

Timeline by Historic Eras (from 1492 CE to present day)
United States - Upper Elementary & Middle School

U.S. HISTORY Timeline CE (Common Era)		U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline CE (Common Era)	
1492	Christopher Columbus arrives in America		
1500	Europeans arrive in America		
1502	First Africans arrive in America		
1513	Juan Ponce de Leon explores Florida		
		1540	Pueblo Rain Dance performed as an action for the good of the whole tribe
		1559-1570	League of the Irroquois founded in New York for peace
1607	English establish Jamestown, the first of 13 colonies, in Virginia		
1620	Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock - New Plymouth, Massachusetts	1620	Massachusetts Bay Colony uses the Social Compact as governing force for activities
1621	First Thanksgiving		
		1636	Harvard University founded
1640	First book published in America - <i>Bay Psalm Book</i>		
		1657	First American "friendly society" founded in Boston titled Scots' Charitable Society
		1675	Massachusetts provides relief to those homeless
1682	William Penn founds Pennsylvania for religious freedom		
1690	First newspaper published		
1690	First paper money published		
		1693	William and Mary College founded
		1701	Yale University founded

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U.S. HISTORY Timeline

U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1702	The book Magnalia Christi Americana is published about American philanthropy by Cotton Mather
		1706	Ben Franklin is born
		1727	Ben Franklin as a civic leader in Philadelphia – organizes Junto association
		1729	First orphanage founded in New Orleans
		1730	St. Andrew's Society founded to assist those in need
1731	Benjamin Franklin opens first circulating library		
1732	The last of the 13 English colonies, Georgia, is settled by James Oglethorpe as a refuge for debtors		
		1751	Philadelphia Hospital, first permanent hospital, founded by volunteer enterprises
1754	Seven Years' War or French and Indian War begins		
		1756	First general hospital opened
1763	Treaty of Paris ends French and Indian War		
1765	British Parliament imposes Stamp Act on revolutionary settlements		
		1767	1767 First home for the poor opened in Philadelphia – Philadelphia Betteing House
		1769	Dartmouth College established for education of Indian tribes
1770	Boston Massacre between British troops and colonists		
1773	Boston Tea Party	1773	First public museum opened by Library Society of Charles Town in S. Carolina
1775	Revolutionary War begins		
1776	The Declaration of Independence is adopted	1776	First prison reform society established – Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons
		1780s	Underground Railroad begins under Quaker participants

U.S. Historical & Philanthropic Timeline

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U.S. HISTORY Timeline

U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1780	1780 Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery passed in Pennsylvania
1783	American Revolution ends		
		1786	Dr. Benjamin Rush establishes first free medical clinic
1787	Constitution written		
1789	Constitution adopted		
1789	George Washington sworn in as first president of the United States		
		1790	Ben Franklin dies leaving 200 years of trusts to Philadelphia and Boston
		1791	Peter Cooper is born – leading American Philanthropist
1793	1793 Eli Whitney creates the cotton gin		
1793	Philadelphia's yellow fever epidemic becomes worst disaster of kind in American history		
		1795	George Peabody born, he created the first modern foundation
		1797	Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children founded in New York
1801	Thomas Jefferson becomes third president		
1803	Louisiana Purchase doubles the size of the nation		
		1809	1809 Assistance Society founded - gave food and medical help to poor
1812	War of 1812 between United States and Great Britain	1812	U.S. Congress votes funds to help victims of Venezuelan earthquake
		1813	Connecticut Moral Society founded
		1815	American Bible Society founded
		1817	First free school for the deaf established by Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet
		1818	Society for the Prevention of Pauperism founded in New York
1821	First college for women opened by Emma Willard in New York	1821	Clara Barton born, she organized the Red Cross in America
1825	Abner Doubleday creates baseball	1825	First juvenile reform school established in New York – The New York House of Refuge

