TEXAS HISTORY TOP TEN: Women's Suffrage

The Bullock Texas State History Museum's website is filled with artifacts, oral histories, highlights from curators, and interesting stories. The Texas History Top Ten tool is perfect if you only have a short amount of time, want a broad overview, or want to find hidden gems about a particular topic. Use this lists to help expand your content knowledge while planning classroom lessons for your students, or send your students on assignment to explore the Top Ten lists on their own.

Women's Suffrage

Thousands of women from different walks of life campaigned tirelessly for the right to vote. On June 28, 1919, Texas approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote in national elections.

- The fashion of suffrage
- As women broke away from traditional expectations, fashion reflected their changing place in society
- 2 Life magazine suffrage cartoon
 "Four Voters," a pro-suffrage cartoon by illustrator Orson Lowell
- Letters about the African American suffrage movement

 Black women in El Paso sought admission to National American Woman
 Suffrage Association
- Ballot from the first election that Texas women could vote

 This unused "souvenir" ballot from the first election that Texas women could vote in 1918. "The first ballot the women had to scratch in a primary election."
- A suffrage speech
 A hand written letter by Mariana Folsom a Unitarian pastor who led a grassroots suffrage movement in Texas in the 1880-1890s



Texas ballot, 1918. Image courtesy Austin History Center, Austin Public Library



Brown wool day dress, mid-1890s. Image courtesy The Heritage Society, Houston

- Copy of the book Jailed for Freedom
- In 1920, after being arrested for acts of civil disobedience in support of female suffrage, Elizabeth Kalb donated this copy of the book *Jailed for Freedom* to Rice University
- The trend was away from bulky layers and fussy details and towards practical, streamlined outfits for active modern women
- Banner used by Texas suffragists
 The slogan communicated that a woman could vote and fulfill her role as homemaker
- Texas League of Women Voters minutes book
 This book details meetings held by the league in its early years as it urged women to pay poll taxes, conducted citizenship schools, held "Get Out the Vote" campaigns, issued a "Voter's Calendar," and shared questions of political candidates
- Sister Suffragists exhibition
 This past exhibition, created to mark the centennial, is a celebration of the movement that brought suffrage to the women of Texas and the nation



Types of Resources

The Bullock Museum has a diversity of resources and voices to tell the many Stories of Texas. While using the Texas History Top Ten, explore a variety of tools:

Artifacts

Get an up-close look at the artifacts the Museum has displayed, and learn about their importance in Texas history. *View the full Artifact Gallery here.*

Campfire Stories

Using the mosaic embedded in the Museum's floor, interact with Texans from the past gathered around a campfire to share their stories. Discover how people shape Texas's past and future. *View the mosaic here.*

Special Exhibitions and Events

Explore some of the stories and artifacts from the Bullock Museum's past temporary exhibitions and special events focusing on unique aspects of Texas history. *View all past special exhibitions here.*

Texas History Timeline

Use the interactive timeline tool to mix and match different events and stories to see how they line up in the chronology of Texas history. *View the full timeline here.*

Texas Story Project

Read oral history stories submitted by diverse Texans about their connections to the past. The Texas Story Project is best for finding stories that you wouldn't find in textbooks, like family stories and Texas folklore, and are generally not written by professional historians. *View the full Texas Story Project here.*

Assorted Resources

Watch videos or participate in an <u>interactive distance learning program</u>.

New Top Ten lists will be added over time to round out the full scope of the Texas History curriculum, so keep returning to the <u>website</u> for updates. Looking for more resources on these topics beyond the Top Ten, or curious how other teachers have used what is found on these lists? <u>Email Education@TheStoryofTexas.com</u>.



Discover the AT-6A "Texan" Airplane in the Artifact Gallery



