

The Brown Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter for Classroom Teachers

Volume 7 No. 2

Holocaust Commemoration / Women's History Month

Spring 2006

Varian Fry

Assignment Rescue: 1940-41

Varian Fry is a supreme example of a man who found his courage when called upon to act in a moment of extraordinary and historical significance.

Born in New York City in 1907, Varian Fry was the only child of a stockbroker father and a teacher mother. He attended Harvard University and after graduation worked as a writer and editor for *Living Age* magazine. In 1935, he went to Germany on assignment for the magazine. While in Berlin, Fry witnessed Jewish people being savagely attacked by Nazi thugs. He had never seen such brutality and was deeply shocked.

After Germany defeated France in June of 1940 Fry was assigned by the Emergency Rescue Committee, to go to Marseilles, France. There he offered aid and advice to antifascist refugees who found themselves threatened with extradition to Nazi Germany under Article 19 of the Franco-German Armistice-the "Surrender on Demand" clause. This clause was drafted as part of a temporary peace agreement between Germany and France and stated that any German refugee and later any non-French person must be handed over to the Nazis.

Working day and night, often in opposition to French and even obstructionist American authorities, Fry assembled an unlikely band of associates and built an

elaborate rescue network. The group's work was extremely pressing since the Vichy government was collaborating with the Germans. Convinced that he could not abandon the operation while the desperate refugees needed help, he extended his sojourn into a 13 month odyssey.

Fry and associates used every possible means including forging of passports and visas. Reports indicate that Fry hired Austrian cartoonist Bill Freier to do the forging. With the aid of his first assistant Albert Hirschman, Fry helped refugees escape from France over the Pyrenees Mountains to Spain and by boat to the United States.



Photo: Varian Fry walking along the street in Marseilles, France

Courtesy: Annette Fry/U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

By the time the French expelled Fry in September 1941, he and his colleagues had managed to spirit some 2,000 people from France, among them politicians, artists, writers, scientists and musicians. Their arrival in the United States significantly expanded the intellectual exodus from Europe that began when Hitler came to power, and permanently changed

continued on page 3

A Personal Perspective

Situated among our national monuments to freedom, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is the nation's memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. It is a living memorial and a museum, an education center and a cause, but it is fundamentally about a powerful conviction—that the legacy of the Holocaust has the potential to transform the present and the future.

The lessons of the Holocaust have found remarkable resonance with Americans. More than 23 million people – including more than 8 million schoolchildren – have visited the Museum since opening in 1993. Through its acclaimed permanent exhibition and special exhibitions, the Museum has changed the lives of many of its visitors. Through traveling exhibitions and educational programming nationwide, the Museum reaches millions more. Its Web site alone is visited by 8 million people annually – from an average of 100 countries per day.

However, transforming the future requires reaching leaders in many fields, and the Museum's National Institute for Holocaust Education has developed an array of innovative programming to accomplish this. The Holocaust, the Military and the Defense of Freedom initiative helps military personnel, both American and foreign—from more than 140 countries—examine their moral responsibilities as leaders and their roles in preventing or responding to threats of genocide.

Through the Museum's Law Enforcement and Society: Lessons From the Holocaust program, operated in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the Museum trains law enforcement officers about the role they play in preserving civil liberties and reminds them of what can happen when officers abandon that mission.

FBI Director Robert Mueller said in a 2003 National Public Radio interview, "We have sent new agents to the Museum to see exactly what happens when law enforcement...goes outside the bounds of the Constitution."

The Museum provides training and support to 150,000 educators annually who are introducing new generations to Holocaust history. The Museum offers training programs in Washington, D.C., and in workshops around the country. Thousands of educators access the Museum's Web site to find sample lesson plans, participate in distance learning, and download support materials.

As a living memorial, the Museum is dedicated to remembering the victims and ensuring that their history remains a warning. Museum Founding Chairman and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel stated, "A memorial unresponsive to the future would also violate the memory of the past." To that end, the Museum's Committee on Conscience has taken a leading role in bringing attention to the ongoing genocide in Darfur.

The Museum fulfills its mission through a public – private partnership. Federal support guarantees the institution's permanence, but it is the hundreds of thousands of donors nationwide who make possible its far-reaching educational activities and global outreach.

