Ohio History Day

Local History Topics: Frontiers in History

History happens every day and in your own backyard! In fact, Ohio played an essential role in both U.S. and World History. Below we’ve put together a list of Ohio topics for the 2023 NHD theme of Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas.

American Indian History
- American Indian Movement, 1960s/70s
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 1978
- American Indian Wars, 1789-1795
- French-Indian Wars 1754-1763
- Haudenosaunee Confederation
- Indian Removal Act, 1830
- Jim Thorpe, 1912-1922
- Lord Dunmore’s War (1774)
- Michikinikwa, or Little Turtle, leader of the Myaamia
- Native American Cartography
- Native American Military Service-Navajo Code Talkers
- Native American Protection and Repatriation Act, 1990
- Proclamation of 1763
- Tecumseh- leader of the Shawnee
- Western Confederacy

Diplomatic History
- Constitutional Conventions, 1851, 1870, 1912
- Bouquet’s Expedition
- The Dayton Accord
- King Philip’s War, 1675-1678
- Toledo War & the Frostbitten Convention, 1835-1836
- Treaty of Greenville, 1795
- War of 1812

Economic History
- Baldemar Velasquez – American labor union activist and co-founder of Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO.
- Building of the Miami and Erie Canal
- Cleveland Strike at General Motors – Formation of the United Auto Workers
- Construction of the National Road in Ohio, 1825-1838
- Panic of 1907 & the founding of the Federal Reserve
- Youngstown “Little Steel” Strike – Led to the formation of the United Steels Workers Union

Environmental History
- National Environment Policy Act, 1970
- Ohio Conservancy Law
- The Wilderness Act of 1964

Political History
- Brown v. the Board of Education, 1954
- Dred Scott v. Sandford
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Florence Ellinwood Allen – First woman elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, and serve on the Supreme Court of any state
- Joshua R. Giddings – Abolitionist, one of the founders and member of the Republican Party
- Ohio Black Codes & Ohio Black Laws, 1804 & 1807 respectively
- Ohio Civil Rights Act of 1959
Ohio in the Underground Railroad
  - Levi Coffin
  - John P. Parker
  - John Rankin

Paul Laurence Dunbar—African American Poet and activist

‘Red Power’ – Pan Indian Identity, 1960s

The Great Lakes Exposition

Toni Morrison–author and first black female editor at Random House Publishing

United Freedom Movement

Women’s History

- 19th Amendment
- Betsy Mix Cowles – Prominent educator, activist & suffragist
- Gloria Steinem – Famed women’s advocate
- Lucy Stone – Abolitionist & Suffragist
- Oberlin College: First college to admit women and one of the first to admit African Americans
- Ohio Women’s Convention at Salem
- Victoria Woodhull – First women to be nominated for president in 1872 and member of the suffrage movement

Social & Cultural History

- Colonel Charles Young – First African-American man to achieve the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army
- Harry C. Smith – Journalist & Legislator who championed Civil Rights in Ohio
- Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster- creators of the “first superhero,” Superman
- Jesse Owens & 1936 Berlin Olympics
- Lane Seminary Debates
- Lockbourne Army Air Force Base (Columbus) – Tuskegee Airmen
- Natalie Clifford Barney – American playwright, poet and novelist