

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Name: _____



the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, send these homeless tempest-tost to me.

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

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JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH is Celebrated in the Month of May

"The Jewish American experience is a story of faith, fortitude, and progress. It is a quintessential American experience — one that is connected to key tenets of American identity, including our Nation's commitment to freedom of religion and conscience. This month, we honor Jewish Americans — past and present — who have inextricably woven their experience and their accomplishments into the fabric of our national identity.

Generations of Jewish people have come to this Nation fleeing oppression, discrimination, and persecution in search of a better life for themselves and their children. These Jewish Americans have created lives for themselves and their families and played indispensable roles in our Nation's civic and community life, making invaluable contributions to our Nation through their leadership and achievements."
- WhiteHouse.gov

"If antisemitism is a disease, then activities like Jewish American Heritage Month are a vaccine. One small step, with a big impact that every individual, city, and state can take right now, is to simply celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month in their communities."
- <https://www.nmajh.org/jewish-american-heritage-month/>



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Emma Lazarus



- ◆ **Writer, Poet, Scholar, and Activist**
- ◆ **Spoke out against Antisemitism and Worked to Assist Immigrants and Refugees**
- ◆ **Wrote "The New Colossus", which is engraved at the base of the Statue of Liberty**

"Until we are all free, we are none of us free."

Emma Lazarus

The daughter of Sephardic Jews whose ancestors settled in New York in the colonial period, Emma Lazarus was a writer and a scholar of literature and languages. Even before Zionism became a cohesive movement, Lazarus's poetry and essays protested the rise of antisemitism and called on Jews to create a homeland in Palestine.

She worked with immigrants and refugees, helped establish the Hebrew Technical Institute and the Society for the Improvement and Colonization of East European Jews.

At 34 years of age, she wrote "The New Colossus", which was affixed to the Statue of Liberty in 1903, 15 years after her death. "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" are the two most famous lines of her sonnet.

Lazarus was at the peak of her career when she died of cancer in 1887, at the age of 38.

The New Colossus

"Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

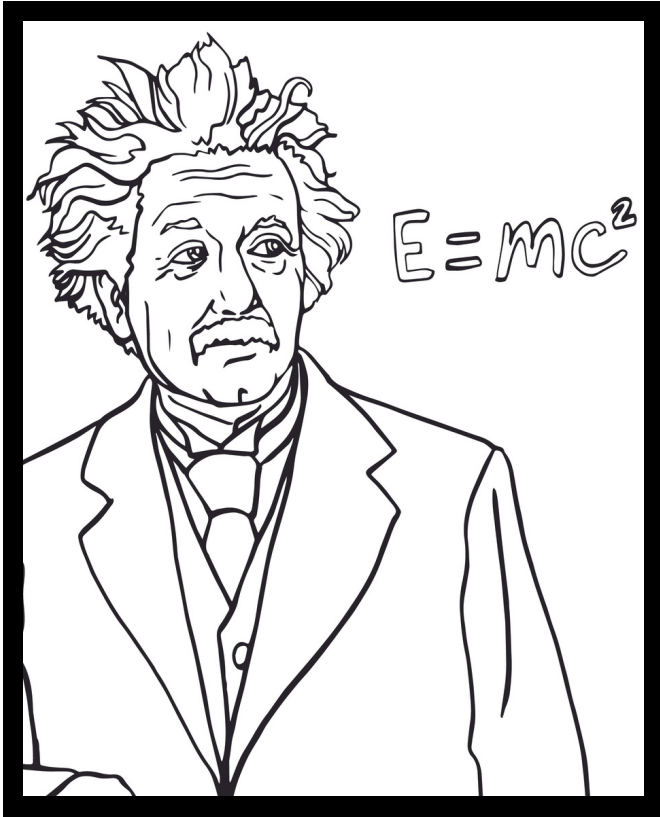
- <https://www.nmajh.org/only-in-America/>



Emma
Lazarus

*Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
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Albert Einstein



- ◆ Theoretical Physicist
- ◆ Developed the Theory of Relativity
- ◆ Nobel Peace Prize Winner
- ◆ Named Person of the Century
- ◆ Holocaust Refugee

**"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I
stay with problems longer."**



Albert Einstein

So great were Albert Einstein's contributions to the worlds of mathematics and physics that in 1999 Time magazine named him "Person of the Century" and a Gallup poll ranked him the fourth most admired person of the twentieth century.

