**Table of Contents**

*Welcome to the RMSC! How to Use this Guide:* 3

*Navigating the Exhibit:* 4

*Activities:* 5

  *Alice Mathis: Quilting up a Community:* 5

  *A Changemaker Mystery:* 5

  *Reading! Reading! Reading!:* 5
Welcome to the RMSC! How to Use this Guide:

The Educator Guide for RMSC’s Changemakers exhibit provides teachers with resources and extension activities to teach about all different kinds of local activism and activists. Support future Changemakers by educating them about the brave individuals from right here in Rochester and what they have done to speak up, speak out, and create positive change in their communities. This guide can serve to:

- **Prepare for your visit to the museum.** The exhibit summary, extension activities, discussion prompts, and suggested resources will provide you and your students with the opportunity and background to get the most from your museum experience.
- **During your visit:** supplement your experience by reflecting on the essential questions in each section. These questions can be used to start discussion before and/or after your visit.
- **Culminate your visit.** Provided are activities and questions that will encourage further discussion and understanding of the topics and themes that are shown in the exhibit.
- **Find more resources and information** about each of the topics discussed in the exhibit. This guide includes a list of books, documents, and websites that will help educators become more knowledgeable of the topics discussed in each section.
- **Understand** important terms, concepts, and vocabulary involved in the discussion of environmental activism and local or indigenous associations with water. Each of the defined terms will appear in **bolded** text, and can be found in the glossary at the end of this guide.

**Organization**
This exhibit can be organized into four distinct sections, each one dealing broadly with a different individual Changemaker, or area of study and change. Each section will include pre and post-visit discussion questions, activities, and suggested reading/resources. All activities, discussion prompts and questions are meant to be a fun addition to the exhibit or your unit of study. Please make copies of the guide as needed.

**Exhibit Layout**
This Changemakers self-guided tour is based off of a full exhibit that was on display 2020. While the original exhibit has now closed, there are remaining exhibit pieces on the second and third floor that continue to serve and educate the public. The first open exhibit on the second floor, behind the glass elevator, marks the beginning of the Changemakers exhibit. There are two hologram stations that have the stories of different local Changemakers, bringing these influential lives to students’ fingertips. There are two terminals that show the map of where our Changemaskers live, lived, or created change. Also engage in some creative play based learning experiences: have students put together their own newspapers using the photos and blurbs about Changemakers, and learn more about women creating change in science and engineering, even aeronautics! Then head to the third floor by the diorama of Rochester to learn more about Women's Suffrage.
Navigating the Exhibit:

Wake the change-maker in you, by learning more about the incredible lives and works of our local Changemakers. Start on the second floor just by the glass elevator. Take a moment to reflect on the sculptural piece that is suspended from the ceiling. Take turns putting together a newspaper article that describes the positive change enacted by the different changemakers in the exhibit. Learn as you go, matching pictures and article blurbs to create a solid article, then take a picture and share your publishing accolades! Hear straight from our Changemakers about their work and motivation from the Holograms. What do you think it would be like for you to someday be featured in their place? Take a quick look at our Changemaker map and discover where each one is from and where they achieved their goals. Don’t forget to check out the archival prowess of Helen Stone Reinhard. She donated hundreds of photos to the archives of the RMSC. Take a short stroll up to the Third Floor, right by the diorama of historical Rochester. They learn more about Suffragist movements that happened right here in Rochester. Learn more about familiar names like Susan B. Anthony, discover the devious machinations of the Fox Sisters, and be inspired by figures like Ga-Hah-No Caroline Parker Mt. Pleasant.

