ABSENT NARRATIVES

Resources

Our free collection contains over 1,000 educator resources, including videos, literature, and guides.

The Minnesota Humanities Center is committed to amplifying marginalized voices, the absent narratives often left out of Minnesota’s story and classrooms. Resources are developed in partnership with our state’s diverse cultural communities.

mnhum.org/resources

Veterans' Voices Audio Stories
A series of short audio stories from Veterans' Voices awardees and others in the Minnesota Veteran community.
5–12

Veterans' Voices Literature Resource
Literary selections for educators to explore the absent narratives of Veterans, military service members, and families in the classroom.
5–12

Reflections on War and Service: Memorials on the St. Paul Capitol Mall
This guide helps students make meaning of war memorials, and better understand military service through Veteran experiences.
5–12

Water Audio Stories
A series of interviews where Minnesotans share their relationship to water. Stories are still being accepted by the Smithsonian!
5–12

Water Educator Guides
These lessons build upon the Water/Ways and We Are Water exhibitions, providing activities that study watersheds, pollution, water travel, cultural relationships with water, and more.
3–12

Educator Tools

Digital Suitcases
Online lesson plans developed by educators from Saint Paul Public Schools around specific social studies themes and standards.

Minnesota Storytime Reading Guides
Over 60 reading guides developed for librarians, teachers, child care providers, parents, and anyone interested in reading and literacy activities with children pre-K–5.

Absent Narratives Resource Assessment Tool
This helps the process of building relationships to stories and the people who tell them, aiming to help you create a ‘balance of stories’ and open space to increase engagement.

Selecting and Assessing American Indian Resources
Reflect critically about how American Indians are represented and presented in classroom texts and resources. This tool helps educators include authentic stories and experiences in classrooms.

Ojibwe Vocabulary Project: Aaniin Ekidong
A dictionary developed by Ojibwe elders that allows you to use newer concepts to teach math, science, social studies, and more.
**Bdote** is a Dakota word meaning where two waters come together. The Mississippi-Minnesota Rivers’ convergence is central to Dakota spirituality and history. Our Bdote Field Trip examines sites of significance to Dakota people, guided by Dakota community members.

**Why Treaties Matter** is a traveling exhibit focusing on treaties between Dakota and Ojibwe Indian Nations, and the U.S. government. Visit mnhum.org for tour info. This award-winning exhibit is also on permanent display at the Minnesota State Capitol (3rd Floor).

**Dakota Memory Map** aims to enhance learning through indigenous perspectives. Bdotememorymap.org

**Why Treaties Matter Resources**
This companion website contains an enhanced virtual tour of the nationally recognized Why Treaties Matter exhibit, and educator guides to provide background, vocabulary, readings, and activities.lify

**Somali Bilingual Books**
Four illustrated Somali folktales authentically preserve heritage languages while increasing English literacy in Somali families. Books available print-on-demand.

**Firsts: Minnesota’s African American Groundbreakers**
A series of interviews capturing what it means to be a “First,” hosted by award-winning author Alexis Tate.

**Blues Vision**
Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans

**Treaties** affirm the sovereignty of American Indian nations, enabling tribal governments to maintain a nation-to-nation relationship with the U.S. government.

**Narratives Across the State**

**Absent Narratives Author Series**
Latino, Hmong, Dakota, and Ojibwe authors discuss their work, influences, experiences, and student questions about the craft.

**Braided Lives: An Anthology of Multicultural American Writing**
Over 40 literary pieces (and 10 lesson plans) geared toward high schoolers. Currently out of print—available online.

**Community Voices and Experiences**
Community members discuss family experiences, economic contributions, adjusting to a different culture, and journeys.

**Somali Bilingual Books**
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**Blues Vision: African American Writing from Minnesota**
Edited by Alexis Tate, this anthology includes over 60 pieces by African American authors, exploring the Black literary tradition and experiences in Minnesota.

**Blues Vision for Educators**
A workshop that promotes the use of Blues Vision as a catalyst for educational transformation.