



The Power of Children: Making a Difference

**A special exhibit coming this fall to Elmhurst History Museum
Sept. 6-Oct. 13, 2019**

*Organized by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis in partnership with
Mid-America Arts Alliance and NEH on the Road*

Location: Elmhurst History Museum, 120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst

Appropriate Grades: 4-12 (caution: sensitive subject matter)

Opportunities for Teachers:

- **Teacher Sneak Preview** on Thurs. Sept. 5, 2019 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. with complimentary refreshments
- **Staff-led field trips**
- **Free educational materials/extra credit/related project ideas**

More info: <http://www.elmhursthistory.org/317/Upcoming-Exhibits>



Reserve a tour date for your students:

Contact Elmhurst History Museum's Supervisor of Education Services, Jessie Wandersee, at jess.wandersee@elmhurst.org or call 630-530-6879.

ELMHURST HISTORY MUSEUM

EXHIBIT OVERVIEW--The Power of Children: Making a Difference

How children can teach us about overcoming obstacles.

The Power of Children: Making a Difference shares the extraordinary stories of Anne Frank, Ruby Bridges, and Ryan White—three children whose lives teach us about overcoming obstacles to make a positive difference in the world. This exhibit encourages children and families to explore issues of isolation, fear, and prejudice throughout 20th-century history and today. The material in this exhibit is serious in nature and recommended for children ages 8+ with their families, and for school groups.

Through audio-visual presentations, original artifacts, and hands-on interactives, visitors will get to know each child's story. Immersive environments bring visitors into the Secret Annex where Anne Frank and her family spent two years in hiding; the first-grade classroom in which Ruby Bridges spent an entire school year alone with her teacher Mrs. Henry; and Ryan White's bedroom, filled with his treasured belongings. *The Power of Children* encourages children and their families to reflect on the significance of these three stories and inspires visitors to bring about positive change.

Anne's Story: Through her writing and diary, we have a first-person account of Anne Frank's experience of the Holocaust: the fears, the hiding, the thoughts of a better future. Through this exhibit, visitors can explore Anne's world and wisdom, while learning how everyone can make a difference with the power of words.

Ruby's Story: The year Ruby Bridges was born, the U.S. Supreme Court charted a new course for the nation in *Brown v. Board of Education*, ruling that segregation of African American students in public schools was inherently unequal. Six years later, Ruby put a personal face on this momentous decision when she was among the first black students to integrate the white school system in New Orleans in 1960. *The Power of Children* tells the story of Ruby and the pioneering role she played in the Civil Rights Movement.

Ryan's Story: In the early 1980s, reports of a new disease called AIDS terrified the nation, and fear and misinformation were rampant. Ryan White, an Indiana teenager who contracted AIDS through medication for his hemophilia, was expelled from his school due to his condition. His fight to return to school and live a normal life made him famous around the world. The exhibit shows how Ryan chose to speak up for his rights and dedicated himself to educating the world about AIDS and its victims.

Exhibit topics include: Prejudice and discrimination, racism, bullying, standing up for beliefs, fighting for positive change, kids can make a difference, overcoming obstacles.