

REMEMBERING ROSA PARKS



Rosa Parks
Prints and Photographs Division
Library of Congress



Shortly after the death of civil rights activist Rosa Parks in 2005, letterpress artist Amos Paul Kennedy, Jr. began a print series featuring quotes by Parks, which highlight the power, humanity, and determination in her voice. His use of font and color pulls Parks's words forward as moral lessons that are still relevant today. [Click here to explore more items in the Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words online exhibition.](#) The Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs Division holds a number of Kennedy's works, which are the inspiration for this activity.

Amos Paul Kennedy, Jr. [ca. 2018], Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress

GET INSPIRED

- ✿ Discuss Rosa Parks's life in activism by exploring the online exhibition [Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words](#), this [six-minute video](#), or by selecting a suggested book from the resources [here](#).
- ✿ Explore the [Amos Kennedy print collection](#) online at the Library of Congress. What inspires you about these prints? Which one is your favorite and why?

GET READY

Collect your materials:

- ✿ Paper
- ✿ Marker
- ✿ Scissors
- ✿ Letter stamps in different sizes and fonts
- ✿ Wood blocks, erasers, or other items to use as stamping blocks - **get creative!** See the "Explore More" section to learn how to make your own stamp from household supplies!
- ✿ Glue
- ✿ Paint
- ✿ Tray for paint (you can use paper or plastic plates: wash plastic plates afterwards so you can use them for another project!)

Select a quote from the quote list or be creative and use your own words to describe Rosa Parks.



Printmaking at the Library, February 17, 2020.
Photographer Sasha Dowdy

ROSA PARKS QUOTES

I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear.

The only tired I was, was tired of giving in.

I would like to be remembered as a person who wanted to be free... so other people would be also free.

YOU MUST NEVER BE FEARFUL ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE DOING WHEN IT IS RIGHT.

I see the energy of young people as a real force for positive change.

MEMORIES OF OUR LIVES, OF OUR WORKS AND OUR DEEDS WILL CONTINUE IN OTHERS.

To bring about change, you must not be afraid to take the first step. We will fail when we fail to try.

I would like to be known as a person who is concerned about freedom and equality and justice and prosperity for all people.

Our mistreatment was just not right, and I was tired of it.

ONE PERSON CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.

CREATE

- Decorate your background paper using layered tissue paper or a collage of colored paper. Or, use decorative paper.
- Use letter stamps in different sizes and fonts to write your quote, then decorate your finished print.
- Use Amos Kennedy's prints for inspiration but please use your own imagination and have fun!
- Tip: Be creative and use your favorite colors, but be sure to use black ink for your lettering.**

EXPLORE MORE:

- Learn more about Amos Kennedy's artistic process and inspiration in [this 15-minute video interview](#).
- Create your own stamp using foam sheets, cardboard, or a sponge. Anything spongy and thicker than paper would work. To begin, draw your design on a piece of paper. Use the design you created as a template and cut that shape out of foam (or material you have handy). Mount the piece of foam on your stamping block of choice and glue it on. Put some paint into your tray/plate. Dip your stamps into the paint and start stamping!



Printmaking at the Library, February 17, 2020.
Photographer Shawn Miller.