For more information, visit www.ushmm.org.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Andy Hollinger



The 15th Street/
Eisenhower Plaza entrance
to the
U.S. Holocaust

Memorial Museum
Credit: Max Reid, USHMM
Photo Archives.

The Brown Foundation is pleased to publish this newsletter for classroom teachers through which we will share resources available from national parks and museums. Established to maintain the legacy of the Brown decision, our organization plays an exciting role as a park partner. We were instrumental in the development of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kansas. We hope you enjoy the *Brown Quarterly* and are always interested in comments from our readers.

Executive Director:
Cheryl Brown
Henderson

Program Associate:
Linda Brown
Thompson

Editor/Design:
Grace L. Wilson
gracelwilsoneditor@cox.net

Editorial Assistant:
Chelsey Smith

Varian Fry

Assignment Rescue: 1940-41

(continued from page 1)

the face of U. S. culture, politics and scientific research. When Fry returned to New York, he recounted his story and tried to warn of Hitler's impending massacre of the Jews. Fry died unexpectedly and alone in 1967, the pages of his memoirs scattered about him. The police officer who discovered the papers described them as apparent "work of fiction". Fry was not recognized for his incredible achievements until the year of his death. He was awarded with the *Croix du Chevalier* of the French Legion of Honor. Posthumously, Fry was awarded the *Eisenhower Libertarian Medal* from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the *Righteous Among Nations* by the State of Israel, the highest international honor for Holocaust rescuers. This honor is shared by Raoul Wallenberg and Oskar Schindler.

Contributors to this article:

Walter Meyerhof, Professor Emeritus
Stanford University.

Taught physics for three years at the University of Illinois and for 43 years at Stanford University. In 1940-41, he and his parents were helped to escape from Vichy France by the American rescuer Varian Fry.

Visit <http://almondseed.com/vfry/> for more information on Varian Fry and Walter Meyerhof.



*Walter Meyerhof
in Banyuls-sur-Mer while waiting for a visa
to the U.S.*

Make a Difference: Help Refugees from Around the World

In the courageous story of Varian Fry we learn of the efforts by the The Emergency Rescue Committee (ERC) the group of New York intellectuals and former refugees that worked to help some prominent Europeans who were the targets of the Nazis. In 1942, the ERC merged with another organization to become the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Today the IRC continues to help people fleeing racial, religious and ethnic persecution, as well as those uprooted by war and violence.

At the outbreak of an emergency, the IRC provides sanctuary and lifesaving assistance. The IRC helps thousands of refugees resettle in the United States every year. Their offices across the country make sure that all new arrivals receive shelter, food and clothing. The IRC also provides recently arrived refugees with translation services, English-language instruction, job training, employment services and other counseling. Last, but not least, the IRC is a vocal public policy advocates, calling attention to critical issues affecting refugees around the world.

*Visit the IRC website at their.org for information
on how you can get involved in relief operations around the world.*

Stories of Courage: Irena Sendler

When Hitler and his Nazis built the Warsaw Ghetto and herded 500,000 Polish Jews behind its walls to await liquidation, many Polish gentiles turned their backs. Not Irena Sendler. An unfamiliar name to most people, but this remarkable woman defied the Nazis and saved 2,500 Jewish children by smuggling them out of the Warsaw Ghetto. As a health worker, she sneaked the children out between 1942 and 1943 to safe hiding places and found non-Jewish families to adopt them.

Irena Sendler was born in 1910 in Otwock, a town some 15 miles southeast of Warsaw. She was greatly influenced by her father who was one of the first Polish Socialists. As a doctor his patients were mostly poor Jews.

In 1939, Germany invaded Poland, and the brutality of the Nazis accelerated with murder, violence and terror.

At the time, Irena was a Senior Administrator in the Warsaw Social Welfare Department, which operated the canteens in every district of the city. Previously, the canteens provided meals, financial aid, and other services for orphans, the elderly, the poor and the destitute. Now, through Irena, the canteens also provided clothing, medicine and money for the Jews. They were registered under fictitious Christian names, and to prevent inspections, the Jewish families were reported as being afflicted with such highly infectious diseases as typhus and tuberculosis.

