavirus hit, Michael Owens was concerned about the needs of his Fairfax County, Virginia, neighbors, many of whom are senior citizens. In response, he created Greenbrier Cares, a volunteer organization to help the residents in his Greenbriar subdivision connect with one another. More specifically, the tenth-grader was eager for neighbors to feel comfortable asking each other for help. Residents are encouraged to shop for those who are sick or unable to leave their homes and to handle tasks for anyone unable to do so for themselves. "I have personally benefited from this service and very much appreciate his thoughtfulness and the kindness of the helpers!" said Nancy Kredel. "I feel very cared for."



10. Displaying ribbons to support and help healthcare workers



Various organizations are providing meals for healthcare workers and essential employees, a much-needed service during the time of coronavirus. Zachary Wilkins, a junior in high school, has found a different way to help healthcare providers: He is focusing on their mental health needs. Through "Remedy Ribbons," Wilkins and his supporters are placing blue ribbons on trees throughout New Orleans, Louisiana, as a sign of support and gratitude for healthcare workers. Also, the organization is raising money to fund programs focused on supporting and promoting the sustained mental health of first responders and healthcare providers on the frontlines. This therapist shares how she is staying sane during coronavirus quarantine.

CLASS ACTIVITY

YOUNG HEROES FEATURES DOCUMENTARY-STYLE INTERVIEWS OF YOUNG PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU TALKING ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES IN 2020. GRAB AN SMART PHONE AND RECORD YOUR OWN INTERVIEWS TALKING ABOUT YOUR OWN HIGHS AND LOWS IN 2020.





WHAT A YEAR IT WAS: A LOOK BACK AT 2020

The year seemed to start out at a pace we are used to — politicians debated and insulted one another, British royals made headlines, teams squared off in the Super Bowl, Hollywood strutted its stuff at the Oscars. And an impeached president faced trial in the Senate. It was an extraordinary event, only the third such trial in U.S. history. At the time, it seemed to set a high bar for memorable events in 2020. If only we had known.

JANUARY

Jan. 1: One of the worst fire seasons in Australian history continues as thousands of people evacuate and millions of acres burn.

Jan. 5: “1917,” “Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood” and HBO are the big winners at the Golden Globe Awards.

Jan. 7: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issues a travel notice for Americans going to Wuhan, China. On Dec. 31, 2019, Chinese authorities had reported a cluster of pneumonia cases associated with a seafood and poultry market in Wuhan.

Jan. 8: Iran’s military shoots down Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 shortly after takeoff from Tehran, killing all 176 people on board.

Jan. 8: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle step back from royal duties.



Jan. 15: The U.S. House votes to send articles of impeachment against President Trump to the U.S. Senate.

Jan. 20: The first case of a coronavirus infection, that of a 35-year-old man who returned from China, is reported in the United States.

Jan. 26: Kobe Bryant, his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna, and seven others die in a helicopter crash near Calabasas.

Jan. 30: The World Health Organization declares the coronavirus outbreak a public health emergency.

Jan. 31: The United Kingdom withdraws from the European Union, making Brexit official. Actual separation will occur Dec. 31.

Jan. 31: President Trump bans travel from China, with a few exceptions.

FEBRUARY

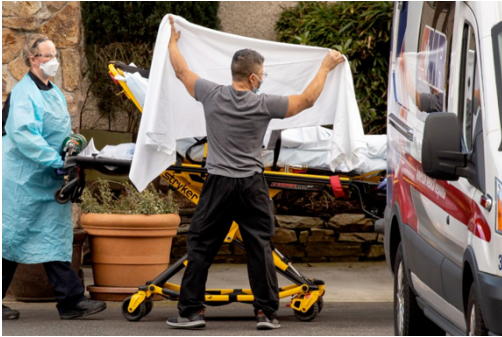
Feb. 2: The Kansas City Chiefs defeat the San Francisco 49ers in the Super Bowl.

"YOUNG HEROES OF 2020" EDUCATION GUIDE SPRING 2021

Feb. 4: Impeachment overshadows President Trump's State of the Union address; House Speaker Nancy Pelosi tears up a copy of his speech during the last few seconds.

Feb. 5: The Senate acquits President Trump of abusing the power of his office and obstructing Congress' investigation into his conduct.