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U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1827	Asylum for Deaf and Dumb founded
		1828	American Peace Society founded
		1830s	Underground Railroad became formalized
		1831	New York Institution for the Blind founded
		1831	1831 Stephen Girard dies and leaves his fortune to charity, specifically orphans – the largest contribution yet in America
		1833	American Anti-Slavery Society organized
		1835	Alexis de Tocqueville writes Democracy in America
		1836-1840	Creek Confederation formed with over 50 tribes meeting to conference
1838	Trail of Tears for 14,000 Cherokee Indians forced from their homes by the U.S.		
		1839	John D. Rockefeller born
		1841	Dorothea L. Dix begins improvements for insane persons
		1843	New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor established
1844	Telegraph is created by Samuel F.B. Morse	1844	Stephen Girard's estate plans carried out, largest American fortune left to charity at the time
		1845	First American conference of Society of St. Vincent dePaul
1846	United States is at war with Mexico	1846	Smithsonian Institute approved by Congress, founder being James Smithson
1846	First baseball game	1846-1847	Americans contribute to Irish famine
		1847	American Medical Association
1849	Gold discovered in California		
		1851	YMCA movement, in Boston, by Thomas V. Sullivan
		1852	New York Ophthalmic Hospital
		1853	First Child welfare agency established in New York by Charles Loring Brace - Children's Aid Society of New York
		1854	American and Foreign Emigrant Protective and Employment Society founded

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U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1854	U.S. Congress passes bill granting public lands to states to help finance care for insane
		1859	Peter Cooper founds Cooper Union, a school for free instruction in the arts
		1859	First Kindergarten formed in Boston by Elizabeth Peabody by private means
		1860	Jane Addams born, gives a lifetime of charity for women, poor, and minorities
		1860	W.K. Kellogg born
1861	Civil War begins with attack on Fort Sumter by the Confederates	1861	Cooper Shop Volunteer Hospital founded
		1861	United States Sanitary Commission established - soon to be American Red Cross
		1862	Morrill Act provided land grants for state universities
1863	Emancipation Proclamation made by President Lincoln	1863	Catholic Protectory established in New York City - largest institution for children
		1863	First welfare agency founded in Massachusetts
		1864	Geneva Convention for aid to wounded in time of war
1865	President Abraham Lincoln assassinated	1865	Freedmen's Bureau founded
1865	Civil War ends when Confederates surrender at Appomattox		
1865	13th amendment written to prohibit slavery		
		1866	American Equal Rights Association is formed
		1867	First foundation created - the Peabody Fund, by George Peabody
		1868	Hampston Institute founded - best endowed school for Negroes
1869	Railways link the two coasts	1869	George Peabody dies

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U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1869	National Women's Suffrage Association is founded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton
		1869	New York YMCA erects own building
		1870s	National Council of Jewish Women founded
1872	Yellowstone National Park established as first national park		
		1874	Organization of Conference of Charities and Correction - now National Conference on Social Welfare
1876	Telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell	1876	Johns Hopkins University founded
		1876	Jubilee Hall opened at Fisk University - money raised by concert tours
1877	Thomas Edison invents the cylinder player		
1879	Thomas Edison invents electric lights		
		1881	Clara Barton establishes American Association of the Red Cross
		1881	Booker T. Washington establishes Tuskegee Institute
		1882	U.S. ratifies Geneva Convention
		1883	Peter Cooper dies
1886	Statue of Liberty is dedicated		
		1887	Way United founded in Denver Colorado
		1887	Helen Keller begins study with Anne Sullivan
		1889	Andrew Carnegie publishes The Gospel of Wealth
		1889	Jane Addams founds Hull House
1890	Battle of Wounded Knee between United States and Native Americans	1890	General Federation of Women's Clubs founded
		1890	University of Chicago founded
		1892	John Muir founded the Sierra Club
		1893	American Association of the Red Cross becomes American National Red Cross

