

Triumph & Tragedy 2019

This list of individuals / groups / events below are only suggestions. Each suggestion can be modified and changed to meet your personal interest in this year's theme. You may also select a topic that is not mentioned on this list.

Animal Welfare

- Triumph of PETA over Ringling Bros
- Temple Grandin: Turning Tragedy into Triumph with dairy cows

Athletics

- 1936 Olympics in Berlin and Jesse Owens
- Title IX
- Muhammad Ali
- Wilma Rudolph: Polio Survivor to Olympic Medalist
- Olympic Athletes, John Carlos and Tommie Smith: Black Panther Movement
- The Chicago Black Sox: Baseball's Tragedy

Civil Rights

- The Freedom Rides and the Campaign for Voting Rights
- Frederick Douglass: a Triumphant Life Born of Tragedy
- Daisy Bates and her Triumphant Effort to Integrate Little Rock High School
- Biddy Mason Triumphs Over Slavery and Racism
- Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad
- Martin Luther King: Non Violent Protest
- Racial Discrimination and Marion Anderson's Concert in Washington DC
- Civil Rights: Freedom Summer
- Desegregation: Louisiana Schools

- Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad
- Civil Rights Act of 1865

Economic/Labor

- The Homestead Strike
- Conquering Fear: America Fights the Depression
- The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire and Labor Legislation: Triumph From Tragedy
- The Pullman Strike
- The Progressives Fight Against Child Labor
- The Triumph of the "Brazilian Miracle" Leads to the Tragic Debt Crisis
- Jeremiah Rusk: Bay View Labor Strike Tragedy
- Social Security Act, 1935
- Cesar Chavez: Migrant Labor Reform
- Hay Market Riots: Labor's Tragedy
- Creation of the Stock Market
- Lowell Mill Girls: Rise of the Textile Industry
- Fair Labor Standards Act: Breaker Boys
- Industrial Revolution: Creation of the Assembly Line
- Marco Polo: Economy of the Silk Road

Environment

- San Francisco Earthquake and Fire: Change Born from Tragedy
- The Hoover Dam: Triumph or Tragedy for the Environment?
- Chico Mendes and the Rubber Tappers: Triumph and Tragedy in the Brazilian Rainforest
- Rachel Carson and her Triumph Over Pesticides
- Metropolis in the Desert: the Engineering Triumph of Bringing Water to Los Angeles
- The Johnstown Flood: Small Triumphs After a Large Tragedy

- Ocean Fishing and Over-Fishing: Economic Necessity or Environmental Tragedy?
- Reconstruction After the Great Chicago Fire
- Power to the People: the Tennessee Valley Authority

Exploration/Expansion/Conquest

- The "Discovery of America": Triumph for Columbus, Tragedy for Native Americans
- The Trail of Tears
- Native Americans and the Tragedy of European Diseases
- Families in Struggle and Triumph on the Oregon Trail
- The Triumph and Tragedy of the Roanoke Settlement
- Manifest Destiny and the Native American Tragedy
- Triumph and Tragedy at the Ancient City of Pompeii
- The Louisiana Purchase
- The California Gold Rush
- Buffalo Soldiers: Opening the West

Immigration

- Jewish Immigration and the Creation of Israel: Triumph for Israelis, Tragedy for Palestinians
- Chinese Immigrants and the Building of the Transcontinental Railroad
- Enactment of the Immigration and Naturalization Act, 1965
- Ellis Island Immigration Reception and Quarantine Station

Politics & Foreign Relations

- Bosnia: A Balkan Tragedy
- The 38th Parallel: a Line Between Triumph and Tragedy
- Richard M. Nixon: a Triumphant and Tragic Presidency