Feb. 9: "Parasite" pulls off an upset at the Oscars, including best picture.



Feb. 23: Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man, is shot and killed by a white father and son while jogging in Georgia; the two men are arrested 2½ months later and charged with felony murder and aggravated assault.

Feb. 29: Former Vice President Joe Biden scores an overwhelming victory in the South Carolina Democratic primary, reigniting his presidential campaign.

Feb. 29: The first COVID-19 death is reported in the U.S., though earlier deaths will be reported later.

MARCH

March 3: Joe Biden takes a commanding lead of the primary race with sweeping victories in 10 states on Super Tuesday.

March 9: Italy places itself on a nationwide quarantine to slow the spread of coronavirus. The Dow Jones industrial average plunges more than 2,000 points.

March 11: The World Health Organization declares the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic.

March 11: Actor Tom Hanks announces he and his wife, Rita Wilson, tested positive for coronavirus in Australia.

March 11: The NBA suspends its season indefinitely over the pandemic.

March 12: Major League Baseball suspends spring training indefinitely because of COVID-19 concerns.

March 12: The NFL suspends its 2019-20 season indefinitely; NHL and Major League Soccer suspend their seasons as well.

March 12: The NCAA cancels its basketball championship tournaments.

March 13: President Trump declares the coronavirus a national emergency.

March 13: Breonna Taylor is shot and killed in her home in Louisville, Ky., by police serving a narcotics warrant in search of a suspected drug dealer.

March 16: The Dow Jones industrial average falls by 2,997.10, the largest single-day point drop ever, amid the coronavirus outbreak.

March 20: The worldwide coronavirus death toll passes 10,000.

March 24: The 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo are suspended until 2021.



March 24: President Trump tweets that the "cure" cannot be "worse than the problem itself" and calls for country to reopen on Easter Sunday.

March 25: The Senate and the White House agree to a \$2-trillion stimulus package to boost the economy, the largest stimulus package in U.S. history.

March 26: Global coronavirus cases top 500,000. The U.S. reports 82,000 infections — more than China or Italy — and passes 1,000 deaths.

March 26: The Labor Department reports that a record 3.28 million Americans filed for unemployment benefits in the previous week.

APRIL

April 2: The number of coronavirus cases worldwide passes 1 million. More than 6.6 million workers file for unemployment in the United States.

April 3: The CDC recommends that everyone consider wearing cloth or fabric face masks in public.

April 6: Boris Johnson is hospitalized with COVID-19.

April 8: Bernie Sanders drops out of the presidential race, clearing the way for Joe Biden to win the Democratic nomination.

April 10: The United States becomes the first country to report 2,000 coronavirus deaths in a single day.

April 14: President Trump announces he will suspend U.S. funding for the World Health Organization.

April 24: The U.S. death toll from COVID-19 surpasses 50,000.

April 27: The U.S. coronavirus cases surpass 1 million; worldwide cases top 3 million.

April 30: Armed protesters enter the state Capitol in Lansing, Mich., to demand an end to the pandemic lockdown.



MAY

May 1: The FDA authorizes emergency remdesivir use to treat the sickest coronavirus patients.

May 3: The U.S. faces invasion of "murder hornets," which threaten domestic bees.

May 7: Gregory and Travis McMichael are charged with murder in the shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia.

May 8: The U.S. unemployment reaches 14.7%, with more than 33 million jobless claims filed since mid-March.

May 15: The Trump administration announces Operation Warp Speed, a public-private partnership to speed up development of a COVID-19 vaccine.



“YOUNG HEROES OF 2020” EDUCATION GUIDE SPRING 2021

May 15: Worldwide coronavirus deaths surpass 300,000.

May 19: The U.S. passes 1.5 million confirmed COVID-19 cases and 90,000 deaths.

May 22: Lori Loughlin and Mossimo Giannulli plead guilty in the college admissions scandal.

May 25: Minneapolis police officer is filmed while pressing his knee on the neck of George Floyd for about eight minutes, killing him, as three other officers stand by. Video of Floyd’s death goes viral; the four officers are fired the next day.

May 28: A state of emergency is declared in Minneapolis-St. Paul as protests over the death of George Floyd and racial injustice spread nationwide.