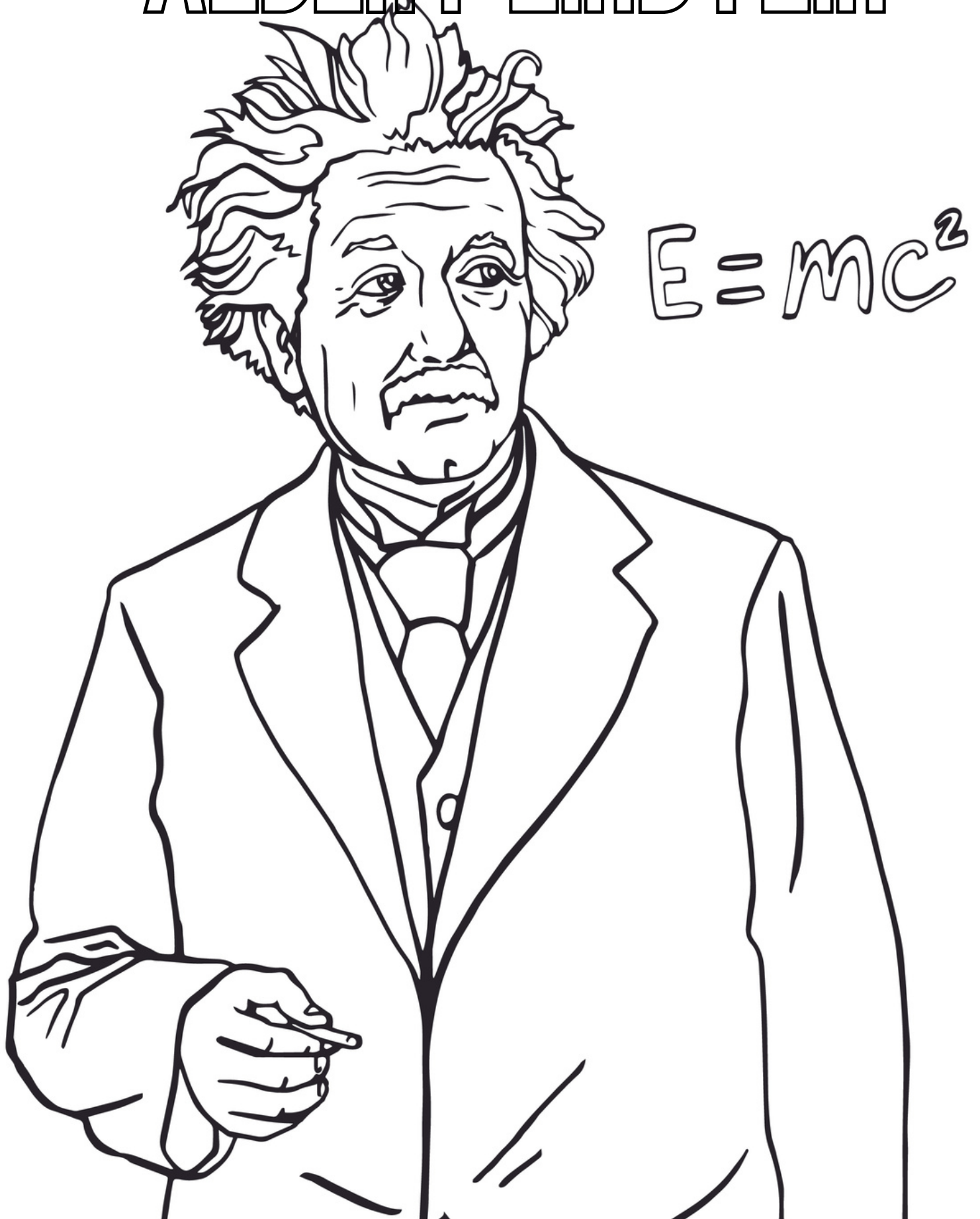
Many schoolchildren can recite Einstein's pioneering theory of relativity – $E=mc^2$ – which helped determine how we understand the universe but the scientist's contributions to our understanding of the physical world extend far beyond the formula he discovered.