- Fidel Castro: Social Triumphs and Tragedies in Cuba
- Nelson Mandela's Triumphant Return to Power in South Africa
- A Dream Deferred: Woodrow Wilson and the League of Nations
- The Cuban Missile Crisis: a Near Tragedy Becomes a Triumph
- The Marshall Plan and Western European Reconstruction
- Joseph Stalin and the Purge of Russia
- Surprising Triumph: Truman Defeats Dewey
- John F. Kennedy
- Edward Doheny: Teapot Dome Scandal

Public Health

- Alaska: Spanish Flu Epidemic
- Penicillin: Saving Lives
- Polio: Tragic Disease, Triumphant Vaccine

Science/Technology

- The U.S. Space Program: Triumphs and Tragedies
- NASA: Shuttle Development
- The Invention of the Cotton Gin: Economic Success With Tragic Consequences
- The Construction of the Panama Canal: Engineering and Political Triumph
- The Development of Nuclear Power and the Consequences of Nuclear Accidents
- Sputnik: Soviet Triumph Motivates American Space Program
- Three Mile Island: the Pursuit of Power in a Fragile Environment
- Egyptian Pyramids: Architectural Triumph Built on the Tragedy of Slave Labor
- Henry Ford and the Assembly Line
- Triumph Over Darkness: Thomas Edison and the Electric Lightbulb

- John P. Holland and the Submarine: a Technical Triumph
- Theodore Judah: Building the Transcontinental Railroad
- Steven Hawkins: Triumph and Tragedy of a genius
- John Nash Jr: Triumph and Tragedy with mental illness
- Galileo: Triumphant Discoveries, Tragic Life
- Robert Oppenheimer: Manhattan Project

Social/Cultural

- Helen Keller: Overcoming Adversity
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Triumphant Highs and Tragic Lows
- Jonestown: the Tragedy of Religious Fanaticism
- The Mormon Migration
- Vincent Van Gogh: The Triumph and Tragedy of Genius
- Chicago Urban Housing Projects: Middle Class Housing
- Red Scare 1919: Xenophobia in America
- Great Fire of London: Rebuilding Act of 1667
- Ray Kroc: Fast Food Changes America
- Cultural Revolution in China
- Interstate Highway System: Growth of the Suburban Neighborhood
- Thomas Cromwell: Suppression of Monasteries

War and Peace

- A Tragic End for the Triumphant Black Soldiers at Fort Wagner
- New Technology in World War I Produces Tragic Results
- William Penn: Planting the Seeds of American Pluralism
- The Treaty of Versailles: the Bitter Fruit of Peace
- From Pearl Harbor to Midway: Turning the Tide of War
- The Battle of the Crater: a Triumph of Engineering and a Tragedy of Leadership

- The Return to the Philippines: General Douglas MacArthur
- The Surrender at Appomattox: One Man's Triumph is Another's Tragedy
- Lake Erie: Decisive Battle of the War of 1812
- The Easter Rising of 1916 in Ireland
- SALT: a Triumph for Peace
- The Generation of '98: Spain's Melancholy After the Spanish-American War
- The Fire Bombing of Dresden: Triumph for the Allies, Tragedy for German Citizens
- Pancho Villa and his Triumphant Fight for Mexican Independence
- Dickey Chappelle: Foreign War Correspondent
- Relocation of Japanese Americans During World War II
- Invasion of Normandy: Military Triumph
- U.S.S. Indianapolis: Miscommunication at Sea
- War Coverage: Vietnam and the Media
- Battle of Waterloo: New Beginnings from the End
- Midway: Between Triumph and Tragedy
- Surrender of Japan: From Surrender to Success
- South Africa Apartheid and the Division of a Nation
- Winston Churchill: Fight Against Tyranny

Women

- Women's Suffrage
- Billie Jean King: a Role Model for a Movement
- Amelia Earhart: a Triumphant Life Ends in Tragedy
- Dorothea Dix and Mental Health Reform
- The Triumph of Women's Relief Agencies During the Civil War
- Eleanor Roosevelt: Human Rights
- Rosie the Riveter: Women's Roles in WWII
- Helen Keller