May 29: Fired Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin is charged with third-degree murder and manslaughter in the killing of George Floyd; the Minnesota attorney general increases the charge to second-degree murder on June 3. Charges against three other fired officers are filed.

JUNE

June 1: President Trump threatens to deploy U.S. troops to quell protests across the country and subsequently stages a photo-op at St. John’s Episcopal Church after federal officers and other law enforcement personnel forcefully clear peaceful protesters from Lafayette Square in front of the White House.



June 5: Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser designates a section of 16th Street NW as Black Lives Matter Plaza.

June 5: The NBA votes to restart its season in a “bubble” setting in Orlando, Fla.

June 8: Protesters in Seattle declare an “autonomous zone” in the city’s Capitol Hill area.

June 10: The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the U.S. exceeds 2 million.

June 15: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which makes it illegal for employers to discriminate because of a person’s sex, also covers sexual orientation.

June 25: After a downward trend of coronavirus infections in early June, the U.S. reaches a daily high of 40,000 new cases.

June 30: Following a vote by the state Legislature, Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves signs a bill that retires the official state flag — the last state flag incorporating the Confederate battle flag in its design.

JULY



July 17: Secretary of Defense Mark Esper issues a memorandum to the military on the appropriate display of flags — excluding the Confederate battle flag and essentially banning it.

July 18: Oregon Atty. Gen. Ellen Rosenblum files suit against the federal government, accusing it of unlawfully detaining protesters in Portland.

July 22: President Trump announces a “surge” of federal officers into Democratic-run cities, following a crackdown on protests in Portland, Ore.

July 23: Major League Baseball's 60-game season begins.

July 24: TV personality Regis Philbin dies at 88.

July 30: President Trump suggests the 2020 presidential election be delayed, saying increased voting by mail could lead to fraud.

AUGUST

Aug. 7-16: More than 400,000 people, most without face masks and who don't follow social distancing guidelines, participate in activities related to the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota.

Aug. 11: Joe Biden announces Sen. Kamala Harris of California as his vice presidential running mate, the first woman of color to appear on a major party's presidential ticket.

Aug. 11: The Pac-12 and Big Ten conferences announce the cancellation all fall sports. The ACC and SEC conferences say they're still planning to play football; on Aug. 12, the Big 12 announces it will play.

Aug. 13: Plans are announced by the U.S. Postal Service to remove hundreds of high-volume mail-processing machines from postal facilities across the country.

Aug. 16: Death Valley hits 130 degrees, thought to be highest temperature on Earth in nearly a century.

Aug. 17-20: The Democratic National Convention is staged in Milwaukee, with events happening virtually. The Democrats formally choose Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as their nominees for their 2020 presidential ticket.

Aug. 19: Apple becomes first U.S. company to be valued at more than \$2 trillion.



Aug. 20: Former Trump advisor Stephen K. Bannon is arrested and charged with fraud over a private fundraising campaign to build a border wall.

Aug. 23: Protests break out in Kenosha, Wis., after the shooting of 29-year-old Jacob Blake by a police officer.

Aug. 24-27: The Republican National Convention is held in Charlotte, N.C., and Washington. President Trump and Vice President Mike Pence are formally nominated as the GOP's 2020 presidential ticket.

Aug. 25: Two people are shot and killed during unrest in Kenosha, Wis.; a suspect is arrested. Soon after, professional athletes start to boycott their sports to protest the shooting of Jacob Blake.

Aug. 28: Actor Chadwick Boseman dies at age 43 following a previously undisclosed battle with colon cancer.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 6: California sets a new record for destruction by wildfires, with 2.1 million acres burning.

Sept. 7: Oregon wildfires start amid severe drought and severe winds; by the end of October, more than 1 million acres will burn, more than 4,000 homes will be destroyed, and at least 10 people will be killed.

Sept. 18: Long-serving Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg dies at 87.

Sept. 20: "Succession," "Watchmen" and "Schitt's Creek" are the major winners at the 72nd Emmy Awards.

Sept. 22: The death toll of the pandemic in the United States passes 200,000.

Sept. 23: A Kentucky grand jury brings no charges against Louisville police in the killing of Breonna Taylor during a drug raid gone wrong.

