



Mississippi History Day 2021

Communication in History: The Key to Understanding

Types of communication:

- Technology that improves communication
- Words, thoughts, ideas exchanged throughout history
- The arts
- People, groups, nations communicating or failing to communicate with each other
- Events
- Language

Aspects of understanding:

- How do you effectively get a message across to someone?
- What happens when a point doesn't get across?
- What happens with miscommunication happens?

Arts

B.B. King
Blues music
Country music
Elvis
Eudora Welty
Faith Hill
George Ohr
Howlin' Wolf
Leontyne Price
Muddy Waters
Robert Johnson
Story quilts and Mississippi quilt artists (Gwendolyn Magee, Hystercine Rankin, Martha Skelton)
Walter Anderson

Civil Rights

Anne Moody
Anti-civil rights propaganda (links to communism, etc.)
Claiborne Hardware v. NAACP (U.S. Supreme Court case that established right of citizens to use economic boycott to advance political aims)
Communication at Parchman (and to the outside world) during the Civil Rights Movement
Constance Slaughter-Harvey
Fannie Lou Hamer
Freedom Schools
Freedom Summer

For more information on the 2021 theme, visit

<https://www.nhd.org/communication-history-key-understanding>

To start your research, explore

- mississippiencyclopedia.org
- mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov
- mdah.ms.gov



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Hiram Revels
Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party
Sovereignty Commission
Wednesdays in Mississippi
White Citizens Council (communicating publicly that integration/equality wouldn't be accepted)

Gatherings

Black Hawk Political Rally (Council of Conservative Citizens)
Neshoba County Fair

Industry/Transportation

Cellular South/C Spire
The End of the War of 1812 (the length of time for a letter to arrive from overseas led to the unnecessary Battle of New Orleans involving Mississippi's Thomas Hinds' dragoons)
Gilroy Chow (worked on the Apollo missions)
The Natchez Trace
Tupelo – Tennessee Valley Authority

Literature

African American Vernacular English
Natasha Trethewey
Richard Wright
Sherwood Bonner
William Faulkner

Media

African American newspapers (the Delta Lighthouse, a Greenville publication until the 1927 flood)
Bill Minor
Hazel Brannon Smith
Hederman family newspapers
Ida B. Wells
Jim Henson and Sesame Street
Media coverage of natural disasters
Media coverage of the Emmett Till case
Newspapers in Mississippi
The Pascagoula Chronicle (paper started in 1858)
Percy Dale East and the Petal Paper
Press coverage of Sullivan-Kilrain bare knuckle boxing fight
WLBT (coverage of historical events)
Rick Cleveland (famous sports journalist)

Native American

Choctaw Code Talkers
Colonialism
Cyrus Byington (authored Choctaw-English dictionaries)
French Settlers and Natchez Indians
Native American boarding schools (attempts to ban/eliminate mother language)
Native American oral story telling
Petroglyphs and cave paintings
Treaties (What is being agreed to? Enforcement? Courts?)

Women's History

Carrie Belle Kearney
Messaging during women's suffrage campaigns
Mississippi University for Women
The Mississippi Women Suffrage Association
Nellie Nugent Somerville
Unita Blackwell
White women as spokespeople/advocates for African American domestic help
Women's Christian Temperance Union