A Holocaust refugee long affiliated with the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, Einstein won the 1921 Nobel Prize in Physics for his work in theoretical physics, which later would play a key role in the development of fiber optics, telecommunications networks, solar cells, and global positioning systems.

- <https://www.nmajh.org/only-in-America/>



ALBERT EINSTEIN



*Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
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Barbra Streisand



- ◆ **Singer, Songwriter, Actress, and Filmmaker**
- ◆ **Philanthropist**
- ◆ **Female Trailblazer in the Entertainment Industry**
- ◆ **One of the Most Commercially Successful Recording Artists in History**

"Art does not exist only to entertain, but also to challenge one to think, to provoke, even to disturb, in a constant search for truth."

THE
UNDAUNTED
FOUNDATION



Barbra Streisand

Widely recognized as an icon in multiple entertainment fields, Barbra Streisand has attained unprecedented achievements as a recording artist, actor, director, producer, screenwriter, author, songwriter and concert performer. Streisand has been awarded two Oscars, five Emmys, ten Grammys including the Legend Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award, a Tony Award, eleven Golden Globes including the Cecil B. DeMille Award, three Peabodys, and the Director's Guild Award for her concert special — the only artist to receive honors in all of those areas.

In addition, Streisand has also received the American Film Institute's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Kennedy Center Honor. She also received the National Medal of Arts from President Clinton, the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama, and France's Légion d'Honneur.

She is the first woman to direct, produce, write, and star in a major motion picture, the first woman composer to receive an Academy Award, the only recording artist who has achieved #1 albums in six consecutive decades, and the first and only woman to receive a Golden Globe Award for Best Director.

A woman of action, Streisand is a devoted philanthropist who works tirelessly to fight for what she believes in. She founded The Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center at Cedars-Sinai and co-founded the Women's Heart Alliance, helping to raise awareness and push for more research into women's heart disease, the leading cause of death among women. Through the Streisand Foundation, which she established in 1986, she has fought for progressive ideas. She has been a leading environmental activist funding some of the earliest climate change research. She has long been a staunch supporter of racial equality, women's rights, civil rights, and the very urgent need to protect voters' rights.

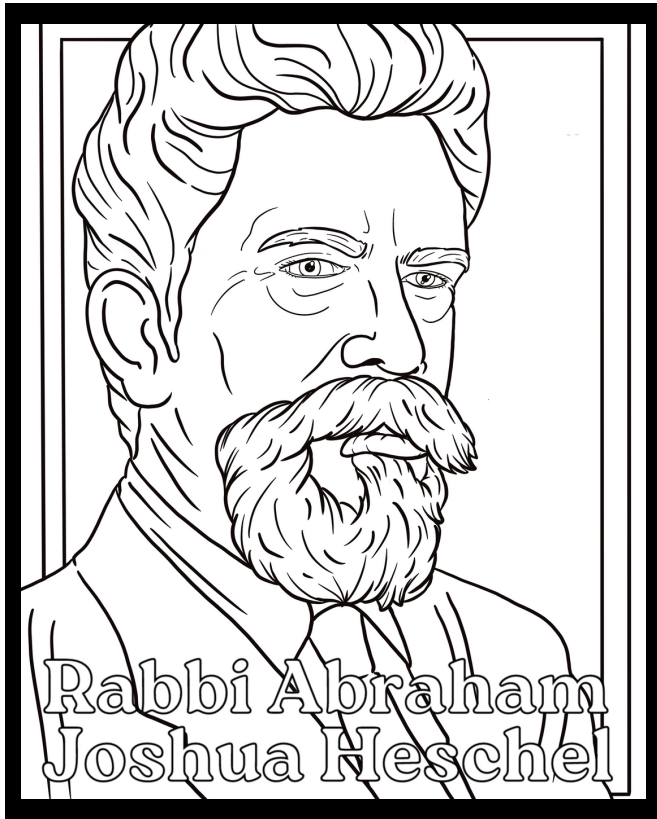
- <https://www.barbrastreisand.com/biography/>





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Rabbi Abraham Heschel



- ◆ Theologian, Philosopher, Author, and Rabbi
- ◆ Leader in the Civil Rights Movement
- ◆ One of the Leading Jewish Theologians and Philosophers of the 20th Century

"Morally speaking, there is no limit to the concern one must feel for the suffering of human beings..."

