Hennepin History Museum Topic List for History Day 2021:
“Communications in History: The Key to Understanding”

History Day topics curated from the archival collections at Hennepin History Museum. Students are welcome to visit during Research Library Hours to research these primary sources.

Research Library Hours (Fall 2020):
The research library is open by appointment only. Please email research@hennepinhistory.org

| Thursday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Friday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. |

World War II Correspondences
Throughout World War II (1941-1945), letters written between soldiers and their loved ones depict how the war was perceived in the United States. This collection consists of letters written by a soldier, Anthony Sohorowich, stationed at an army base in Santa Ana, CA, to his family.

G

Minneapolis School Desegregation
Following the mandated desegregation of public schools in 1954, a widespread debate began about how to integrate schools. Our collection includes letters written by parents on either side of the debate regarding the use of busing as a tool of integration. Many of these relate to the pairing of Field and Hale schools in 1971.

Publications on Black Minnesotans
As the Civil Rights and Black Power movements swept through the United States in the mid-twentieth century, activists and organizations made efforts to document African American history and life. Our collections include pamphlets, magazines, and other publications by the Minnesota Historical Society, the University of Minnesota, and Topic magazine (African American periodical) from the 1940s to 1980s, as well as a project by students at Webster Open School in the 1990s.

UM, NA, DPLA

Scandinavian Immigrants in MN
Scandinavian immigrants contribute to the rich, diverse history of Minnesota by bringing their unique stories and cultures. These collections include the autobiographies and diaries of a Swedish immigrant couple and photographs from a Norwegian immigrant family in Minnesota.

G, I, MDL

Spanish American War Photography
The Spanish American War (1898-1902) was the first U.S. war to use photography and film to document the conflict, which influenced how Americans perceived the war. Our photography collections from soldiers stationed in the Philippines depict the violence of war, the everyday life of soldiers, and the life and culture of Filipinos.

MDL

Secondary sources can be found on JSTOR, UMBRA, Proquest, Britannica, and more.

Additional primary sources can be located here: G - Gale Family Library, UM - University of Minnesota collections, NA - National Archives, DPLA - Digital Public Library of America, I - immigrants.mndigital.org MDL - Minnesota Digital Library, MNHS - Minnesota Historical Society