But in 1942, the Nazis herded hundreds of thousands of Jews into a 16-block area that came to be known as the Warsaw Ghetto. The Ghetto was sealed and the Jewish families ended up behind its walls, only to await certain death.

Irena Sendler was so appalled by the conditions that she joined Żegota, the Council for Aid to Jews, organized by the Polish underground resistance movement, as one of its first recruits and directed the efforts to rescue Jewish children.

To be able to enter the Ghetto legally, Irena managed to be issued a pass from Warsaw's Epidemic Control Department and she visited the Ghetto daily, reestablished contacts and brought food, medicines and clothing. But 5,000 people were dying a month from starvation and disease in the Ghetto, and she decided to help the Jewish children get out.

For Irena Sendler, a young mother herself, persuading parents to part with their children was in itself a horrendous task. Finding families willing to shelter the children, and thereby willing to risk their life if the Nazis ever found out, was also not easy.

Irena Sendler, who wore a star armband as a sign of her solidarity to Jews, began smuggling children out in an ambulance. She recruited at least one person from each of the ten centers of the Social Welfare Department.

With their help, she issued hundreds of false documents with forged signatures. Irena Sendler successfully smuggled almost 2,500 Jewish children to safety and gave them temporary new identities.

Some children were taken out in gunnysacks or body bags. Some were buried inside loads of goods.

A mechanic took a baby out in his toolbox. Some kids were carried out in potato sacks, others were placed in coffins, some entered a church in the Ghetto which had two entrances. One entrance opened into the Ghetto, the other opened into the Aryan side of Warsaw. They entered the church as Jews and exited as Christians. "Can you guarantee they will live?" was a constant parental concern.

Irena Sendler accomplished her incredible deeds with the active assistance of the church. "I sent most of the children to religious establishments," she recalled. "I knew I could count on the Sisters." Irena also had a remarkable record of cooperation when placing the youngsters: "No one ever refused to take a child from me," she said.

The children were given false identities and placed in homes, orphanages and convents. Irena Sendler carefully noted, in coded form, the children's original names and their new identities. She kept the only record of their true identities in jars buried beneath an apple tree in a neighbor's back yard, across the street from German barracks, hoping she could someday dig up the jars, locate the children and inform them of their past. In all, the jars contained the names of 2,500 children ...

Article excerpted from www.auschwitz.dk/sendler.htm. More information available on Irena Sendler.



"Every Jewish child who survived due to my efforts has justified my existence on this Earth but is no cause for praise... We who were rescuing children are not some kind of heroes.... The opposite is true I continue to have qualms of conscience that I did so little. I could have done more."

Irena Sendler

Irena Sendler

Stories of Courage

Uniontown Students present "Life in a Jar"

Students from rural Kansas discover a Catholic woman, who saved Jewish children during the Holocaust. Few had heard of Irena Sendler in 1999, now after 164 presentations of the play "Life in a Jar", a web site and international media attention, Irena is known to the world. How did this beautiful story develop?

In the fall of 1999, Mr. Conard, a history teacher at Uniontown High School in Uniontown, Kansas, encouraged four students to identify an historic subject and devote one year to working on the project which would among other things extend the boundaries of the classroom. Their project would ultimately become a lesson in respect and tolerance, and exemplify their classroom motto of, "He who changes one person, changes the entire world".

Three ninth grade girls and an eleventh grade girl, accepted the challenge and decided their project would be entered in the National History Day contest. Mr. Conard showed them a short clipping from a March 1994 issue of U. S. News and World Report, which said, 'Irena Sendler saved 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942-43'. He told the girls he had not heard of this woman or her story. Based on the article, the students began their research and looked for primary and secondary sources throughout the year.

The students of Uniontown High School used their history research to write a play about the life of Irena Sendler. The production called "Life in a Jar" recounts the story of Irena's successful efforts to rescue Jewish children from almost certain death in the camps of Nazi Germany. They have performed this play for numerous groups across the state of Kansas, throughout the United States and in Europe. The community of Uniontown was inspired by the project and sponsored an Irena Sendler Day. The students began to search for the final resting place of Irena and discovered she was still alive and living in Warsaw, Poland.

