



The  
MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE  
FOUNDATION<sup>SM</sup>



## Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights Virtual Program

2020 – 2021 Application

210 E. Genesee Street, Fayetteville NY 13066

Email to: Vanessa Johnson - [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com)

Open Enrollment! Apply Anytime! No fees!

**WHAT ARE THE SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES IN TODAY'S WORLD THAT YOU  
ARE CONCERNED ABOUT?**

*Voting Rights? The Detention and Deportation of Refugees and  
Immigrants? Prison Reform? Mental Health ?  
Climate Change? Do Black Lives Matter?  
Are Your Rights as a Young Woman Valued?*

***What Do You Stand For?***

***"Think for Yourself" - Matilda Joslyn Gage***

Drawing on the life and legacy of Matilda Joslyn Gage, **The Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights Program** empowers and inspires young women identified women to become agents of change on the local, national, and global stage. High school-aged women interested in feminism, social justice, global connections, and community service are encouraged to apply.

The 2020-2021 program year will be **Virtual**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are excited to open up the program to young women-identified women from around the World.

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***Self - Empowerment!***

***“The most effective way to DO It - is to DO It!” - Amelia Earhart***

The Matilda Joslyn Gage Ambassadors for human rights program offers you the opportunity to do Social Justice Work that you can believe in! Here are some of the activities you can choose from!

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***Educate Yourself!***

***“For me, EDUCATION was POWER!” - Michelle Obama***

During the 2020-2021 program year, with 2020 being the Centennial of the 19th Amendment giving women in the United States the constitutional guarantee of the right to vote in the United States, Matilda Joslyn Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights will have the opportunity to:

- Become educated in the history of Matilda Joslyn Gage and her contributions to the Women’s Rights Movement
- Learn about the History of Haudenosaunee Women and how their rights were the model for the U.S. Women’s Rights Movement
- Understand the unspoken history and the struggle for their rights by U.S. Women of Color
- Be trained in **Virtual** Dialogue Facilitation and Facilitate **Virtual** Dialogues of your choosing between Gage Ambassadors

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### ***Take Action!***

***“Never be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble” Civil Rights Activist John Lewis***

- Work with a team of Gage Ambassadors to Facilitate **Virtual** Social Justice Dialogues, open to the public, addressing issues that are important to you!
- Have the opportunity to be invited to participate in State and National **Virtual** Programs where you will represent the Gage Ambassador Program and the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation
- Invite a woman that you respect to be a presenter at a Gage Ambassador’s Women in Business and S.T.E.A.M **Virtual** Salon, open to the public. Plan and Facilitate that Salon with a team of Gage Ambassadors.
- Visit the Mohawk Nation, **Virtually**, at Akwesasne for a cultural immersion program in celebration of Gage’s recognition of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Indigenous model as the highest form of civilization, and the position of Haudenosaunee women as a model for U.S. women.

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### ***Think Globally!***

***“Don’t think about making women fit the world - think about making the world fit women”. Gloria Steinem***

- Plan, Facilitate, and Participate in **Virtual** Global Social Justice Dialogues with young women from International Countries and from around the United States. Learn about the rights and struggles of women Globally.
- Write an article or reflection on one of the Gage Ambassador Dialogues for Social Justice that you attend, and have your work published on the Matilda Joslyn Gage website and in the Gage Foundation newsletter. These writings will be compiled and

become an end-of-the-program-year publication. The publication will be donated to libraries in the Gage Ambassador's communities.

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**The Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights Program meets from October 4, 2020 and ends June 13, 2020! Apply Anytime!**

**Virtual meetings are held two Sundays a month from 3-5:00 pm. The group can choose alternate days and times to meet as necessary!**

## **The Application Process**

The Girl Ambassador program is a diverse group, recruiting women-identified young women from a wide variety of ethnic, racial, religious, nationalities, urban, suburban, rural, and socio-economic identities.

- Submit applications to Vanessa Johnson - [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com). Applications will be reviewed, notifications of your acceptance will be sent through email.

## **Applicant Information**

Name:

Age:

Date of Birth:

Mailing Address:

City:

Zip:

E-mail:

Home Phone Number or Parent Cell & Name:

Your Cell Number:

School:

School grade level Fall 2020:

Have you applied to the Girl Ambassador Program before?(circle one)  
Yes/No

The Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights Program communicates through social media and uses closed group sites that are available to Ambassadors and their Parents.

Are you able to access and use these social media sites? (circle one)

Group Me! - Yes/No

Facebook - Yes/No

## **Extracurricular and Community Involvement**

The Matilda Joslyn Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights program is a social justice and dialogue program. Ambassadors are expected to balance this program with their extracurricular activities and academics. Please list the extracurricular activities you are involved in below, with at least two to three sentences explaining the activity, and your involvement. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

## **Essay Section**

Please answer each question completely, and to the best of your ability. Type or neatly print your answers on separate pieces of paper and attach them to your application.

- OR -

You may answer each question on a personal video. You should always face the camera. Be sure that the video is clear, and that your voice can always be heard. Answer the questions as completely as possible. Email your video to: Vanessa Johnson - griotwords@gmail.com

1. Who was Matilda Joslyn Gage? What Social Justice Issue, that Gage championed during her lifetime most affects your life today?

2. What do you think the role of an Ambassador is?
3. What would you bring to the program in your role as an Ambassador, if you are chosen?
4. What do you think is the most challenging issue facing women in the United States today?
5. What are some activities that you have participated in, that have given you the opportunity to meet and interact with people from diverse racial, ethnic, gender, religious, physical or mental challenges or socio-economic backgrounds?

How have these interactions impacted on your life?

6. Tell us about a woman or girl you respect as a Role Model and why?

## **Applicant's Parental/Guardian Consent**

Parents/Guardians Name:

E-mails:

Phone numbers:

Cell numbers:

Mailing address:

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Gage Ambassadors for Human Rights program description to which my daughter is applying. To the best of my knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) has a clear understanding of the program that she has applied for, and if selected, has my permission to participate. I understand that the Gage Ambassadors communicate through closed group Social Media Sites.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Gage Ambassadors Applicant References**

Name:

Occupation:

E-mail:

Phone Number:

Relationship to Applicant:

Please have your reference letters emailed to: [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com)  
Please have your reference include your full name in the reference letter.

Questions? Matilda Joslyn Gage Center: 315-637-9511  
Vanessa Johnson - Program Director: 315-289-6573