

Time Line – Personal Dates

Use this sheet to record some years that are important in your life. Then put them on a historic timeline in class – see where you fit in history!

1. In what year were you born? _____
2. In what year were the grown-ups in your home born?
(Mother, father, aunt, grandparent,
other) _____
3. In what year did you begin living in Rochester? If you were born here, write “Rochester” under your birth year on the time line. If you moved here, write down the year you moved here, _____ put it on the timeline and write under it “moved to Rochester.”
4. In what year did you begin going to this school? _____
Write under the year on the timeline “began school at _____ (name of school)”
5. Record on the time line three other dates that are important in your life. Is it the year a brother or sister was born? Is it the year you learned to read a book by yourself? Perhaps a year you took a special trip – or got your first pet?

Think carefully. What dates do you think are important enough for you to remember by writing them down? Write the dates and the reasons why they are important to you below. Then on the time line, write the year and a shorter description. for example, 2015 – sister born.)

Time line – some historic dates.

Here are just a few dates from Rochester’s African-American history to get you started on the timeline.

Where do you think you could find other dates in Rochester’s history?

Before 1870 – Captain Sunfish comes to the Genesee River area.

1817 – Austin Steward opens a meat market in the village of Rochesterville.

1847 – Frederick Douglass publishes “The North Star” newspaper.

1851 – John Jenkins is the first African- American doctor in Rochester, opens an office downtown.

1898 Frederick Douglass Monument is dedicated - the first public statue dedicated to an individual African-American in the U.S.

1907 Musician Cab Calloway is born in Rochester.

1910 Dorsey Home for Dependent Colored Children opens.

1931 Architect Thomas W. Boyde arrives in Rochester.

1936 Dr. Anthony Jordan opens office on 136 Adams – begins a lifetime of work for Rochester’s poor.

1940 Civil War veteran George Brown dies at the age of 97.

1955 James and Bessie Hamm form the organization “Parents and Students Want to Know” to encourage college preparation in the African-American community.

1994 Honorable William Johnson is elected Rochester’s first African-American Mayor.

2013 Honorable Lovely A. Warren is elected Rochester’s first female mayor.

2019 Frederick Douglass Monument is moved to a more visible location and rededicated to the community.