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel was a philosopher and civil rights activist. He was born in Warsaw, Poland and throughout his upbringing, he knew what he wanted to pursue.

In 1939, weeks before the Nazi invasion, Heschel fled to London and then New York City. His mother and three of his sisters died in the Holocaust, which largely shaped his theology.

In 1965, Heschel responded to King's call for religious leaders to join the Selma to Montgomery March for voting rights. Heschel mentioned feeling like his "legs were praying" as he walked next to King and other great leaders.

After King gave his speech, Heschel ended his own speech by saying, "I conclude with the words of Dr. King: "The great initiative of this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours."

Rabbi Heschel firmly believed that people can choose to live in a state of constant awe and gratitude, and act alongside God to create a better world. That belief led him to march with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Heschel's words continue to spur new generations to live in radical amazement.

- The Undaunted Foundation

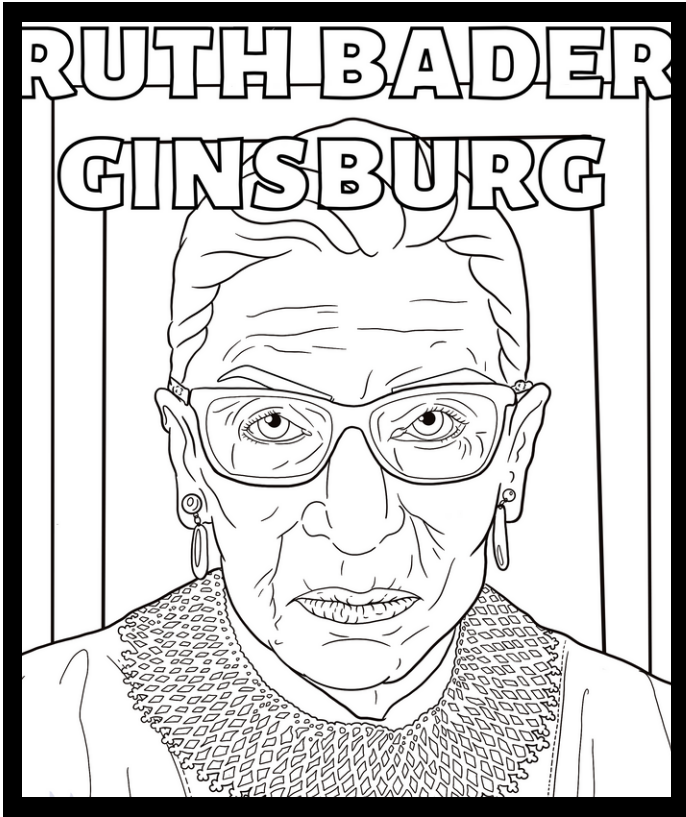




Rabbi Abraham
Joshua Heschel

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Ruth Bader Ginsburg



- ◆ **Champion for Gender Equality, Women's Rights, and Civil Rights**
- ◆ **First Woman Granted Tenure at Columbia Law School**
- ◆ **First Jewish Woman and Second Woman to Serve as a U.S. Supreme Court Judge**

"If you know what the right thing is, you keep working at it until it succeeds."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

An outspoken champion of feminist causes, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is the second woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court and the first Jewish woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

She was also the first woman to make both the Harvard and Columbia law reviews. And although she graduated first in her class at Colombia Law School, she continued to experience workplace discrimination.

Prior to serving on the Court, Ginsburg distinguished herself as a professor of law at Rutgers Law School in Newark, as co-founder of the Women's Rights Law Reporter, and as director of the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union. She spent much of her legal career as an advocate for gender equality and women's rights, winning many arguments before the Supreme Court.

She served on the U.S. Court of Appeals from 1980 until her appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court, on August 10th, 1993, where she was a judicious and eloquent voice in support of civil liberties.