Sept. 26: President Trump chooses Judge Amy Coney Barrett of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to fill the vacancy created by the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Several attendees at the nomination ceremony at the White House Rose Garden will later test positive for the coronavirus.

Sept. 28: The Tampa Bay Lightning defeat the Dallas Stars to win their second Stanley Cup championship in a season disrupted by the pandemic.

Sept. 29: Shouting, insults and misinformation dominate the first presidential debate.



OCTOBER

Oct. 2: President Trump is rushed to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for treatment for COVID-19.

Oct. 4: For the first time in California history, a ballot will make its way in the mail this week to every registered California voter.

Oct. 6: Eddie Van Halen dies at age 65 after a long battle with cancer.

Oct. 8: FBI announces that 13 men have been charged in a plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Oct. 11: The Lakers defeat the Miami Heat to capture a record-tying 17th NBA title.

Oct. 16: Coronavirus cases in the United States surpass 8 million.

Oct. 21: Less than seven months after Jeffrey Katzenberg and Meg Whitman launched Quibi to remake the business of short-form video, the nascent streaming service announces it is shutting down.

Oct. 26: The Senate confirms Amy Coney Barrett as a Supreme Court associate justice on a party-line vote, 52 to 48.

Oct. 27: The Dodgers defeat the Tampa Bay Rays to win the team's first World Series title since 1988.



NOVEMBER

Nov. 3: After midnight, President Trump announces he has won the election and demands that all vote counting stop, alleging voter fraud. But with millions of votes still to be counted, no news organizations declare a presidential winner.

Nov. 4: The U.S. becomes the first country in the world to exceed 100,000 daily cases of COVID-19.

"YOUNG HEROES OF 2020" EDUCATION GUIDE SPRING 2021

Nov. 4: President Trump continues his attack on the voting system as he joins several lawsuits aiming at stopping vote counts in Pennsylvania, Georgia and Michigan.

Nov. 7: After days of waiting, major news organizations declare that Joe Biden has secured enough electoral college votes to win the presidency.

Nov. 8: "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek, 80, dies following a battle with pancreatic cancer.

Nov. 9: Pfizer says early data on its coronavirus vaccine candidate suggest the shots may be 90% effective at preventing the disease.

Nov. 16: Moderna announces that its COVID-19 vaccine appears to be 94.5% effective, according to preliminary data.

Nov. 16: Hurricane Iota makes landfall in Nicaragua as a Category 4 storm, just two weeks after Hurricane Eta hit, devastating the same areas.

Nov. 18: Pfizer says new results show its COVID-19 vaccine is 95% effective.

Nov. 19: President Trump escalates his attempts to overturn Joe Biden's election victory, pushing for judges and Republican state lawmakers and local officials in several battleground states to ignore voters' verdicts and award him the electoral votes he needs for a second term.



Nov. 20: Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger certifies President-elect Joe Biden's win and the results of all the other races in the state.

Nov. 23: After a two-week standoff, Emily Murphy, General Services Administration head, reverses course and allows President-elect Biden's team access to required federal resources to start the formal transition process.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Atty. Gen. William Barr says the U.S. Justice Department has uncovered no evidence of widespread voter fraud that could change the outcome of the 2020 election.

Dec. 11: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorizes emergency use of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech.

Dec. 11: The Supreme Court rejects a highly unusual lawsuit filed by Texas that urged the justices to overturn the election result by nullifying President-elect Joe Biden's victory in four key states: Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Georgia.



Dec. 14: The first COVID-19 vaccinations start in the United States. The first doses are expected to go to front-line healthcare workers and residents of long-term care facilities, followed by other at-risk groups.

Dec. 14: The electoral college confirms Joe Biden's victory over President Trump.

Dec. 18: FDA authorizes the emergency use of a COVID-19 vaccine developed by Moderna and the National Institutes of Health.

Dec. 20: More than 317,000 people in the U.S. have died from COVID-19; the international death toll is 1.69 million.

