

# When **WOMEN** Pursue **JUSTICE**

## A Visual Connection to the Classroom

In summer 2005, Artmakers Inc. – an artist run, community mural organization – painted the 3,300 square foot mural ***When Women Pursue Justice***. Located at 498 Greene Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, the mural celebrates 90 women who, often risking life and liberty, worked for social change in the United States over the past 150 years.

***When Women Pursue Justice*** and its companion catalogue can be used in the classroom in conjunction with social studies, art, and English curricula. These focus questions are intended to initiate classroom discussion. Suggested literacy graphic organizers follow the questions.

– Rochelle Shicoff and Susan C. Harts

**1. What is a mural? Where have you seen murals in New York City? What is the purpose of a mural? What different styles of painting are used in this mural?**

Web  
KWL chart  
Main idea and supporting details chart

**2. What is the definition of an “activist.” What kinds of activism are represented in the mural? Give examples of current activists.**

Main idea pyramid

**3. The mural is dedicated to Shirley Chisholm. Find her and the six other members of Congress in the mural. What issue is similar for all of these women? What did Shirley Chisholm do that sets her apart from the others?**

Timeline  
Cause and effect table  
Web  
Venn diagram

**4. In addition to Rosa Parks, what women in the mural were part of the civil rights movement? What specifically did they do? Give examples of civil rights issues today.**

Sequence of events chart  
Timeline  
Web/Describing wheel

**5. How were each of these Latina women important in the struggle for the rights of workers: Dolores Huerta, Antonia Pantoja, Lucy González Parsons and Nydia Velázquez? How did their activism help women in the workplace today?**

Cause and effect table

**6. How did working conditions change for children and young women as a result of the work of Jane Addams and Clara Lemlich? You will need working papers at age 16. What kind of work would you like to do?**

Venn diagram

Cause and effect table

**7. Eleanor Roosevelt was First Lady from 1932 to 1945, but that is not why she is in this mural. What did she accomplish on her own? Compare and name one U.S.A. First Lady and a Queen.**

Venn diagram

**8. What is a journalist? How is a journalist different from other writers? Find the many writers and journalists in the mural. What issues do journalists write about today?**

Web/Describing wheel

Venn diagram

**9. What was the focus of the work of these Native Americans: Carrie and Mary Dann, Wilma Mankiller, and Zitkala-Sa? What issues are affecting Native Americans today?**

Web

Main idea and supporting details

**10. What is an environmentalist? How did the writings of Rachel Carson and Jane Jacobs influence the way we think about the environment today? What environmental issues affect New York today? Why is it important to celebrate Earth Day?**

Web/Describing wheel

Venn diagram

**11. In the upper left corner of the mural are 9 women who are called the “ancestors.” Who are they? What did they do? How did their work in the 19<sup>th</sup> century influence 20<sup>th</sup> century activists?**

Cause and effect table

Timeline

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**For more information about the mural and directions using public transportation:**



**ARTMAKERS INC. Community Muralists**

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