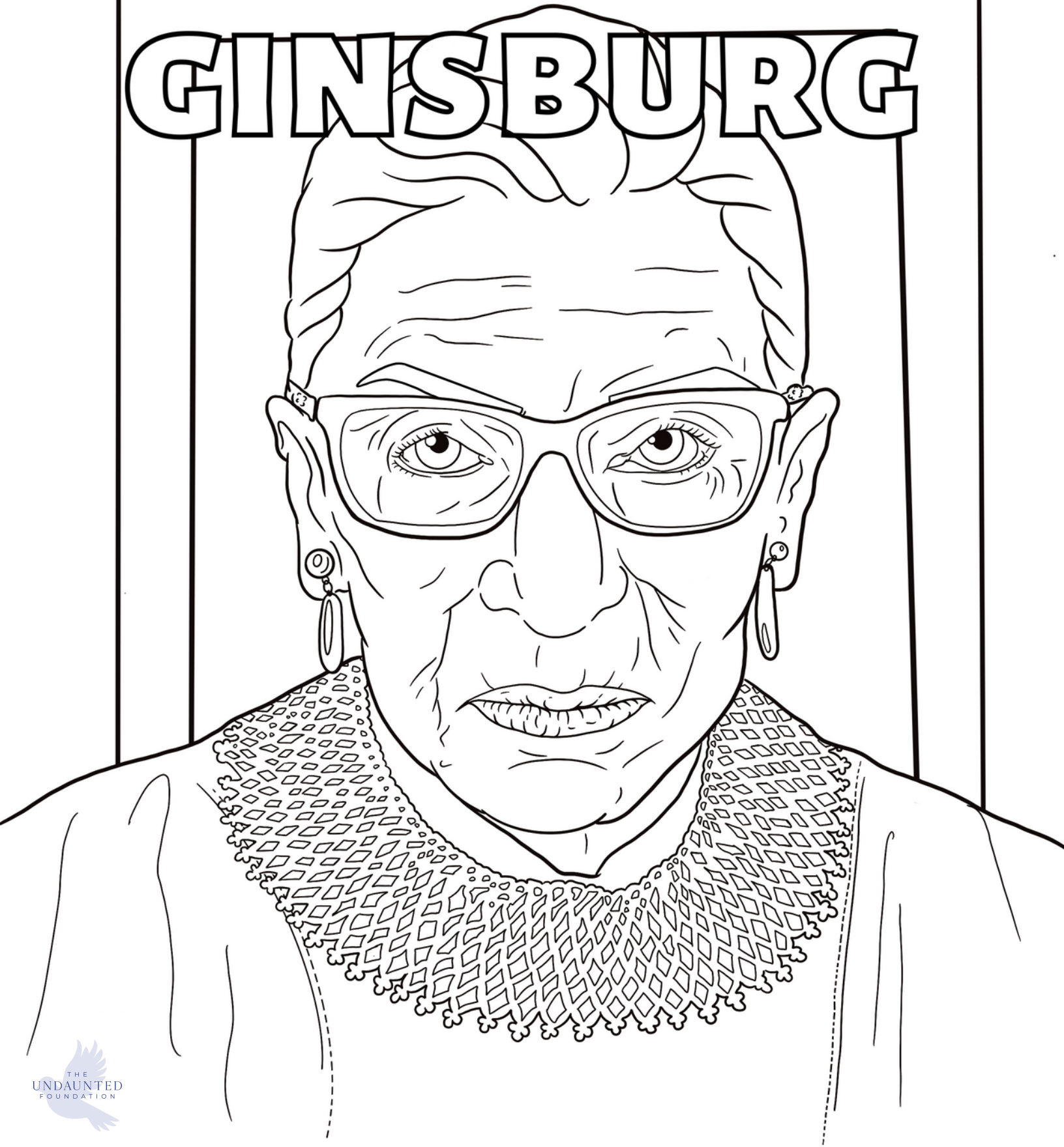
Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legacy is felt across the spectrum of everyday life — from the ability of women to apply for their own bank accounts or credit cards without their husband or father co-signing, to the equal application of tax exemptions, to protections and equal pay for women in the workforce, to the ability to legally marry whomever ones loves.

She was an indomitable spirit, and someone whose tenacious fight for what she believed in inspired us every day.

- <https://www.nmajh.org/only-in-America/>



RUTH BADER GINSBURG



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Benjamin Ferenz



- ◆ **Lawyer, Writer, and Peace Advocate**
- ◆ **Investigator of Nazi War Crimes and Former Prosecutor at the Nuremberg War Trials**
- ◆ **Helped Establish the International Criminal Court**

"If it's naive to want peace instead of war, let 'em make sure they say I'm naive. Because I want peace instead of war."

