

## **Project Title: How can we use media to uncover and share important stories from the past that still matter today?**

**Grade Level:** High School (Grades 9–12)

### **Project Overview:**

In this standards-aligned project, students work in collaborative teams to investigate overlooked or underrepresented historical stories that remain relevant to contemporary issues. Students develop research, storytelling, and media production skills as they transform their findings into a compelling podcast, video, or slide deck. The project includes detailed rubrics to assess research quality, historical connections, collaboration, critical thinking, and the effectiveness of the final presentation.

### **Project Sections:**

- **General Guidelines:** Provides students with team roles and a clear step-by-step strategy for completing the project.
- **Brainstorming:** Helps students generate and evaluate story ideas through structured, creative group techniques.
- **Project Planning and Designing:** Guides students in building a timeline, assigning roles, choosing media formats, and developing a solid research and storytelling plan.
- **Project Execution:** Supports students in managing weekly meetings, tracking tasks, revising based on feedback, and producing a high-quality final product.
- **Podcasting Guidelines:** Offers detailed, student-friendly instructions on writing, recording, editing, and publishing a podcast that clearly connects past events to present issues.
- **Presentation:** Gives students the option to present their work as a podcast, video, or narrated slide deck, with best practices tailored to each format.

### **Why Use This Project?**

This project helps students become active historical investigators and storytellers, not just passive learners. It's ideal for building research, collaboration, and media literacy skills—all essential for 21st-century learning. The flexible format allows students to express creativity while practicing academic rigor. Teachers benefit from built-in rubrics, ready-to-use templates, and structured guidance at every stage. It's a powerful way to connect history, civic awareness, and digital storytelling in a single, engaging experience.