From that time on they would take a jar to every performance and collect funds for Irena and other Polish rescuers. They were even able to send the funds to Poland for the care of Irena and of other rescuers. The girls wrote Irena and she wrote back saying that "your performance and work continues the effort I started over fifty years ago, you are my dearly beloved girls".

On May 22, 2001, their dream of meeting Irena came true when a benefactor sponsored their trip to Warsaw, Poland. They spent time with Irena Sendler, finally extending the boundaries of their classroom to the world. The Polish press made this story international news. Irena's story was finally reaching others. The students were called "rescuer's, rescuers of Irena's story."



Students of Uniontown High School used their history research to write a play, "Life in a Jar" about Irena Sendler

Zora Neale Hurston and Me

Dr. Carmeletta M. Williams
Professor

Johnson County Community College

I love Zora Neale Hurston. I have spent a good deal of my life "being" Zora in a first person characterization. This began with a program named History Alive! for the Kansas Humanities Council. When one of my colleagues told me about the program, my initial reaction was "I can't do that. First of all, I'm not an actress; and secondly, I don't know who I would be." Then in the same Zora tradition that claimed Dr. Robert Emery Hemenway, Chancellor of the University of Kansas, to write her literary biography or Alice Walker, prize winning author, to proclaim Zora her artistic foremother and a genius of the South, and others who hold her in high esteem, Zora claimed me.

The two of us have had a long wonderful relationship. In my journeys around the state of Kansas and the country "being Zora", I have been excited to share her life and work with diverse audiences. From grannies to babies, the interested looks on the faces of the people as they learn about her life is gratifying. The questions they ask about the little girl, who grew up to be such an incredibly free-spirited and talented woman, demonstrate an awareness of a life that is so deserving of recognition. The excitement in their voices as they pledge to read her works and learn more about the life of this wonderful woman whom they knew so little about before I shared Zora with them, are worth every mile and minute I have spent with her. I can feel Zora smile and hear her say, "Job well done, my daughter."

I hope to be true to the spirit of Zora Neale Hurston in my presentation of her for the Brown Foundation as part of the Big Read Project in partnership with the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. It is fitting that this performance take place at the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site. The author and book *Their Eyes Were Watching God* were well chosen. A journey through Zora's life and literature is eye-opening and life changing for people of every age, race, gender, and socio-economic condition. We all leave our introduction to Zora basking in the glow of folk wisdom. In the words of advice from Lucy Hurston to her daughter Zora: "Jump at de sun. You might not make it. But at least you'll get your feet off the ground."

About the Author

Carmeletta M. Williams is a Professor of Writing, Literature, Media Communications and African American Studies at Johnson County Community College (JCCC) in Overland Park, Kansas. She has made numerous presentations and conducted workshops for middle- and high schools, colleges and universities, and community groups, largely through the auspices of the Kansas Humanities Council. Williams earned Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in English from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a doctorate from the University of Kansas. She has won a number of distinguished teaching awards including the Burlington Northern-Sante Fe Faculty Achievement Award, three Distinguished Service Awards from JCCC, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education's Kansas Professor of the Year, and the League for Innovation's Innovation of the Year award for her videotape entitled: "Sankofa: My Journey Home," about her Fulbright-Hays Award study in Ghana, West Africa. Williams traveled to West Africa where as a guest of the government she established a faculty exchange between L'Ecole Nationale de Poste et Telecommunications and JCCC. She was an invited scholar to South Africa where she interviewed citizens about their experiences during and post-apartheid. Williams was awarded JCCC's first "Diversity Award" in September 2005.



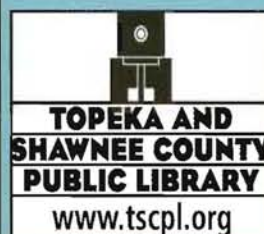
**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS**



**THE BIG
READ**

THE BIG READ

The Brown Foundation is a proud participant and partner with the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library for Big Read programs and activities. The Big Read is a national initiative in partnership with The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and Arts Midwest. The program will encourage literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library has chosen *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston as the community novel for Topeka and Shawnee County.



www.tscpl.org

Zora Neale Hurston

Zora Neale Hurston, novelist, folklorist, and anthropologist, is now regarded as one of America's great authors and is many times named as the "Queen of the Harlem Renaissance". The Harlem Renaissance was a period during which black artists broke with the traditional works to explore black culture and express pride in their race. This was expressed in literature, music, art, in addition to other forms of artistic expression.

