

# Leading Ladies Creative Challenge: Social Media Blast

<https://thenationaldleadingladies.org>



## Activity Overview

**Grade Level:** High School (9th – 12th)

**Subjects:** Visual Arts, Language Arts

**Estimated Time:** 20-30 min

**Materials Needed:** Pen or pencil, paper, Twitter or

Instagram account, video recording device

**Activity Format:** Individual

**Summary:** *The National's Leading Ladies* website spotlights Jenny Lind, Sara Bernhardt, Helen Hayes, and Pearl Bailey as four of many influential women who have performed on The National Theatre's stage. In this creative challenge, students will use the information they learn from *The National's Leading Ladies* website to tell the story of these women through social media.

## Activity Guide

- Instruct students to read through *The National's Leading Ladies* website and select a woman that they feel they can relate to in some way. Students will create a total of two social media posts from the perspective of their chosen woman.
- First, students should choose if they would like to create either a Twitter or Instagram post. Then, they will create the post in the style of their chosen platform. For example, using an image for Instagram, and limiting text to 280 characters for Twitter. All posts should include the hashtag #4leadingladies.
- Next, students will create an additional post in the style of a TikTok video (60 seconds).
- Teachers should determine their preferred method for students to turn in the assignment.



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# Leading Ladies Creative Challenge: My Life's Tapestry

<https://thenationaldcleadingladies.org>



## Activity Overview

**Grade Level:** High School (9th – 12th)

**Subjects:** Visual Arts, Language Arts

**Estimated Time:** 30-45 min

**Materials Needed:** Cardboard or construction paper,

scissors, glue sticks, tape, markers, colored pencils, or crayons, magazines, newspaper

**Activity Format:** Individual

**Summary:** Students will read through The National Theatre's *Leading Ladies* website and use the biographies of the women on the site as inspiration to think about the students' own life journeys. Then, students will create a "Life Tapestry" or collage that highlights key moments in their lives.

## Activity Guide

- Ask students to select newspapers or magazines that stand out to them and cut out images, pictures, words, or sayings that represent their lives' journeys.
- Encourage the students to answer the following guided questions while selecting the images for their Life's Tapestry.
  - Where are you from?
  - What are your most notable accomplishments?
  - What are some challenges that you have overcome?
  - What are your hopes for the future?
  - What aspects of your life are similar to or different from the women highlighted on The National Theatre's website?
- Instruct students to make their final selections and adhere the elements onto the construction paper or cardboard.
- Once students have completed their Life's Tapestry they can share them with pairs, small groups, or the whole class.



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# Leading Ladies Creative Challenge:

## Guess The Leading Lady

<https://thenationaldcleadingladies.org>



### Activity Overview

**Grade Level:** High School (9th –12th)

**Subjects:** Social Studies, History

**Estimated Time:** 10-15 min

**Materials Needed:** Sticky notes or blank label sheets,

notepads or pen and paper

**Activity Format:** Group

**Summary:** Students will read through The National Theatre's *Leading Ladies* website and use their knowledge of the women to play a game where they must guess which woman they have been assigned.

### Activity Guide

- In order to prep for this activity educators will need to create one "name tag" to place on every student's back. The name tags should display one of the "Leading Ladies", either "Helen Hayes", "Jenny Lind", "Sarah Bernhardt", or "Pearl Bailey." The educator should aim to have an equal number of tags with each woman's name. The name tags could be created a number of different ways:
  - Using sticky notes: The educator pre-writes the "Leading Ladies" names on post-its or small sheets of paper and tapes the notes to each student's back.
  - Using blank label sheets: The educator writes the names of the "Leading Ladies" on the blank label sheets and then adheres individual labels to students' backs during class.
- Prior to beginning the game, ask students to take a few minutes to review the "Leading Ladies" website and take notes on each woman's key attributes and accomplishments.
- The educator should place the name of one of the "Leading Ladies" on each student's back. Instruct students to move about the space and ask each other questions as they try to guess which "Leading Lady" they have on their back. Tell students that they may only answer questions with "Yes", "No", "All the time", or "Never".
- Once students have guessed their "Leading Lady" correctly, they should remove their name tag, but may still help other students by giving hints.



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