

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED MATERIALS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

The following readings, books, audio sources, documentaries, and classroom materials can bolster teaching and learning about nonviolence and *Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story*, complement the activities provided in this curriculum guide, and provide the bases for a wide range of learning and discussion opportunities to connect the lessons of the comic book to other topics and themes.

A FORCE MORE POWERFUL: A CENTURY OF NONVIOLENT CONFLICT

This documentary series presents six case studies (each about 30 minutes long) of successful nonviolent movements that overcame oppression. Cases include struggles addressed in the comic book and this curriculum guide, including stories of the Gandhian campaigns against British colonial rule in India, the Nashville lunch counter sit-ins, and opposition to apartheid in South Africa.

ARTWORK OF EMORY DOUGLAS, THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY'S MINISTER OF CULTURE

Artist and illustrator Douglas created posters and pamphlets for the Black Panther Party, and served as the art director for the party's newspaper, from 1967 until the party disbanded in 1982. This piece from *The New York Times* features an interview with Douglas in conversation with two young artists he inspired and provides a primer on his iconic work.

BEFORE THE BOYCOTT: RIDING THE BUS

A potential introduction or activity to set the context before delving into the comic book, this e-learning activity designed by the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel for middle school students offers a glimpse of conditions on Montgomery's segregated buses and has an accompanying Teacher's Guide.

BROTHER OUTSIDER: THE LIFE OF BAYARD RUSTIN

This moving and deeply compelling documentary film tells the story of the life and activism of Bayard Rustin with a particular emphasis on his role organizing the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

HOLY TROUBLEMAKERS & UNCONVENTIONAL SAINTS by Daneen Akers. From the publisher: "*Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints* is an illustrated children's book about people of diverse faiths working for more love and justice in their corners of the world,

even when that means rocking the religious boat. With original portraits from more than two dozen artists and engaging profiles of people from different faiths and different eras, these are stories that inspire, educate, challenge, and encourage."

JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED by Howard Thurman. While Bayard Rustin and FOR's Glenn Smiley were important influences on Rev. Dr. King's understanding and application of nonviolence in action, the work and thinking of theologian Howard Thurman also had a profound impact on him. Thurman had met and discussed nonviolence with Gandhi as part of a delegation to India in 1936. King's and Thurman's paths crossed in the last years of King's doctoral studies at Boston University, where Thurman was on the faculty and Dean of BU's Marsh Chapel. According to Dr. King's friend and biographer Lerone Bennett, the young preacher "read and reread" this 1949 book of Thurman's during the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

MORE COMIC BOOKS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS THAT EXPLORE ISSUES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

El Salado by Miguel Jiménez and José Luis Jiménez: Tells the story of the Colombian village of El Salado, its residents' decision to return and rebuild two years after a horrific February 2000 massacre, and their struggle to bring safe drinking water to their revived community. Available in English and in Spanish.

El Viaje Más Caro/The Most Costly Journey edited by Marek Bennett, Andy Kolovos, Teresa Mares, and Julia Grand Doucet: Presents stories by Latin American migrant farmworkers in Vermont, drawn by New England cartoonists. In English and in Spanish.

March: Books One - Three by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell: From the publisher, "March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement."

Registered was produced by the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE)'s Civics for All and Social Studies team in collaboration with Good Trouble Comics, a creative nonfiction team that includes *March* and *Run* co-author Andrew Aydin. It is a telling in comic

form of the passage of the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which lowered the voting age to 18.

Run: Book One by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin: Picking up where the *March* trilogy left off, *Run* tells the story of Rep. Lewis's life and career after the signing of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, including how he and the movement faced white supremacist backlash to civil rights victories and how a generation responded to the Vietnam War.

The Secret of the 5 Powers by Gretl Satorius: Also inspired by FOR's 1957 comic, this story chronicles the work and collaboration of three heroes of nonviolence: Vietnamese Buddhist peace activist Sister Chan Khong, Zen Master and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Thich Nhat Hanh, and *Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story* co-author and FOR Executive Secretary, Alfred Hassler. The three worked together for over a decade, "planting seeds of peace in the mud of war." Electronic copies of the comic (English or French) are available by email from the5powersmoviereboot@gmail.com A film adaptation, *The 5 Powers Movie Reboot*, created, directed, and produced by [Gregory Kennedy](#), is forthcoming. The first cut won Best Film at The People's Film Festival in Harlem, NY in 2016.

Finally, mainstream comics have often tackled social and political issues as well. For example, in issue #322 of Marvel's *Captain America*, Steve Rogers gives up his title and role of Captain America rather than officially serve the U.S. government. This [2016 piece from SyFy Wire](#) includes a number of other instances worth exploring, and comic book experts among your students and community members are sure to know of others.

PIES FROM NOWHERE: HOW GEORGIA GILMORE SUSTAINED THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

by Dee Romito, illustrated by Laura Freeman. From the publisher: "This stunning picture book looks into the life of Georgia Gilmore, a hidden figure of history who played a critical role in the civil rights movement and used her passion for baking to help the Montgomery Bus Boycott achieve its goal."

REMEMBERING BAYARD RUSTIN AT 100

In this essay published on the *Waging Nonviolence* website, longtime Fellowship of Reconciliation and War Resisters League leader Matt Meyer delves into the complexities and consistencies of Bayard Rustin's life and politics, including details of his work towards the end of his life.