The early life of Zora Neale Hurston has been shrouded in mystery. While the majority of biographical accounts list the year of her birth as 1901, just as many list 1903, and in recent years 1891. For many years her birthplace was said to have been Eatonville, Fla., however, recent evidence has placed it as Notasulga, Ala. Zora was the fifth of eight children of John and Lucy Ann Potts Hurston. Her father was a Baptist preacher, tenant farmer, and carpenter. At age three her family moved to Eatonville, the first incorporated black community in America with a then population of 125, and of which her father would later become mayor. To Zora Eatonville would become a utopia, glorified in her stories as a place black Americans could live as they desire, independent of white society and all its ways. The death of her mother when she was thirteen was a devastating event for Zora as she was "passed around the family like a bad penny" by her father for the next several years.

Upon reaching adulthood Zora was working as a domestic with little schooling. She was in Baltimore in 1917, when through the aid of her employer she entered in Morgan Academy. With her graduation in 1918, she matriculated at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Here she was inspired by the professor of philosophy and authority on black culture Alain Locke and decided to pursue a literary career. One of Zora's first articles entitled *Spunk* was published in the black journal *Opportunity* and caught the attention of such poets as Langston Hughes and Countee Cullen. Zora transferred to Barnard College.



Photo of Zora Neale Hurston

Zora and her stories about Eatonville became a major force in shaping Harlem Renaissance ideals. Additionally, she combined her studies in anthropology with her literary output. Studying under the famed professor of anthropology Franz Boas, she undertook field research (1927-1932) in the south during which she collected folklore. In 1930, Zora and Langston Hughes collaborated on a play *Mule Bone: A Comedy of Negro Life*. However, they became embroiled in a dispute and the play never saw production.

From 1934-1936, Zora engaged in her most fruitful anthropological field research which produced her finest literature. In 1934 her first novel *Jonah's Gourd Vine* was published. Set in the fictional Sanford (a thinly disguised Eatonville), it tells of Jonah, a black Baptist preacher who is abundant in emotion and has a weakness for women. In 1935 *Mules and Men* was published a piece focusing on voodoo practices in black America mainly Florida and New Orleans. From 1936 to 1938, Zora studied in Jamaica and Haiti. This laid the groundwork for *Tell My Horse* (1938), a travelogue and a study of Caribbean voodoo. Zora's second novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937), which took place in Eatonville and told the story of Janie and her three marriages. In 1939, Zora's second-to-last novel *Moses, Man of the Mountain* was published. A modern version of the biblical story with a black voodoo magician named Moses as the main character. In the following years Zora's literary output was sporadic. Her autobiography *Dust Tracks on a Road* (1942) was a commercial success. Her final novel *Seraph on the Suwanee* (1948), was set in Florida in the early twentieth century and oddly enough was about a white family named Meserve. Poverty and obscurity marked Zora's last years, during which she worked mostly as a domestic as she had started out. Illness finally overcame her when she suffered a severe stroke in 1959, after which she was committed to the Saint Lucie County Welfare Home in Fort Pierce, Fla. It was here that Zora Neale Hurston died on Jan. 28, 1960.

Article excerpted from *Women in History. Zora Neale Hurston biography - extended.*
Lakewood Public Library. <<http://www.lkwdpl.org/wihohio/hurs-zorx.htm>>.

Women Who Made a Difference



Gwendolyn Brooks

*"We are each other's harvest;
we are each other's business; we
are each other's magnitude and
bond."*

Gwendolyn Brooks

Gwendolyn Brooks was an award-winning poet. Born in Topeka, Kansas, she grew up in and remained in Chicago, Illinois. Although she also wrote a novel, an autobiography and some other prose works, she was noted primarily as a poet.

Her 1949 book of poetry, *Annie Allen*, received a Pulitzer Prize, the first won by an African American. In 1968, she was made Poet Laureate of Illinois. Other awards she received include the Frost Medal, the Shelley Memorial Award, and an American Academy of Arts and Letters award.

