



HEROES

A Look at People, Organizations and
Ideas for Social Change



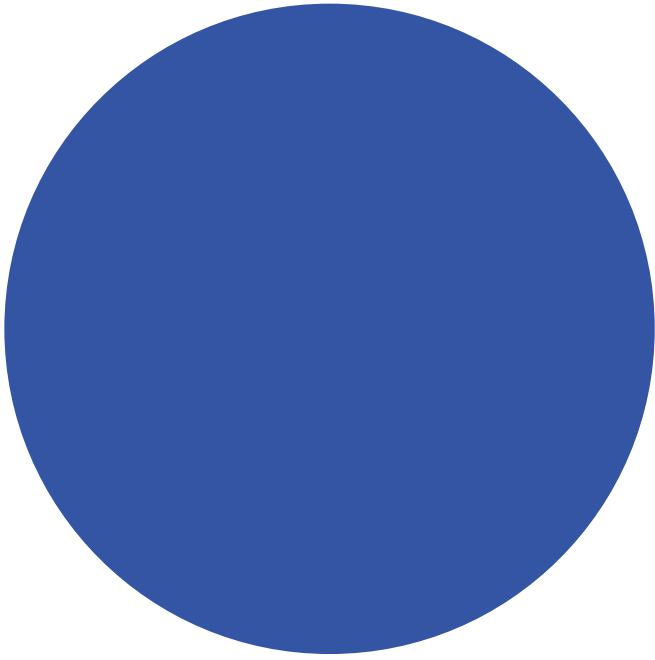
Introduction

This is a booklet on social change and the people, organizations and ideas that were, and are, instrumental in generating forward movement. Students voted on topics. Some of the information was well known to the class, but other information was not familiar at all. The booklet also served as a typography assignment, in which students learned how to create paragraph styles, character styles, and Parent pages while researching images and creating layouts using a grid with consistent design elements.

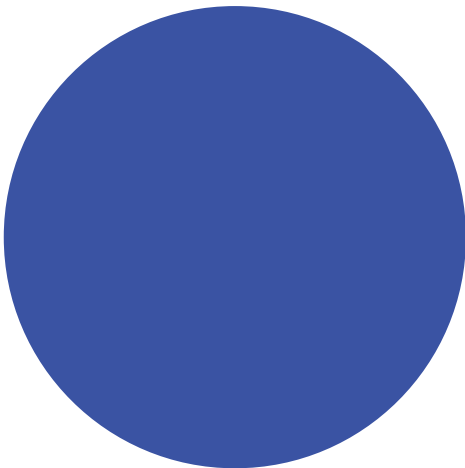
It was not easy! The design training for this booklet included many critiques: we asked questions, offered feedback, and worked hard on improving our work. We hope you enjoy the results.

Graphic design by *Haowei Wu*.





PEOPLE



Martin Luther King, Jr.



MLK was awarded five honorary degrees and was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963. He became the symbolic leader not only of American Blacks, but also of people across the world.

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

The FBI monitored MLK during the Montgomery bus boycott, and continued throughout the 1960s. FBI director J. Edgar Hoover was personally hostile toward King, believing that the civil rights leader was influenced by Communists. This animosity increased when King called the FBI “completely

ineffectual in resolving the continued mayhem and brutality inflicted upon the Negro in the deep South.” On April 4, 1968, where he was to lead a march in Memphis with striking garbage workers, he was assassinated.

King’s most significant contribution to the Black freedom struggle was to link their aspirations to transcendent, widely shared democratic and Christian ideals. He inspired participants to believe their cause was just and consistent with traditional American egalitarian values. King appealed to the consciences of all Americans, thus building popular support for civil rights reform.

Gloria Steinem

Gloria Steinem is an American feminist, political activist, and editor who was an articulate advocate of the women's liberation movement during the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

After graduating from Smith College in 1956, Steinem went to India on a scholarship, participating in nonviolent protests against government policy. In 1960 she began working as a writer and journalist in New York City gaining attention with her article "I Was a Playboy Bunny," which recounted her experience as a waitress at the Playboy Club. Her involvement in feminism intensified in 1968 when she attended a meeting of a radical feminist group, the Redstockings. Proud of her feminist roots—her paternal grandmother was president of the Ohio Women's Suffrage Association—Steinem founded the National Women's Political Caucus with Betty Friedan, Bella Abzug, and Shirley Chisholm. That same year she explored the possibility of a new magazine for women, one that treated contemporary issues from a feminist perspective. The result was *Ms.* magazine.