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U.S. PHILANTHROPY Timeline

		1894	First federal income tax law deducts for charitable contributions
		1895	Chicago Federation of Settlements founded with the help of Jane Addams
1896	First modern Olympic games	1896	National Association of Colored Women founded
		1896	National Forest Commission founded
1898	Spanish-American War in which United States acquires Puerto Rico and the Philippines		
		1899	National Consumers League founded to promote justice in labor
		1901	Nobel Peace Prize created for Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel
		1902	Carnegie Institute endowed
		1902	Goodwill Industries formed
1903	The Wright brothers fly the first plane at Kitty Hawk in North Carolina	1903	National Child Labor Committee founded
1904	Panama Canal begun		
1906	San Francisco earthquake occurs		
		1907	Russell Sage Foundation established
1909	Robert Perry reaches North Pole	1909	Jane Addams helps found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and is elected the 1st woman President of The National Conference of Charities and Corrections – later The National Conference of Social Work
1909	Ford begins automobile assembly line production		
		1910	Boy Scouts of America founded
		1910	Campfire Girls founded
		1910	Carnegie Corporation founded by Andrew Carnegie
		1911	United States Children Bureau founded
1912	Titanic sinks	1912	Girls Scouts founded
		1912	4-H founded with help from extension service of the Department of Agriculture

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		1912	Clara Barton dies
		1913	The Rockefeller Foundation established
		1913	American Cancer Society founded
1914	Panama Canal opens	1914	Federal income tax made foundations defined as charitable not taxable
		1914	First community foundation formed in Cleveland, Ohio
1917	World War I begins for the United States	1917	Federal inheritance tax
		1917	Red Cross raises \$100 million
1918	World War I ends	1918	United Way of America founded
		1918	International League for Peace and Freedom founded with help of Jane Addams
		1919	Andrew Carnegie dies
		1919	Revenue Act to broaden corporate giving
		1919	Harvard uses professional fundraisers for the first time
1920	The 19th amendment allows women the right to vote	1920	Women are granted the right to vote by the 19th Amendment
		1920	American Civil Liberties Union founded with the help of Jane Addams
		1920s	Community Chests developed – becomes United Way organizations
		1921	American Foundation for Blind founded
		1921	Ohio Society for Crippled Children established which became Easter Seal Society
		1921	American Farmers Bureau Federation founded
		1923	The Equal Rights Amendment is introduced to Congress
		1924	Charitable contributions reach \$2 billion
		1924	Kresge Foundation established by Sebastian S. Kresge
		1926	Mott Foundation established by Charles Stewart Mott
1929	Start of the Great Depression		
		1930	W.K. Kellogg Foundation organized

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		1931	Jane Addams first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize
		1933	Civilian Conservation Corps established
		1935	Social Security Act
		1935	Jane Addams dies
		1935	National School Lunch Program begins
		1936	Ford Foundation established
		1936	Tax Act created allowing deductions for charitable contributions
		1937	Andrew Mellon donates art collection establishing National Gallery of Art
		1937	Lilly Endowment established by Eli Lilly
		1938	John D. Rockefeller dies
		1938	March of Dimes established to eliminate polio
		1938	Fair Labor Standards Act
1939	World's Fair opens		
1939	First transatlantic airmail service occurs		
1941	Bombing of Pearl Harbor and the beginning of World War II for the U.S.	1941	Red Cross adopts blood-donor program
		1941	USO organized
		1942	Civilian Conservation Corps expires
		1943	United Negro College Fund established
		1943	First payroll deductions for contributions to Community Chest
		1944	GI Bill established
1945	Atom bomb is dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan	1945	CARE, world's largest private international relief organization, is founded after WW II to send emergency packages to Europe and Asia
1945	World War II ends		
1945	United Nations is formed		
		1946	Rockefeller donates land for United Nations
		1946	National Multiple Sclerosis Society founded
		1949	Council on Foundations founded supporting responsible philanthropic activities