Brooks poetry is rooted in the poor and mostly African-American South Side of Chicago. She initially published her poetry as a columnist for the Chicago Defender, an African-American newspaper. Although her poems range in style from traditional ballads and sonnets to using blues rhythms in free verse, her characters are often drawn from the poor inner city. Her bluesy poem *We Real Cool* is often found in school textbooks. She is seen as a leader of the Black Arts movement.

After her first book of poetry was published in 1945, she received a Guggenheim Fellowship. After John F. Kennedy invited her to a Library of Congress poetry festival in 1962, she began a college teaching career which saw her teach at Columbia College Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Elmhurst College, Columbia University, Clay College of New York, and the University of Wisconsin. She was the 1985 Library of Congress' Consultant in Poetry. In 1994, she was chosen as the National Endowment for the Humanities's Jefferson Lecturer, one of the highest honors for American literature.

Excerpted from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gwendolyn_Brooks

Dolores Huerta is one the century's most powerful and respected labor movement leaders. Huerta left teaching and co-founded the United Farm Workers with Cesar Chavez in 1962. Huerta has raised her own 11 children while organizing for the labor movement.

"I quit because I couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry and needing shoes. I thought I could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children."

The 1965 Delano Grape Strike launched UFW into a period of fast-paced organizing, with Huerta negotiating contracts with growers, lobbying, organizing strikes and boycotts, as well as spearheading farmworker political activities. Always politically active, she co-chaired the 1972 California delegation to the Democratic Convention. She led the fight to permit thousands of migrant/immigrant children to receive services. She also led the struggle to achieve unemployment insurance, collective bargaining rights, and immigration rights for farmworkers under the 1985 Rodino amnesty legalization program.

Huerta continues as an outstanding labor and political activist.

<http://www.greatwomen.org/women.php?action=viewone&id=81>

Delores Huerta



"..I couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry and needing shoes. I thought I could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children."

Delores Huerta

Sacagawea

Sacagawea, a famed Native American woman whose land survival expertise and interpretive abilities were essential to the success of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was born in a northern Shoshone village near the Lemhi River valley, in what is today Idaho. Between her tenth and twelfth year, she was taken to live among the Hidatsas of the Knife River area, modern day North Dakota.

In April 1805, Sacagawea, her husband Toussaint Charbonneau and their infant son, Jean Baptiste (Pomp), left Fort Mandan with the Lewis and Clark Expedition to explore the western lands recently acquired in the 828,000 square mile Louisiana Purchase. Sacagawea's service contributed to the success of the Expedition and to its enduring significance.

Considered at first to be simply Charbonneau's wife who possessed specific native language interpretation abilities, Sacagawea became one of the most valuable members of the Corps.

The explorers passed through territory that Sacagawea was familiar with as a food resource area and she helped supply the Corps with food foraged from the wild – roots, berries and other edibles. She was very calm and collected in crises and saved valuable records, instruments and other supplies when one of their boats almost capsized. Saving Clark's journals preserved the history of the expedition for future generations.



The Sacagawea Golden Dollar Coin was released into circulation on January 27, 2000.

Excerpted from <http://www.greatwomen.org/women.php?action=viewone&id=204>

Amaris Howard

Amaris Vania Howard was born on July 24, 1982. As Amaris grew older she began to acquire an interest in the arts, namely music and writing. Her mother is a teacher and writer in her own right and her father is a musician among other things. Of all her abilities, including writing short stories, plays and songs, her greatest love is poetry. This Virginia native fell in love with spoken word during her freshman year at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Howard said she has always believed she was born to reach people through words. So she performs wherever she can, spreading her message of self-actualization.

"I craft pieces that are engineered to help people find themselves," said Howard, who writing and performances show a real heart for the misrepresented.

Since 2001, Howard has been involved with *The Collective 7*, a group of artists founded in Greensboro, NC. She is also a member of the Artists Responsibility Movement, an organization which gives her the opportunity to use the art of poetry to help students deal with life's challenges. She has co-hosted an open-mic venue called *Da Spotlight* at a bookstore called the Living Room.