Sources: Associated Press, Los Angeles Times, the Oregonian, San Diego Union-Tribune, U.S. News & World Report, American Journal of Managed Care, NBC Los Angeles, KPBS, Cal Fire, National Interagency Fire Center



1. What blood disorder did Ryan White suffer from that required him to get the blood transfusion that gave him HIV/AIDS?
a. Anemia b. Hemophilia c. Blood cCots d. Leukemia
2. TRUE or FALSE? Ryan White won his court case to be allowed back in school. _____.
3. How many students were in Ruby Bridges' first class at her integrated school?
a. 20 b. 5 c. 2 d. 1
4. Why did Ruby Bridges stopped eating lunch at school for a period of time?
a. Her mother was a bad cook b. She was afraid of being poisoned
c. A bully stole it d. She was protesting.
5. What did Anne Frank wish to be when she got older?
a. Chef b. Singer c. Journalist d. Politician
6. Where were the Franks living in when they went into hiding?
a. Munich b. Budapest c. Warsaw d. Amsterdam
7. TRUE or FALSE? Helen Keller was born deaf and blind. _____.
8. Helen Keller becme the first deaf & blind person in America to do what?
a. Get Married b. Drive a Car c. Graduate College d. Record an Album
9. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech where?
a. Lincoln Memorial b. Mt. Rushmore c. United Nations d. Gettysburg
10. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his supporters believed in what form of protest?
a. Anarchy b. Non-Violent c. Overthrow the Government

ANSWERS

1. B 2. T 3. 1 4. B 5. C 6. D 7. F 8. A 9. A 10. B

Forbes

How Student Activism Shaped the Black Lives Matter Movement

Following George Floyd's brutal murder, the Black Lives Matter movement has shifted to the forefront of the world's attention. Protesters have taken to the streets in cities around the world, including in Auckland, Paris, London, Copenhagen, and Amsterdam. Though student activists face endless obstacles in having their voices heard, "from distrust and dismissal from adults; to co-optation; to attrition by graduation, infighting, or simply other obligations as students" as Zachary Jason writes in Harvard's Ed. Magazine, they continue to take the lead as social activists fighting for equality and justice. Today, many are at the forefront of the Black Lives Matter movement.

The Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of the man who shot and killed 17-year-old Trayvon Martin. Since then, BLM has spread worldwide, and many have formed regional coalitions fighting for the racial justice and equality BLM stands for. This week, students planned BLM marches across the country. A protest from Katy ISD high school students in Houston planned for Thursday has "grown into a Black Lives Matter: Houston-sanctioned event with a projected attendance of more than 1,000 people." The growth of the protest has been attributed to social media, where news of the event spread quickly and led organizers to realize they would need to move the event to a larger venue to accommodate a larger crowd. Smaller student-led protests have taken place in Sonora County, CA and at State College in Minneapolis.



Activism has also found a platform on social media, where students propagate resources and information for others to become educated about the pressing need to strive for racial justice. Students share links to petitions, offer advice for safe protesting practices, create templates for emailing authorities, list bail funds and black-owned restaurants and businesses in need of support, and share videos documenting instances of police brutality at protests.

Across the nation, students have rallied behind the BLM movement and have spearheaded and founded branches of the movement. The Youth Vanguard, founded by Thandiwe Abdullah, and the Black Lives Matter Youth Coalition, founded by Nupol Kiazolu in the South Bronx, are examples of the powerful activists in the movement. Kiazolu has been protesting in Minneapolis these last few days.

In a phone interview with Teen Vogue, Kiazolu said, "At the end of the day, whether I sit at home or I'm on the front lines, I could be killed just for the color of my skin. If anything were to happen to me, I would want it to be for a righteous cause."

Kiazolu's activism as a student leader in the Black Lives Matter movement has taken many forms, from protesting Trayvon Martin's murder by wearing a hoodie marked "Do I look suspicious" to class, and organizing a voter registration drive at her high school. As a college student at Hampton University, she is growing the voter registration initiative through her Vote 2000 campaign.

Students and educators for the BLM movement have also gathered to found Black Lives Matter at School, an organization dedicated to addressing and transforming the racial injustices present in the education system. Black Lives Matter At School advocates for a week of actions in schools, in which educators and members of the school community can engage in conversations to work towards a more socially just education system, especially for students of color.

Student activism has consistently been the most effective when students have made "an off-campus issue also a campus issue," Jason quotes Harvard professor Julie Reuben as saying. In fact, students are not unfamiliar with protesting against the racial injustices present in their campus environments. Take, for instance, the case that unraveled at the University of Missouri at Columbia in 2015.