**Topics and Themes:**
Activism, Anti-racism, Feminism, Suffrage, segregation, LGBTQ+ rights, Equal rights movements, Equality, Equity

**Related New York State Learning Standards:**

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Changemakers Educator Guide V1

Rochester Museum and Science Center
Activities

**Alice Mathis: Quilting up a Community**

Alice Mathis is an African-American quilter who is known for her intricate work in textiles. She moved to Rochester in 1950 from Sanford, Florida. When she moved, her household wages were low, but Mrs. Alice Mathis was smart about using materials. She would recycle materials into decorations, beautifying her house in a frugal, but resourceful manner. Old clothes, feed bags, laundry bags, and mattress ticking, all were used in various necessary and beautiful crafts of Mathis. Nothing was safe from the brilliant artistic and practical mind of Alice Mathis.

Now you try! As you hear more about Alice Mathis and her life, make your own quilt. You can use the materials in this box, and take it home to tie in your own fabrics and fibers. Think about the materials you use and what it says about you and your life.

What would someone be able to discover about you from your quilt?
What kinds of things do you have in your home that could be repurposed or re-used for the practical and beautiful?
What stories does your quilt tell about your life, what you use, and your daily life?
What ways can you adopt the mindset of Alice Mathis into your everyday life?
Why is it important to recycle or reuse materials?

Turn to your neighbor and discuss what additions you might be able to make to your quilt at home.

**A Changemaker Mystery**

As a quick additional activity, find the “Changemakers Mystery” worksheet. As you go through the exhibit pieces, keep your eye out for the answers to solve the puzzle. Think of it like a Changemaker’s scavenger hunt! Learn as you go along and get to know our Changemakers. Try to decode the final message, and get a fun, inspiring quote! Can’t bust it? Make sure you visit the exhibits on the second and third floor and read closely!

**Reading! Reading! Reading!**

Grab a book and read more about the lives of Changemakers and women who made an impact in their community and the world!

Think about it:
How does reading about these women and their lives make you feel?
What is one space in your life that you feel like change needs to be made?
What can you do in your everyday life to make change?
Give us your Feedback! We want to hear from you!
Please contact us with your comments:
Head of School and Teacher Programs
RMSC Rochester Museum & Science Center
657 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607
Phone: (585) 271-4552
**Changemaker Mystery!**

Time to put on your sleuthing hat! A secret encoded message has been found. Decode the message by finding the letters scattered in the answers to these trivia questions. All the answers to the questions can be found in plaques around the museum. Test your knowledge, and fit the corresponding letter from each clue into the correct numbered spot down below.

1. What is the name of the Changemaker who worked to preserve Haudenosaunee cultural traditions while advocating for her family and community in a changing world?

   ![Clue 1](image)

2. What day is marked on the Suffragist banner as an important day to vote for Women’s Suffrage?

   ![Clue 2](image)

3. Which Amendment granted women the right to vote?

   ![Clue 3](image)

4. Who was not included or missing in the Amendment that granted women the right to vote?

   ![Clue 4](image)

5. Who were the heads of the Spiritualist movement, known for their phony knocking table?

   ![Clue 5](image)

6. Which Changemakers’ home became a stop on the underground railroad in 1845? (Hint: She was a strong supporter of social reform including abolitionist, temperance, and women’s rights movements)

   ![Clue 6](image)

7. Which changemaker busted gender and racial barriers, working hard to get women admitted as full matriculated students at U of R in 1900?

   ![Clue 7](image)
8. Which Changemaker is known for continuing the fight for women's suffrage by leading the Rochester Political Equality club (later Women Suffrage Party), and establishing a headquarters for the movement?

9. Which Changemaker is known for securing and preserving hundreds of photographs from Rochester's first newspaper photographer?

10. Which Changemaker works to preserve, collect, and showcase art from deaf and hard of hearing artists?

11. Which Changemaker was the first African-American woman to practice law in Rochester?

12. Which Changemaker who, inspired by Haudenosaunee culture, advocated for gender equity as well as the end of slavery?


14. In 1961, Changemaker Constance Mitchell became the first African-American elected to what position, in Monroe County?
Secret Message:

“There is ___ to be ___ and you ___ an ___ in ___!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

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