



DEAR MALCOLM

EDUCATION RESOURCE



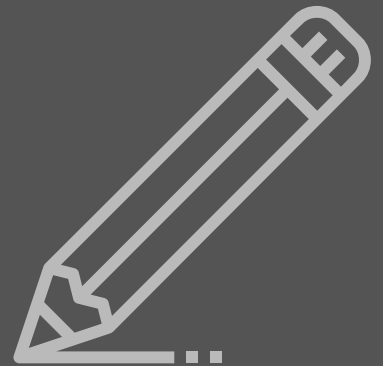
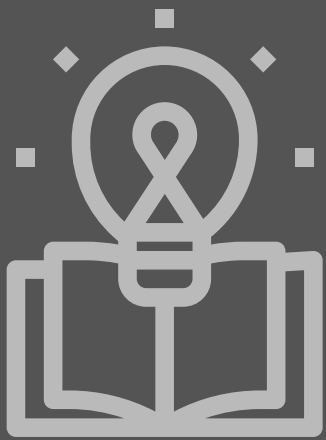
ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Uncommon Threads: The Works of Ruth E. Carter is a solo exhibition celebrating Massachusetts-born Ruth E. Carter's 30-year career as an Academy Award-winning costume designer.

This retrospective on view at NBAM from May 1 - November 14, 2021; features costumes from *Dolemite Is My Name* (2019), *Roots* (2016 reboot), *Selma* (2014), *Do The Right Thing* (1989), and *Malcolm X* (1992). The exhibit follows Carter's creative process and includes sketches, mood boards, iconic costumes, and other ephemera from her Los Angeles studio.



ACTIVITY: DEAR MALCOLM



Learn Think Create





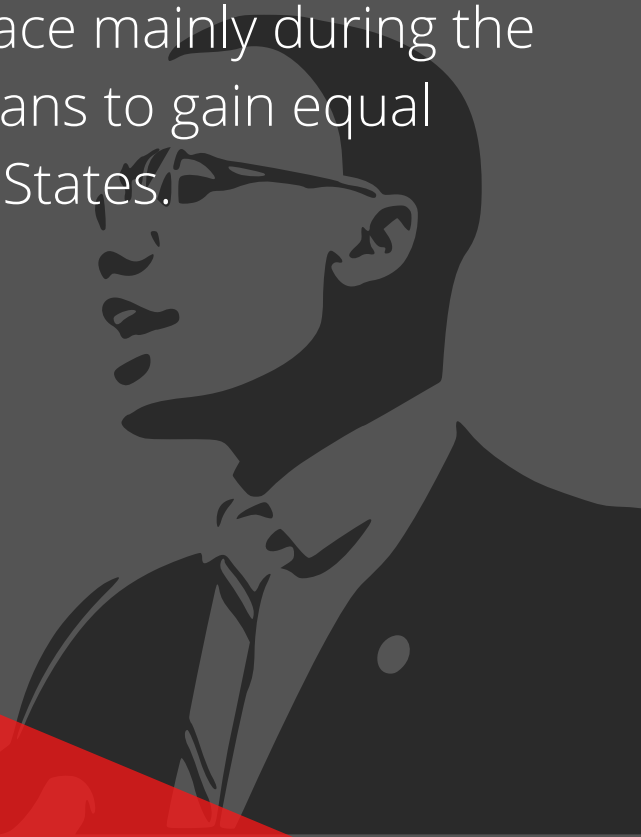
OBJECTIVE

Ruth E. Carter has created costumes for many iconic figures in American History. For this activity, we will be learning about Malcolm X and creating your own letter to the civil rights leader.

WHO IS MALCOLM X?

Malcolm X was an African American leader in the Civil Rights Movement.

The Civil Rights Movement took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s for Black Americans to gain equal rights under the law in the United States.



WHO IS MALCOLM X? (CONTINUED)



At age 6, Malcolm entered a foster home. Though highly intelligent and a good student, he dropped out of school. He began wearing zoot suits and earned the nickname "Detroit Red." At 21, he went to prison for stealing.

While in prison, Malcolm learned about the teachings of Elijah Muhammed, a religious leader of the Nation of Islam. Upon leaving prison in 1952, Malcolm attended his local Nation of Islam mosque and eventually became head of the Harlem mosque.

During his lifetime, Malcolm launched a Nation of Islam newspaper, gave dozens of speeches, and participated in debates rallying for racial justice.



WHO IS MALCOLM X? (CONTINUED)



He urged his fellow Black Americans to protect themselves “by any means necessary,” a stance that often incorrectly put him at odds with the nonviolent teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Nation of Islam grew from only a few hundred to an estimated 75,000 in the early 1960s in part due to Malcolm’s teachings and bravery in the fight against racism.

Sadly, Malcolm X was killed by gun violence in 1965 at age 39. His teachings have influenced many and still live on today as important lessons in the continued fight for racial equality.



Resource: history.com



DEAR MALCOLM ACTIVITY

Malcolm X wrote many letters to his teacher Elijah Mohammed asking for advice. Now that you know a little bit more about Malcolm, write him a letter. What questions would you like to ask Malcolm? What would you want him to know about you? How would you describe the fight for equality today?





DEAR MALCOLM ACTIVITY (CONTINUED)

Download the attached template, color your letter, write to Malcolm, and share your letter with us at info@newbedfordart.org or upload onto social media and tag us at [#nbam_aw](https://twitter.com/nbam_aw)