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1950	Korean War begins	1950	National Association for Mental Health
		1950	Muscular Dystrophy Association of America
		1951	W.K. Kellogg dies
1953	Korean War ends	1953	Supreme Court decision upholds right of corporations to make philanthropic contributions
1954	Supreme Court outlaws segregated schools		
		1955	Ford Foundation gives largest grant in history - \$560 million
		1955	Salk vaccine to prevent polio is developed
		1956	The Foundation Center established as a clearinghouse for independent nonprofit information
1958	Explorer I is the nation's first satellite		
1959	Alaska and Hawaii become the 49th and 50th states		
		1960	John D. Rockefeller, Jr. dies
1961	Bay of Pigs crisis occurs	1961	President John F. Kennedy creates the Peace Corps
		1961	President John F. Kennedy begins funds for Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)
1962	American Telstar communications satellite is launched allowing first live TV broadcasts between U.S. and Europe		
1963	President Kennedy is assassinated		
1964	Civil Rights Act passed by Congress		
1965	Vietnam War	1965	Medicare and Medicaid established
		1965	Adult Basic Education created by U.S. Dept. of Education
		1966	National Welfare Rights Organization formed
		1967	SERVE established - Serve and Enrich Retirement by Volunteer Experience
1968	Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated	1968	National Alliance of Businessmen created by Henry Ford II

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1968	Robert F. Kennedy is assassinated		
1969	American astronauts land on the moon		1969 President Nixon establishes National Center for Voluntary Action
			1969 Tax Act formally defined foundations
1970	First Earth day		1970s Filer Commission (Commission on Private Philanthropy and Public Needs)
1973	Peace treaty ends United States involvement in Vietnam		
1974	President Nixon resigns in Watergate scandal		1974 Ronald McDonald homes established
			1974 First hospice program established in Connecticut
1975	Fighting in Vietnam ends		1975 World Federation of Friends of Museums founded
			1976 Habitat for Humanity founded
			1977 Eli Lilly dies
			1977 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fund established
			1977 President Jimmy Carter establishes the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC)
1978	U.S. establishes diplomatic relations with Communist China		1978 John D. Rockefeller III dies
			1978-1979 Yale University offers program on philanthropy
			1979 Pennsylvania prisoners create a fun-run and give money to youth-service agencies
			1979 Robert and George Woodruff give \$105 million to Emory University, largest gift by living donors in American philanthropic history
			1979 United States Association of Museum Volunteers established
			1980s Campus Compact, the first Project for Public Community Service
			1980 Independent Sector is founded bringing together national nonprofit organizations, foundations, and corporate giving programs to strengthen giving, volunteering and not-for-profit initiative in the United States

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			1980	MADD founded - Mothers Against Drunk Driving
1981	Personal computers are offered to the public			
			1982	United Way of America opened its current site in Virginia
			1984	National Student Campaign Against Hunger formed
			1985	Charity anthem titled "We Are The World" raises money for African famine relief
			1985	National Community Service Sentencing Association
			1985	National Youth Service Day begins on April 21
1986	The Challenger shuttle explodes		1986	Hands Across America charity event occurred
			1988	Independent Sector begins biennial surveys concerning nonprofit organizations
			1988	Family Support Act created
			1989	First Leadership in Volunteerism Experience (LIVE) conference held at the University of Illinois
			1990	Family Support Act adds mandatory community service work
			1990	Congress passes the National and Community Service Act
1991	Persian Gulf War			
			1992-1993	LIVE joins Campus Compact
			1993	National and Community Service Trust Act
			1994	Service-Learning and Education Reform integrated into: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, School to Work Opportunities Act, and Goals 2000: Educate America Act
1995	The World Wide Web is the fastest growing service on the Internet			
			1996	Ted Turner gives \$200 million to charity
			1997	Ted Turner donates \$1 billion to United Nations?largest single pledge to any organization

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			1998	Children's Scholarship Fund established to pay private school tuition for low income children
			1999	Bill and Melinda French Gates donate over \$3 billion to their two foundations - biggest single gift from living donors

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