

The NHD at NMAAHC Gallery Topic List *Conflict and Compromise in History*

Use this list to help you find and explore topics for the National History Day 2017 – 2018 contest theme: *Conflict and Compromise in History*. These topics are from the objects and stories in our galleries. If you are able to visit the museum, we encourage you to use the [Exploring the Galleries](#) worksheet to write down the information about an object or a story. If you are unable to visit, we still encourage you to consider one of these objects or stories as a potential National History Day project.

The topics are listed by the gallery and then the section where they are found. If you need help finding a particular object or story, ask any NMAAHC staff member or volunteer to point you in the right direction.

The History Galleries

Slavery and Freedom, 1400 – 1876

1. The Making of the Atlantic World: Queen Nzinga of Ndongo and Matamba
2. The Paradox of Liberty: Sally Hemings, Slavery, Thomas Jefferson and the Founding Fathers
3. Slavery and the Making of a New Nation: David Walker's Appeal – Early Black Nationalism
4. Antislavery: A Movement in Black and White: James McCune Smith – A Physician and the Abolition Movement
5. The Civil War: Charlotte Forten Grimké – Education, Women and the Civil War

Defining Freedom, Defending Freedom: The Era of Segregation, 1877 – 1968

6. Post-Civil War Years: Robert Smalls and the Black Politicians of the Reconstruction Era
7. The Jim Crow Era: Creation of the National Association of Colored Women
8. The Great Migration: The Murder of Frazier Baker and the National Afro-American Council
9. The Great Migration: The New Negro Movement
10. The Modern Civil Rights Movement: Gender and the 1963 March on Washington

A Changing America: 1968 and Beyond

11. Events of '68: Black Liberation and the Vietnam War
12. Events of '68: The Black Power Movement
13. Events of '68: The Poor People's Campaign and Resurrection City in Washington D.C.
14. The Movement Marches On: The Black Museum Movement
15. Cities and Suburbs: Suburban Dreams vs. Urban Promise of the 1970s and 1980s

The Community Galleries

Making a Way Out of No Way

16. The Power of the Press: Robert Churchwell or the “Jackie Robinson of Journalism”
17. An Enterprising Spirit: The Wormley Hotel of Washington D.C. (Beverage service from Wormley’s Hotel)
18. Organized for Success: The Prince Hall Masons
19. A Tradition of Activism: The Niagara Movement
20. The Value of Education: The Homer G. Philips Hospital and School of Nursing
21. Foundations of Faith: Biddy Mason and the First African Methodist Episcopal Church of Los Angeles

The Power of Place

22. Leisure Culture in Oak Bluffs - Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts
23. Conflict and Compromise on the Racial Frontier – The Western States
24. Riot and Resilience in Tulsa, Oklahoma
25. The Chicago Defender: Making a Black Metropolis – Chicago, Illinois
26. Crowning Achievements in Fashion: Mae Reeves Millinery – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Double Victory: The African American Military Experience

27. The Revolutionary War: James Armistead Lafayette, Spy, and Revolutionary Solider
28. War of 1812: Black British and African American Soldiers
29. Wars of Expansion and Indian Wars: Buffalo Soldiers in the West
30. World War One: The 369th Regiment or the “Harlem Hellfighters”
31. World War Two: Executive Order 9981

Sports: Leveling the Playing Field

32. Game Changers: The Black Jockeys during the Jim Crow Era
33. Boxing: The Conflict and Compromise of Race, Boxing and the Jim Crow Era
34. Game Changers: Althea Gibson, Tennis, and the Civil Rights Movement
35. Game Changers: Wilma Rudolph, the Rome Olympics, and the Clarksville Parade of 1960
36. Game Changers: Eddie Robinson, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and NCAA Division I Football

The Culture Galleries

Cultural Expressions

37. Style, Image, Identity: Arthur McGee and Fashion
38. Preaching Tradition: Mrs. Jarena Lee – Traveling Preacher
39. Language Power of Words: Articulating Equality – The Great Debaters
40. Conflict and Compromise in Culture: The African Diaspora
41. Foodways and Cuisine Culture: Hercules and George Washington or the Founding Fathers and their Enslaved Chefs

Musical Crossroads

42. Folk Music: Sing Out! Voices of Solidarity and Protest - Lead Belly
43. The Blues and Jim Crow: Ida Cox
44. Conflict and Compromise in Jazz: Cab Calloway and the Cotton Club of Harlem
45. Changing the Musical Landscape, Race and the Politics of Crossover: Sammy Davis Jr., Ethel Waters and/or Nat King Cole
46. Vaudeville, Sexuality and Gender: Gladys Bentley

Taking the Stage

47. Theater: Political Roles - Ida Aldridge and Shakespeare
48. Theater: The America Negro Theater
49. Cinema: A Separate Cinema and Race Films - Oscar Micheaux
50. T.V.: Changing the Channels: Race, Gender, Civil Rights, and *Star Trek*
51. Comedy: Jackie “Moms” Mabley or Richard Pryor

Visual Art and the American Experience

52. The Politics of Identity: *Ethiopia* – Meta Vaux Warrice Fuller
53. The Struggle of Freedom: *Walking* – Charles Alston
54. The Struggle of Freedom: *On Guard* – Claude Clark Sr.
55. African Connections: *Soweto* – Adger Cowons
56. The World Around Us: *The Garden of Eden* – Robert S. Duncanson