

Elective Collaboration Economics and African American History

Enrichment Activities

Mr. Palmer and Mr. Hazelwood

Resources that have relevance to the Brockton community:

NPR - "Planet Money" podcast <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/510289/planet-money> (episodes on high unemployment rate, scarcity of masks and hospital beds, how to pay for the stimulus, etc.)

YOUTUBE - "Economics Explained" channel - episodes on the economies of various countries and other relevant topics. One episode is on the "Economics of Poverty" and discusses the Democratic Republic of Congo. Another discusses extreme economic inequality in South Africa.

The Enterprise- "**New Vicente's an oasis in food desert**" 2015 article on the opening of Vicente's supermarket. The article talks about the importance of supermarkets in communities that are "food deserts," the entrepreneurial spirit and "dreams" of immigrants making a life in the United States.

<https://www.enterpriseneews.com/article/20150628/NEWS/150626871>

Optional activities/guided questions:

1. **How does Vicente benefit the Cape Verdean community/entire Brockton community?**
2. **What is the definition of a food desert? Find other examples in Massachusetts/United States and what individuals are doing about it?**
3. **Go to the Mattapan Food and Fitness website and write about their efforts and community activism**
<https://www.mattapanfoodandfit.org/>

Podcast- "Sisters **Inc. Podcast**" Black women are the fastest-growing group of entrepreneurs in America. On every episode the hosts sit down with one successful CEO to share how she "slays" the challenges of being a black woman in business.

Optional Activities/guided questions:

- 1. Choose 3 of the podcast and write down information about the business and additional information not found on the podcast about the specific guest.**
- 2. ***Use the podcast model and “create your own.” It could be with friends, family, etc. it can be about what the individual enjoys doing or use the podcast themes about business aspirations.**

<https://www.blackenterprise.com/sistersinc-podcast/>

African American Individuals and Entrepreneurship

Essay on Madame CJ Walker and Annie Turnbo Malone from National Museum of African American Culture and History: Students can “research” the importance of Poro College and Leila College (beyond just selling hair products) research the political, social and economic ramifications of “Hair” in the African American community in the United States. Just like people of African descent in the United States, “Hair” is not a monolith (natural, weave, textures, hair as a form of activism (locks), etc. At the end of the article there are numerous sources for further analysis

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/collection/sizzle>

Optional Activities/guided questions:

- 1. Compare/Contrast the lives of Madame CJ Walker and Annie Turnbo Malone.**
- 2. What were the importance of Poro College and Leila College? (Goal of the schools, the legacy today-you can use the internet to find more details)**
- 3. Using the article what are the critiques/debate about black women and “Hair” (examples, natural hair movement, other products and companies in the tradition of Walker and Malone)**

Supplementary materials connected to African Americans and Entrepreneurship

Madame C.J. Walker:

Netflix (an option for those with streaming access to Netflix)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYDJvnDfB2w> Trailer for the series

- 1. After viewing the film what are 10 lessons, we can learn from Madame C.J. Walkers' life that could benefit people today.**
- 2. ****Using the information provided (above/below documentaries on her life etc.) did you find any "historical inaccuracies?" explain**

Op-Ed on the Film where students could start the inquiry on her life and some of the other voices. This article can get you to think about sources/who tells the story?

<https://thegrio.com/2020/03/30/netflix-madam-cj-walker-self-made-review/>

- 1. What does the article tell us about checking sources and who tells the story of someone's life? (think a person's life and what people may or may not want you to know? Think about historical events and the idea of analyzing "Points of View")**