Howard participates in slams and open-mic venues on the east coast with her soft but poignant style. She has been on a local radio station in Greensboro as well as in local newspapers. She also played a part in the 2003 Queens of Poetry Spoken Word Tour and the 2004 Collective Thoughts Theatre Production and Under the Poet-Tree Theatre Production.

Howard also participated in *Lift Every Voice and Speak! Poetry Night* sponsored by the Brown Foundation and Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site. The event was held on February 18, 2006 in commemoration of Black History Month. Other featured artists included Raenaldo Torres and Simeon Taylor from KCPoets.com, The Original Woman, Joel Brown, MAHDI, Mz T.D. and Mark Nelson.



Visit <http://amaristhinksfree.com/> and <http://brownvboard.org/events/200602poetrynight.htm> for more information.

Test Your Knowledge: Women's History Quiz

- This first trial introduced the principle of the "best interest of the child."
 - Pennsylvania v. Addicks
 - Roe v. Wade
 - Ireland v. Smith
- She helped bring provisions to soldiers on the front lines and set up the Bureau of Records. She is:
 - Clara Barton
 - Florence Nightingale
 - Jane Addams
- Not only was she the first woman to swim across the English Channel, she did it in record breaking time--beating the fastest man's record by 1 hour and 49 minutes. She is:
 - Babe Didrikson Zaharias
 - Rosemary Casals
 - Gertrude Ederle
- This cosmonaut was the first woman in space, orbiting the earth 48 times in the Vostok VI in 1963:
 - Carley Fiorina
 - Urvashi Vaid
 - Valentina Tereshkova
- Frances Perkins becomes Secretary of Labor, the first woman cabinet member in U.S. history in this year:
 - 1893
 - 1913
 - 1933
- In 1889, this woman opened Hull House in Chicago to help immigrants flocking to the city to find jobs during the Industrial Revolution.
 - Abigail Adams
 - Jane Addams
 - Barbara Jordan
- In 797 she was crowned sole ruler of the Byzantine Empire and became the first woman ever to hold the throne in the old Roman Empire.
 - Irene of Athens
 - Empress Theodora
 - Anna Comnena
- The "Jane Roe" in the famous Roe v. Wade trial later revealed her true identity as:
 - Linda Coffee
 - Norma McCorvey
 - Sarah Weddington

Women Won the Right to Vote in ...

- **1893 New Zealand**
- **1902 Australia***
- **1906 Finland**
- **1913 Norway**
- **1915 Denmark**
- **1917 Canada****
- **1918 Austria, Germany, Poland, Russia**
- **1919 Netherlands**
- **1920 United States**
- **1921 Sweden**
- **1928 Britain, Ireland**
- **1931 Spain**
- **1944 France**
- **1945 Italy**
- **1947 Argentina, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan**
- **1949 China**
- **1950 India**
- **1954 Colombia**
- **1957 Malaysia, Zimbabwe**
- **1962 Algeria**
- **1963 Iran, Morocco**
- **1964 Libya**
- **1967 Ecuador**
- **1971 Switzerland**
- **1972 Bangladesh**
- **1974 Jordan**
- **1976 Portugal**
- **1989 Namibia**
- **1990 Western Samoa**
- **1993 Kazakhstan, Moldova**
- **1994 South Africa**
- **2005 Kuwait**

NOTE: Two countries do not allow their people, male or female, to vote: Brunei and the United Arab Emirates. Saudi Arabia is the only country with suffrage that does not allow its women to vote.

*Australian women, with the exception of aboriginal women, won the vote in 1902. Aboriginals did not have the right to vote until 1962.

** Canadian women, with the exception of Canadian Indian women, won the vote in 1917. Canadian Indians did not win the vote until 1960.

Answers to Women's History Quiz:
(1.) a. Pennsylvania v. Addicks (2.) a. Clara Barton (3.) c. Gertrude Ederle (4.) c. Valentina Tereshkova (5.) c. 1933 (6.) b. Jane Addams (7.) a. Irene of Athens (8.) b. Norma McCorvey

Teacher Talk

Teaching about the Holocaust

Tolerance.org

Tolerance.org offers a teacher's kit free of charge for grades 8-12 entitled *One Survivor Remembers*. The kit tells the unforgettable story of Gerda Weissmann Klein's six-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty. Klein describes her years in Nazi labor camps and months on a forced death march. Though her experience was horrifying, Klein also remembers wonderful acts of decency and normalcy — testaments to the greatness of humanity.



This teaching kit sheds light on the 20th century's terrible history of devastation and prejudice, yet offers hope that hatred can be overcome. It includes:

- A 40-minute Oscar-winning documentary film by Kary Antholis, available in VHS or DVD format, with closed-captioning;
- A collection of primary documents, drawn from Klein's personal collection;
- A resource booklet including a Holocaust timeline; and
- A teacher's guide with standards-based lesson plans.

A Teacher's Guide to the Holocaust

This publication by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum provides guidelines for teaching about the Holocaust, a historical summary, a chronology, and an annotated bibliography and videography about Holocaust-related topics. It includes information about programs offered by Museum educators and additional resources for teachers. Site visitors can view or print the entire teacher guide. The Website itself also offers a wide range of teaching lessons and information.

<http://www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/>

Women's History Month Resources

<http://www.nwhm.org/home/home.html>

Official site of the National Women's History Museum. Among other things, the site offers historical overviews about topics such as women in the Olympics, political culture, imagery of American suffrage and women during World War II.

http://www.gale.com/free_resources/whm/

Gale Research observes Women's History Month with a timeline from 4000 B.C. to the present and biographies of several dozen women, including Joan of Arc, Sally Hemings, Mother Teresa, Indira Gandhi, Flossie Wong-Staal, and Queen Elizabeth I. Also find information on 12 significant trials, including the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire and the Tailhook Scandal. Includes suggestions for activities and annotated links to other resources.

www.lwv.org

Learn about "voter information, civic participation, or current public policy issues such as election reform, campaign finance reform and health care. ... This web site not only gives you the most up-to-date information, it provides you with the tools to get involved in the democratic process at the federal, state and local levels."

Women's Earning as a Percentage of Men's

1955	~ 63.9%
1960	~ 60.7%
1970	~ 59.4%
1975	~ 58.8%
1980	~ 60.2%
1985	~ 64.6%
1990	~ 71.6%
1995	~ 71.4%
2000	~ 73.3%

Source: U.S. Women's Bureau and the National Committee on Pay Equity

Spring 2006 Events & Exhibits:

Sponsored by the Brown Foundation in partnership with the Brown v. Board National Historic Site. All events held at Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, 1515 SE Monroe, Topeka, KS 66612.

March 12 at 3 p.m.

Dr. Carmaletta Williams brings to life *Zora Neale Hurston, Queen of the Harlem Renaissance*, in a first person characterization. Made possible in part by the Kansas Humanities Council. Reception following sponsored by the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. RSVP by March 10 to 785-235-3939 or brownfound@juno.com.

March 12-March 31 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

View the traveling exhibit *Black Women: Achievements Against the Odds*, produced by the Smithsonian Institution. Made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council and Kansas State Historical Society. The exhibit features the contributions to civil rights, arts, education and medicine of African-American women. Includes activist Harriet Tubman, athlete Wilma Rudolph and journalist Ida B. Wells.

March 15 at 3 p.m.

Participate in Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library's Big Read book discussion of Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes were Watching God*. Led by Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site Education Specialist, Linda Rosenblum. RSVP 785-354-1489 ext. 226.

April 2 at 3 p.m.

Join us for the play *Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project*. Presented by a project team from Uniontown High School, Uniontown, Kansas. "Life in a Jar" is the story of Irena Sendler, who saved 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942-1943. RSVP by March 30 to 785-235-3939 or brownfound@juno.com.

April 2-April 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come experience the traveling exhibit *Varian Fry, Assignment Rescue, 1940-1941* from the United States Holocaust Memorial museum, Washington, D.C. This exhibit chronicles Varian Fry's heroic efforts to help political and intellectual refugees escape Nazi controlled Vichy France in 1940 and 1941.

For information about upcoming events and to browse past issues of the Brown Quarterly visit the Brown Foundation's website at:

brownvboard.org

E-Mail: brownfound@juno.com

Web: brownvboard.org