



THE SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM
AT DEALEY PLAZA

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2020 BREAKING BARRIERS IN HISTORY PROJECT IDEAS

Explore these potential Breaking Barriers in History topics inspired by the Museum's Collections. Contact the Museum's librarian at readingroom@jfk.org for resources related to these topics. We hope these suggestions will lead you to a topic that inspires you to investigate history with purpose.

The Women's Movement



1. Vivian Castleberry, newspaper editor, journalist and women's rights activist, was elected to the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1984. Considered the "grandmother of women journalists in Dallas," Ms. Castleberry served as the first women's editor of the *Dallas Times Herald* from 1956 to 1984. She headed the Living section of the paper and was the first woman named to the paper's editorial board.



2. Lois Louise was a social studies teacher during the early 1960s. In 1965, Louise opened a clothing store called Dashika House, which was the first store in south Dallas owned by an African-American woman.



3. Frances McElvaney, wife of Reverend William McElvaney, became involved in the women's rights movement in the late 1960s. As part of this effort, she helped organize controversial classes for young women at Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas.



4. Sonia Pressman Fuentes, a respected feminist, author and lawyer, actively participated in women's rights activities since 1963. She was the first female attorney in the Office of the General Counsel at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and was later a founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). Photo credit: Sonia Pressman Fuentes

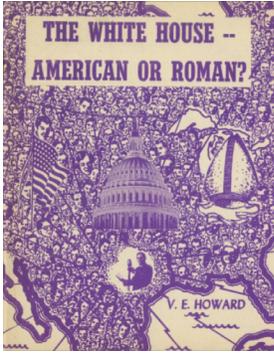
Civil Rights in Dallas



Dallas County Sheriff's Department Collection/
The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza

1. Clarence Broadnax had just joined the Air Force and decided to have a meal in June 1964 at the Piccadilly Cafeteria on Commerce Street in downtown Dallas. He was refused service and taken to jail. He and other community members, including the Reverend Earl Allen, then took a stand against such racial discrimination by organizing a peaceful protest at the Piccadilly. The protest lasted 28 days and concluded when the new Civil Rights Act of 1964 went into effect July 2, 1964.
2. Ernest McMillian, an outspoken African-American human rights activist, spent six decades fighting for social justice, beginning with "stand-ins" at segregated theaters in downtown Dallas in the 1950s. While in Georgia, he met Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and became active with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). McMillan later co-founded the Dallas chapter of SNCC and ultimately served more than ten years in prison following a local civil rights demonstration.

President John F. Kennedy



The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
Collection

1. Kennedy and Religion. In 1960, Kennedy was the first presidential candidate of Catholic faith to run and win a presidential election at a time when anti-Catholic prejudice was still a part of mainstream American thought.
2. Kennedy and the Peace Corps. The Peace Corps was a volunteer program issued as a foreign policy tool to break through American foreign isolation and promote a positive perception of America and learn from the citizens of others.