After students brought up multiple instances of being subjected to racial slurs and mistreatment, the student body launched protests and called for the resignation of then-president Tim Wolfe due to his inadequate response to support students of color. This proved to be successful, as the president resigned shortly after.

Student activism characteristic of the Black Lives Matter movement has a rich history in the United States, the same way student activism lay at the heart of the Civil Rights movement. Melissa Anderson wrote in *The Atlantic*; "From its inception, the 1960s civil-rights movement was fueled by youth leaders and student activists." This was

evident in the 1960 Greensboro sit-ins, which were initiated by four black students of North Carolina A&T State University, and continued for six months. In the decade that followed the landmark *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision, students in Chicago and New York took to the streets to protest in favor of school integration.

In the Chicago Public Schools Boycott, 250,000 students boycotted schools and 20,000 marched in the streets of Chicago in October of 1963. Four months later, 450,000 students protested segregation in the streets of New York. Five years later in East Los Angeles, students walked out of their high schools to protest the poor educational opportunities in their schools, chanting "Education, not eradication!" These protests continued for a week, and in part, fueled the Chicano power movement in southern California. These protests further emphasize the role that student voices have had in shaping the present and the future.

Students have continued their longstanding fight against structural violence and racial injustices in recent years outside of the BLM movement. In 2018, students across the nation staged "walkouts" in honor of the victims of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Students subsequently took to the street, demanding gun control and changes to state and national laws. The Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE) is a Chicago-based youth alliance united around issues related to education and racial justice. VOYCE's Senate Bill 100, which addressed punitive school discipline practices, was passed by the Illinois Senate in May of 2015. As a result; "districts throughout Illinois will be required to eliminate zero-tolerance punishment, minimize out-of-school suspensions and expulsions, and adopt other discipline-related policies."

Young activists and students have played a critical role in calling for change and transformation in our society. Today, these activists have turned to the streets and to social media to amplify their voices and to call attention to structural racism and police brutality across the country. Social rights activist Desmond Tutu once stated, "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." Students and young activists throughout history and across the country have been anything but neutral or quiet.



SUGGESTED READING

The Hill We Climb & Other Poems (by Amanda Gorman)

Minty: A Story of Young Harriett Tubman (by Alan Schroeder & Jerry Pinkney)

I Have a Dream (by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. / paintings by Kadir Nelson)

Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story (by Ruby Bridges)

Ryan White: My Own Story (by Ryan White)

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl (by Anne Frank)

The Miracle Worker (by William Gibson)

Martin & Anne (by Nancy Churnin)





303 E. Main Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46802 • (260)422-6900

LANGUAGE ARTS & STANDARDS

Most Youth theatre Stories are Literature Based and on the recommended reading list of Library of Congress

Language Arts Standard: Perceive, identify, describe and analyze the distinguishing characteristics of form, structure and style of story.

- Retell story identifying plot, theme, characters, and setting.
- Recall story plot utilizing chronological order.

Language Arts Standard: Evaluate Theatre/Literary work based on critical perception and analysis.

- Share perception of theatre experience in the area of voice, movement, mood and motivation.
- Make suggestions for alternative endings.
- Analyze and critique story and performance through creative writing.
- Create a similar story through creative writing.

Language Arts Standard: Use Theatre /Literary work to develop affective areas of self-concept, problem solving and interpersonal skills.

- React to feelings of self and others within a production.
- Identify conflict within story as it relates to self and others.
- Compare and contrast problems and resolutions found in different stories and real life situations.
- Express personal attitudes, values, and belief systems as it relates to theatre piece.
- Interact freely in conversations, class discussions and dramatic activities.
- Contribute to the solving of problems through dramatization/improvisation.

Language Arts Standard: Examine Theatre /Literary work in a historical and multicultural context.

- Identify similarities and differences between characters from diverse cultures depicted.
- Identify historical differences/figures in different time frames depicted in story.
- Identify significance of historical aspects in story.

Exploring Aesthetics: A Philosophical Basis for Life!

Attending live theatre helps children value its importance to the community and helps develop a lifelong commitment and love of Theatre and Literature. Students experience aesthetic growth through appreciation of Theatre. Students discover through experience that making art is an essential human activity. It requires collaboration, and enhances creative thinking.