



Westchester Alliance of Black School Educators

[WABSE](#), the Westchester Alliance of Black School Educators, an affiliate of [NABSE](#), the National Alliance of Black School Educators, is proud to present its annual Black History Spoken Word and Art Exhibit. This year we commemorate the life, work and legacy of Ruby Dee by celebrating themes of Freedom and Empowerment through her art and activism. This theme allows students of all ages to make meaning through the arts. Participants can learn about Slavery, Segregation, the Harlem Renaissance and the Civil Rights Movement through the life and work of Ruby Dee.

In Partnership with

New Rochelle High School

New Rochelle Fund For Educational Excellence

New Rochelle Youth Bureau

New Rochelle High School PTSA

New Rochelle NAACP

“The greatest gift is not being afraid to question.”

-Ruby Dee

New Rochelle History:

[New Rochelle’s Black History](#)

[Desegregation of Lincoln School](#)

[Dedication of Library Theater to Ossie Davis](#)

[Dedication of Library Green to Ruby Dee](#)

Ruby Dee Timeline:

- 1922 Born Ruby An Wallace in Ohio
- 1923 the Wallace family moves to Harlem, New York
- Discovers her love for English and poetry, sending poems to the local paper (Amsterdam News)
- 1939 began her acting career
- 1945 Met the love of her life, Ossie Davis (married in 1948)
- Three children resulted from their union; Nora, Guy, and Hasna
- 1959 Starred in Lorraine Hansberry’s “A Raisin in the Sun” on Broadway
- Ruby starred in many movies and television shows
- Earns critical acclaim for her work, including (but not limited to) a Grammy award, an Emmy, Oscar nominations, and NAACP Image Awards
- Lends support to many civic causes throughout the country and African American community
- 2005 Ossie unexpectedly passes away
- Continued acting and advocating for all until her passing in 2014

More African American Trailblazers from

New Rochelle:

[Dr. Beny J. Primm](#)

[Donald P. Ryder](#)

[Hugh B. Price](#)

[Lee Archer](#)

[Anna Jones](#)

[Linda Tarrant- Reid](#)



Annual Black History Spoken Word & Art Exhibit
CELEBRATING FREEDOM:

Commemorating the life, work and legacy of

Ruby Dee

October 27, 1922 - June 11, 2014

All schools in the CSDNR are invited to participate, grades K-12

February 27 - March 4, 2016

The CSDNR Black History Month Celebration including performances, art show, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, author visits, book signings and more, will be

Saturday, February 27, 2016

New Rochelle High School, Auditorium Rotunda

DEADLINE FOR ART WORK SUBMISSIONS (STUDENT ART WORK WILL BE EXHIBITED):

Friday, February 19, 2016

DEADLINE FOR PERFORMANCE PROPOSALS,

Friday, January 15, 2016

For more information contact Shelli Owens
sowens@nredlearn.org, 914-576-4401



HOW CAN I (or) MY CLASS PARTICIPATE?

POETRY - 1 to 3 minutes

*Children may read a poem, quote or dramatic reading from a Ruby Dee play, (ask your librarian for help).

*Students may create original works of poetry or visual art inspired by the work of Ruby Dee.

DANCE/ SONG -3 to 5 minutes

*Create an (appropriate) dance or song that is inspired by the concepts of freedom and civil rights.

VISUAL ART

*Create your interpretation of symbols of freedom and civil rights.

*Create a collage or portrait inspired by Ruby Dee

*Select a significant quote from Ruby Dee, Print it on a 5"x7" index card and attach it to the art piece. BE SURE IT IS SECURE!

WHAT ARE SOME RESOURCES I CAN USE?

Visit

<http://www.ossieandruby.com/> for Ruby Dee:

- Stage credits
- Screen credits
- Television credits
- Timeline 1903-present
- Photos
- Books and Audio
- Links to:
 - Online Transcripts
 - YouTube channel
 - Family
 - Recommended websites
 - Favorite readings
 - Theaters

Exhibits/Lectures/Collections for teachers and students:

[New Rochelle Public Library](#)
[Schomburg Center](#)

+Please consult your school and local library for more suggestions regarding literature that may be of inspiration.

*Common Core Standards Covered - [R.I.1-10](#),
[W.1-8](#), [S.L.1-6](#), [S.S.1-5](#)

ART WORK REQUIREMENTS

*Artwork must be on 18"x24" paper, no larger. Artwork may be smaller.

*The paper may be cut or folded to make book presentations or story boards.

*You may use acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, pen and ink drawings, mixed media, collage, crayon, or markers.

*On the front of each work or art, clearly print student name, school, grade, teacher's name, and classroom.

*Each school may send up to a dozen pieces.

*All work (including poems and presenter names) should be collected and sent to Shelli Owens by Friday, February 19, 2016.

*All performances must be previewed by a WABSE representative. For more information email Shelli Owens sowens@redlearn.org or call 914-576-4401

+This is an exhibition for students in the City School District of New Rochelle