REMEMBERING BAYARD RUSTIN: THE MAN BEHIND THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

This episode of the National Public Radio podcast *Throughline*, is a thoughtful and wonderfully personal profile of Bayard Rustin. Focused not only on his work to organize the March on Washington, it tells the story of Rustin's life and traces the development of his beliefs, his identity, and his thinking. Among the many voices and stories it includes, the podcast lets us hear from Walter Naegle, Rustin's partner who so generously shared some of the documents featured in this curriculum guide.

RESOURCES FOR DEEPENING CLASSROOM TEACHING OF AND WITH COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS

This [concise and illuminating paper](#) by Brian Kelley, published in *SANE journal: Sequential Art Narrative in Education*, provides an excellent overview of the medium of graphic novels along with insights about the rationale for using them in the K-12 classroom and, most helpful for classroom teachers, a generous list of suggested classroom activities that are both engaging and accessible.

Another user-friendly starting point for learning about using graphic novels and comics in a classroom setting is the "Teachers" section of the [Get Graphic! website](#) from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. This is the source for the slide deck, "How to Read a Graphic Novel" featured in the middle school lesson activity "Getting to Know Comics and Graphic Novels: A Pre-Reading Activity."

Jennifer Gonzales's *Cult of Pedagogy* website also includes two resources that provide additional excellent entry points for digging more deeply into using graphic novels in your teaching. One post from 2016 that is packed with ideas is [Graphic Novels in the Classroom: A Teacher Roundtable](#). This piece (including the comments) offers many recommendations of graphic novels that can be and have been used in classrooms. A 2019 post by Shveta Miller examines [The Surprising Benefits of Student-Created Graphic Novels](#). Her piece is the source of the close reading activity included in the middle school lesson activities section of this guide. It also includes suggestions for "micro-writing" assignments, and guidance for an assignment of students creating a short graphic novel about their own lives.

[True Fiktion](#) publishes comic books and accompanying curricula that tell the stories of "pivotal moments in U.S. history through the perspective of marginalized groups. Each comic illustrates lesser known details of U.S. history,

highlights the resilience of marginalized groups, and helps make history relevant to current social issues.” True Fiktion also provides professional development opportunities for teachers.

With an emphasis on fighting censorship, the [Comic Book Legal Defense Fund](#) offers numerous resources for educators and librarians to support teaching with comics and graphic novels, including a [running compilation of titles and classroom activities based on them](#), as well as the opportunity to join their [League of Graphic Novel Educators](#).

ROSA PARKS’ BIOGRAPHY: A RESOURCE FOR TEACHING ROSA PARKS

This website is a companion to Dr. Jeanne Theoharis’s renowned biography, *The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks*, for which she has also co-authored an [adaptation for young readers](#). Both works famously debunk national myths about Mrs. Parks and shed light on her lifetime of activism before and after her 1955 arrest, including the price she and her family paid for taking a stand. The website features an interactive timeline, a range of primary sources, and a teaching guide for high school and college classes.

TAMIKA MALLORY’S “STATE OF EMERGENCY” SPEECH, MAY 29, 2020

In this speech following the murder of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis, MN, Until Freedom co-founder Tamika Mallory begins with an unequivocal and impassioned message: “Black people are in a state of emergency. . . . And those who support us need to understand the depth of the state of emergency.” The speech is both an indictment and a call to action that will surely resonate with readers of the comic book. Mallory has since published the book, *State of Emergency: How We Win in the Country We Built*.

TEACHING HARD HISTORY PODCAST, SEASON 3

From Learning for Justice and hosted by Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries, this outstanding podcast includes transcripts with extensive hyperlinks throughout, plus related resources and lesson plans. Listeners can receive professional development certificates by completing a short survey and activity after each episode. The [episode with Dr. Emilye Crosby on the Montgomery Bus Boycott](#) is, of course, essential listening to accompany the comic book.

THE ‘3.5% RULE’: HOW A SMALL MINORITY CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

This article by BBC journalist David Robson provides a summary of Erica Chenoweth and Maria J. Stephan’s book, *Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict*, a study of 323 violent and nonviolent campaigns that took place between 1900 and 2006. The article’s first sentence provides an excellent jumping off point for discussion and learning: “Nonviolent protests are twice as likely to succeed as armed conflicts – and those engaging a threshold of 3.5% of the population have never failed to bring about change.”

THE POWER OF NONVIOLENCE: STORIES OF PEACEMAKERS WHO HELP BREAK THE CYCLE OF BRUTALITY

This radio project from Humankind “seeks deep solutions to th[e] vexing problem [of the cycle of violence]. We turn to wisdom teachings across our great spiritual traditions for guidance — and inspiration — on how the lasting wounds can be healed.”

THE UNLIKELY WORLD OF THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT: SOLIDARITY ACROSS ALABAMA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND SOUTH AFRICA

by Cole S. Manley. From the publisher: “In *The Unlikely World of the Montgomery Bus Boycott*, Cole Manley analyzes the global influences and impact of the boycott of 1955–1956. Manley moves beyond the borders of Alabama, and even beyond the United States, to interrogate how Black Montgomery boycotters thought about their movement in relationship to global freedom struggles, from the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa to the anti-color bar battles in the United Kingdom.”