Steinem today continues to be a strong advocate for the women's liberation movement.

*Clinging to the past is the
problem. Embracing change
is the answer.*
– Gloria Steinem



James Baldwin

Born to a single mother, James Baldwin demonstrated a gift for writing in his early years. At high school in the Bronx, he worked on the school's magazine with future photographer Richard Avedon. After graduating, he put college on hold to support his family, including seven younger children, taking whatever work he could find, frequently encountering discrimination.

In 1943, Baldwin moved to Greenwich Village, a neighborhood of artists and writers. He started publishing essays and short stories in national periodicals such as *The Nation*, *Partisan Review* and *Commentary*. He moved to Paris on a fellowship, writing about his personal and racial background, then published his first novel, *Go Tell*

It on the Mountain. Baldwin's novel *Giovanni's Room* broke new ground for its complex depiction of homosexuality. Baldwin provided an unflinching look at the Black experience in America through such works as *Notes of a Native Son* which sold more than a million copies. He was featured on the cover of *Time* magazine, and published *Nothing Personal* with friend Avedon as a tribute to slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers.

By the early 1970s, Baldwin had witnessed the assassinations of Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. He remained an astute observer of race and American culture, sharing his views as a professor at the University of Massachusetts and Hampshire College.

*If you fall in love with a boy,
you fall in love with a boy.*
— James Baldwin



IDEAS



Women's Suffrage



In 1923, the National Woman's Party proposed an amendment to the Constitution that prohibited all discrimination on the basis of sex. The so-called Equal Rights Amendment has never been ratified.

The women's suffrage movement was a decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States. It took activists and reformers nearly 100 years to win that right, and the campaign was not easy: Disagreements over strategy threatened to cripple the movement more than once. But on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was finally ratified, enfranchising all American women and declaring for the first time that they, like men, deserve all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

The campaign for women's suffrage began in earnest in the decades before the Civil War. During the 1820s and 30s, most states had extended the franchise to all white men, regardless of how much money or property they had. In 1848, a group of abolitionist activists gathered in Seneca Falls, New York to discuss the problem of women's rights.

The delegates to the Seneca Falls Convention agreed: American women were autonomous individuals who deserved their own political identities.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident," proclaimed the Declaration of Sentiments the delegates produced, "that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Among other things, this meant that they believed women should have the right to vote. Finally, on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified. And on November 2 of that year, more than 8 million women across the United States voted in elections for the first time.

Zero Waste Movement

In many ways, Native Americans can be considered the first environmentalists in America, and many of their principles are relevant to the zero waste movement. Their advocacy for protecting the planet is deeper than the need to preserve their livelihoods. For many indigenous Americans, the belief in the interconnectedness of all life—humans, animals, or plants—motivates them to protect the land.

The zero-waste movement is a lifestyle where people aim to eliminate their trash output completely. This means no plastic, no wrappers, no garbage. While this may seem unrealistic in today's disposable society, people all over the country are showing what can be done.

By reevaluating the way they approach the concept of trash, leaders of the zero-waste movement are teaching the world that we have the ability to make a difference in protecting our environment.

It's all about beginning with small life changes. By doing things like buying secondhand, using reusable containers, and composting food scraps, anyone can significantly reduce the amount of trash they produce on a regular basis. There are many zero-waste blogs on the Internet, like Going Zero Waste or Trash is for Tossers, that share helpful tips on small changes that can be made to decrease waste.

The average American throws out approximately 4.4 pounds per day.

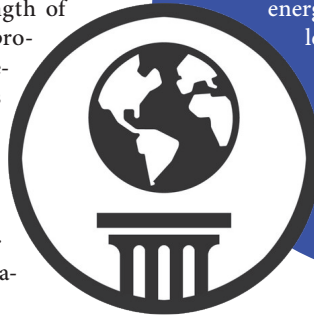




Organizations

Earth Justice

Earthjustice wields the power of law and the strength of partnership to protect people's health, to preserve magnificent places and wildlife, to advance clean energy, and to combat climate change. The most powerful tool for change is the law. Our work has saved irreplaceable wild



air, and fueled the rise of 100% clean energy. It has protected countless species on the brink of extinction, and secured limits on our nation's worst polluting industries. When we go to court, we get results.

