

The Clinton 12: Site Visit Activities

When students arrive at the Green McAdoo Cultural Center, they will receive clipboards with questions that will help to guide their visit to the museum. These same questions may also be answered or expanded by watching the *Clinton 12* DVD.

Essential Questions for students:

1. What are civil rights and what happens when individuals are denied civil rights? _____

2. Why and how did the Clinton 12 work for social justice? _____

3. What were the challenges faced by the Clinton 12 and what were the strategies for overcoming these challenges? _____

4. How do diversity and interdependence have an impact on the way that individuals and societies work together? _____

5. Is equality for all possible in a democracy? _____

Chalk Talk

At the Green McAdoo Cultural Center, students will first sit in desks and watch a short presentation of the Clinton 12 story. They will then walk through the exhibits and answer the following questions.

Exhibits

Prelude: The Green McAdoo School

1. What does the photograph tell you about the Green McAdoo School?

2. When was the first African American school built in Clinton? _____ Who built it? _____ What happened to it? _____
3. When was the present Green McAdoo School built? _____
4. What kind of project was it? _____
5. Who designed the present Green McAdoo School? _____
6. What was the Green McAdoo's first name? _____
7. When was it renamed? _____
8. For whom was it renamed? _____
9. What grades did the Green McAdoo serve? _____
10. Who do you think the man in the photograph is? _____

Exhibit 1: White Citizens Councils and the NAACP

1. What was the purpose of the NAACP and when was it founded? _____

2. What was the purpose of the White Citizens Councils? _____

3. What did the "Crime Report Reveals Menace of Integration" suggest? _____

4. Who was John Kasper and what role did he play in the Clinton 12 story? _____

5. Who as Ezra Pound and what was his influence on John Kasper? _____

6. What was the Red Scare of the 1950s? Was it real? _____

7. What was the claim that there was a connection between communism and integration? Why was this particularly a powerful claim during the 1950s? _____

8. What was the term “mongrelization” and how was it used as propaganda? _____

9. Who was Joan Fontaine and what was the “scandal” that was related to her? _____

10. What did the “kiss of death” mean? _____

11. What was the claim of the “Mixed Schools, Mixed Blood” pamphlet, published in 1956? _____

Exhibit 2: Kasper Comes to Clinton: White Citizens’ Council

12. Who was Asa Carter? _____

What well-known book did he write? Have you read it? _____
13. Why did John Kasper serve time in federal prison? _____

14. How long did Kasper serve in prison? _____

15. What is ironic about Kasper's role in the Clinton 12 story and his earlier activities with the black community? _____

16. How and when did Kasper cause trouble in Clinton in 1956? _____

Exhibit 3: The First 3 Days: Sanctuary Inside the School

17. What was the atmosphere like inside Clinton High School during the first days of desegregation? _____

18. How did the local newspapers describe the first days of Clinton desegregation? _____

Exhibit 4: Backlash, Violence in the Community

19. To what extent and why did the local resistance to the desegregation of Clinton High School grow? _____

20. What was the experience of the Clinton 12 during this time period of community violence? _____

21. Who was the principal of Clinton High School and what was his reaction during the crisis? _____

22. What is your reaction to the photograph of the car surrounded by the mob? _____

23. What was Mt. Sinai Baptist Church and how was it a sanctuary to the African American community during this time? _____

24. How did the African American men, women, and children respond? _____

25. What was the theme of the prayer of the Knoxville Ministerial Association regarding the Clinton crisis? _____

26. What does the photograph of the burning cross represent? _____

Exhibit 5: Deputizing the Home Guard

27. What was the role of the Clinton Home Guard? _____

28. Summarize the activities of September 1, 1956. _____

Exhibit 6: National Guard Moves In

29. What was the role of the National Guard and when did it arrive in Clinton? _____

30. Who was James Chandler and what was his experience during the Clinton crisis? _____

31. What does the letter to Governor Clement tell you about how people reacted to his role in the Clinton

crisis? _____

Exhibit 7: School Goes On

32. How would you describe the attitudes of the Clinton 12 in the large photograph of them? _____

33. How do you think that you would react in a similar situation? _____

34. What is a U.S. Marshall? What did U.S. Marshall Frank Quarles read on the school steps? _____

35. What did Bobby Cain say that helped him during this time? _____

Exhibit 8: Student Support

36. What was the reaction of most of the white students at Clinton High School? _____

37. How was Jerry Shattuck a leader among the white students? _____

38. What was the response of the white students to Principal Brittain? _____

39. Why did the Student Council petition the Anderson County Board of Education in early December 1956? _____

Exhibit 9: Clinton Collage

- 40. What was the impact of the Formation of Youth’s White Citizens’ Council? _____

- 41. What was the intent of the meeting of the parents of the Clinton 12 in late November 1956? _____

- 42. How was Kasper’s acquittal a catalyst? _____

- 43. What was the impact of the bombings and shootings? _____

- 44. Did the White Citizens’ Council boycott of local business have an impact on the Clinton’s economy? _____

- 45. Why did the Anderson County School Board request help from the U.S. Attorney General? _____

Exhibit 10: No Color Line at the Cross

- 46. Who was the Rev. Paul Turner and what was his role in the Clinton 12 story? _____

- 47. When and why did Clinton High School shut down? _____

- 48. What was the role of the Clinton churches in the desegregation crisis? _____

49. Why were 15 Clinton citizens and Kasper arrested? _____

50. What was the outcome of the White Citizens Council candidates for local office during the December 4, 1956 election? _____

51. What did the Rev. Paul Turner mean by his comment that there was “No Color Line at the Cross”? _____

52. Looking at the Mailbox, what were some of the reactions to the Rev. Turner’s participation with the Clinton 12? _____

Exhibit 11: Bombing of Clinton High School

53. When was Clinton High School bombed? Did the authorities find out who bombed the school? _____

54. Where did Clinton High School students go to school following the bombing? _____

55. What was the reaction of the Clinton community following the bombing? _____

56. What newspapers carried the headlines of the bombing of Clinton High School? _____

Film Room

Read the exhibits and write a brief description of the roles played by these key participants in the Clinton 12 story.

- Dr. D. J. Brittain _____

- Horace V. Wells, Jr. _____

- Leo Burnett and Sidney Davis _____

- The Rev. Paul Turner _____

- Governor Frank Clement _____

Hear the Voices and Read the Stories of the Clinton 12

By listening and watching their interviews as well as reading the biographical information on the wall panels, briefly describe the experiences of the Clinton 12.

- Maurice Soles _____

- Alfred Williams _____

- Gail Ann Epps
Upton_____
- Ronald Gordon "Poochie"
Hayden_____
- Robert
Thacker_____
- Jo Ann Crozier Allen
Boyce_____
- Bobby
Cain_____
- William
Latham_____
- Minnie Ann Dickey
Jones_____
- Regina Turner
Smith_____
- Ann Theresser
Caswell_____
- Alvah J. McSwain
Lambert_____

Final Reflections at the Museum:
