TEACHER'S GUIDE

Additional Resources: Films & Videos

MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

The creators of MISSION US have assembled the following list of films and videos to enhance and extend teacher and student learning about the people, places, and historical events depicted in the game.

Eyes on the Prize. Created by Henry Hampton. Blackside, 1987-1990.

An award-winning 14-hour documentary that tells the definitive story of the civil rights era from the point of view of the ordinary men and women whose extraordinary actions launched a movement that changed the fabric of American life, and embodied a struggle whose reverberations continue to be felt today.

Freedom Riders. Written, Produced and Directed by Stanley Nelson. New York: Firelight Films, 2011.

This film, aired on American Experience, tells the powerful harrowing and ultimately inspirational story of six months in 1961 that changed America forever. From May until November 1961, more than 400 black and white Americans risked their lives—and many endured savage beatings and imprisonment—for simply traveling together on buses and trains as they journeyed through the Deep South.

Freedom Summer. Written, Produced and Directed by Stanley Nelson. New York: Firelight Films, 2014.

This film, aired on American Experience, tells the story of the 1964 plan hatched by Bob Moses, a local secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, to force the media and the country to take notice of the shocking violence and massive injustice taking place in Mississippi.

Let the World See. Directed by Jeanmarie Condon and Fatima Curry. New York: ABC News, 2022.

This documentary tells the story of the murder of Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955 and his mother's fight to bring her son's body home to Chicago. Mamie Till-Mobley's decision to have an open-casket funeral for her son for the public to see, ultimately served as a turning point for the civil rights movement.

John Lewis: Good Trouble. Directed by Dawn Porter. New York: Magnolia Pictures, 2020. This documentary chronicles the life and career of the legendary civil rights activist and Democratic Representative from Georgia. Using interviews and rare archival footage, the film chronicles John Robert Lewis' 60-plus years of social activism and legislative action on civil rights, voting rights, gun control, health-care reform and immigration.



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Soundtrack for a Revolution. A film by Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman. Freedom Song Productions, LLC, 2009.

The story of the American civil rights movement is told through its powerful music -- the freedom songs that protesters sang on picket lines, in mass meetings, in police wagons, and in jail cells as they fought for justice and equality. A unique mix of historical documentary and contemporary musical performance, the film features new performances by top artists including John Legend, Joss Stone, Wyclef Jean, and The Roots; riveting archival footage; and interviews with civil rights foot soldiers and leaders, including Congressman John Lewis, Harry Belafonte, Julian Bond, Andrew Young and dozens more.