OUR GOALS:

End the extraction and burning of fossil fuels

We expose the true costs of the main driver of climate change and public health ills by enforcing pollution control requirements, blocking new fossil fuel infrastructure.

Power everything with 100% clean energy

We are cultivating a zero carbon emissions, pollution-free electricity grid by phasing out fossil-fuel power generation, eliminating barriers to renewable energy.

Secure clean air and water as rights for all

We clean up the air we breathe and the water we drink, by enforcing science-driven laws, compelling agencies to regulate the cumulative impacts of pollution.

Build a justice-centered environmental movement

We support our partners in their pursuit of intersectional justice by enforcing emission control requirements from industrial facilities.

Remove toxic chemicals and products from our daily lives

We enforce chemical regulations to limit exposure to toxic chemicals, litigate to force public disclosure of health and safety information.

Farm sustainably for healthy lives, lands, climate.

We make our nation's food system safer and cleaner by enforcing laws to support climate-friendly and sustainable agriculture, challenging the worst abuses of industrial agriculture.

Safeguard lands and waters

We reduce and prevent unsustainable development and resource extraction, support Tribal sovereignty and stewardship of lands and water.

Protect species biodiversity

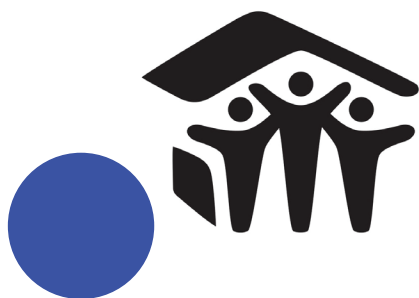
We are confronting the drivers of the decline in nature and protecting imperiled species and their ecosystems.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a partnership, not a giveaway program. Habitat's homeowner families buy the houses that Habitat builds and renovates, and invest hundreds of hours of their own labor working alongside volunteers. As a result, Habitat for Humanity houses are affordable to low-income families around the world. Habitat homeowners pay an affordable mortgage, achieving the strength, stability and independence to build a better life for themselves and for their families.

The idea that became Habitat for Humanity first grew from a community farm outside of Americus, Georgia. Habitat's founders Millard and Linda Fuller developed the concept of "partnership housing," centering on those in need of shelter working with volunteers

to build decent, affordable houses. The houses would be built at no profit. New homeowners' house payments would be combined with no-interest loans; money paid would then be used to build more homes. The concept next moved to the Democratic Republic of Congo, where, after three years of hard work, supporters discussed the future of their dream: Habitat for Humanity International, founded in 1976. Thanks to the personal involvement of U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn, Habitat now works in all 50 states in the U.S. and in more than 70 countries, and has helped more than 39 million people achieve strength, stability and independence through safe, decent and affordable shelter.



**Habitat
for Humanity®**

3D-printed homes: new trend or lasting solution?

With new 3D-printed homes hitting the market from Virginia to India, journalist Miriam Axel-Lute and experts from the housing sector explore the advancements and challenges of 3D-printing technology as part of Habitat's ongoing +You series.

Watch on YouTube: [youtube.com/watch?v=ecNXDHEOV3k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecNXDHEOV3k)

Doctors Without Borders

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) offers medical humanitarian assistance to people based solely on need, irrespective of race, religion, gender, or political affiliation. Our teams of doctors, nurses, logisticians, and other frontline workers are often among the first on the scene when peoples' lives are upended by conflict, disease outbreaks, or natural or human-made disasters.

MSF's goal is committed to providing the highest quality medical care possible and to acting in our patients' best interests, respecting their rights to dignity, confidentiality, informed consent, and to make their own decisions. We believe that the principles of impartiality and neutrality are not synonymous with silence. When the world turns its back on crises, we are duty-bound to raise our voices and speak out on behalf of our patients. Our decision to do so is always guided by our mission to do no harm, preserve respect and dignity, and protect life and health.

With over 45,000 staff members of 169 nationalities working in more than 70 countries around the world, we recognize that diversity, equity, and inclusion are inextricably linked to the success of our medical humanitarian mission. We are making changes across our organization to better reflect this incredible diversity and build one global workforce by challenging operational structures, creating more opportunities for locally hired staff, reevaluating compensation and benefits policies, and more.



*We are independent, impartial, and neutral.
We are guided by medical ethics.
We are committed to bearing witness.
We are transparent and accountable.
We are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.*

CITATION

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***THANK
YOU
OUR
HEROES***