Benjamin Ferencz

Benjamin B. Ferencz was born in the Carpathian Mountains of Transylvania in 1920. When he was ten months old his family moved to America. Even at an early age, he felt a deep yearning for universal friendship and world peace.

After Ben graduated from Harvard Law School in 1943, he joined an anti-aircraft artillery battalion preparing for the invasion of France. As an enlisted man under General Patton, he fought in most of the major campaigns in Europe. As Nazi atrocities were uncovered, he was transferred to a newly created War Crimes Branch of the Army to gather evidence of Nazi brutality and apprehend the criminals.

On the day after Christmas 1945, Ferencz was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army with the rank of Sergeant of Infantry. He returned to New York and prepared to practice law. Shortly thereafter, he was recruited for the Nuremberg war crimes trials. Ferencz became Chief Prosecutor for the United States. He was only twenty-seven years old. It was his first case. Ferencz's primary objective had been to establish a legal precedent that would encourage a more humane and secure world in the future.

In 1970 Ferencz decided that he would gradually withdraw from the private practice of law and would dedicate himself to studying and writing about world peace.

- <https://benferencz.org/biography/>

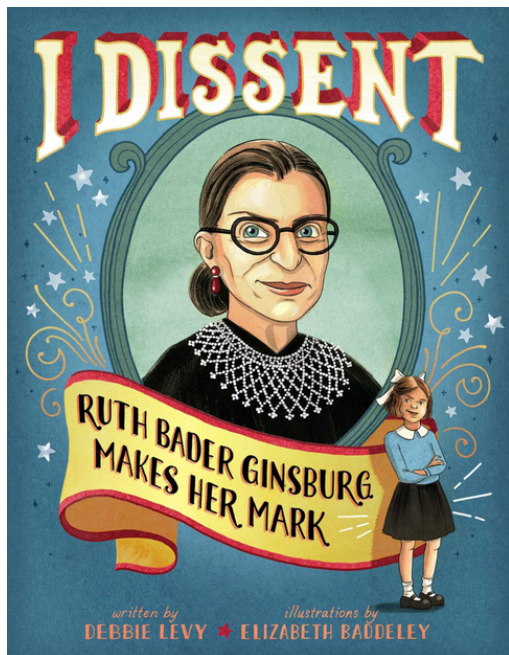
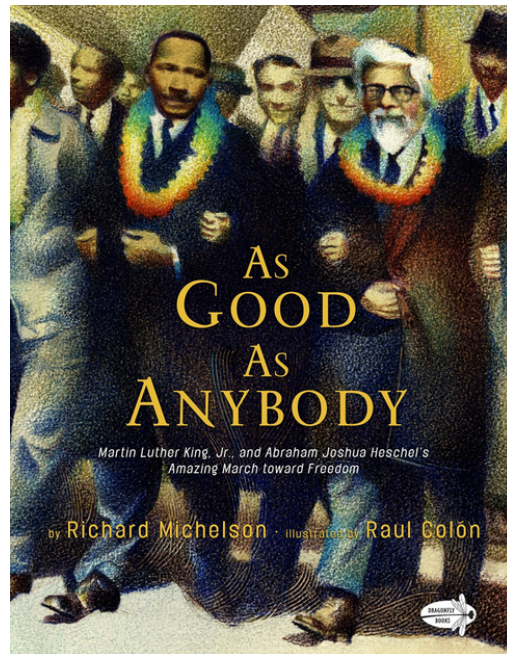




BENJAMIN FERENCZ

Book Recommendations

"As Good As Anybody: Martin Luther King Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel's Amazing March Toward Freedom"
by Richard Michelson



"I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark"
by Debbie Levy

Jewish American Heritage Month Quiz

1. Who wrote words welcoming immigrants and refugees on an engraved plaque on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty?

2. Who marched for civil rights with Martin Luther King Jr.?

3. Who invented the theory of relativity?

4. Who made it possible for women to be able to open a bank account without their husband or father co-signing for them?

5. Who said: "I want peace, not war"?

6. Who is an icon in the entertainment industry and fights for what she believes in?

