

Annie Wittenmyer: Leading a Frontier in Hospital Safety Conditions

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When we started the year, we wanted to present an Iowa history topic. Our History Day teacher suggested the topic of Annie Wittenmyer. Not knowing the importance of Annie Wittenmyer, we decided to do more research. Our research led us to learning about the great actions she took for the Civil War effort. We found it very interesting that she helped provide supplies and better food for soldiers. After exploring the topic further, we drew the conclusion that Annie Wittenmyer fit well with the theme of Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas.

During the Civil War, military hospitals were unsanitary and had poor nutrition and food for patients. Annie Wittenmyer, an army nurse and relief worker, witnessed these conditions and declared the need to make improvements. Shortly after, Wittenmyer began raising money to provide food and improve conditions for nearby Union hospitals. Her relief work was on the frontier to advance and improve patient care and military hospital procedures, some of which remain today.

While researching our topic, we found helpful primary newspapers about Annie Wittenmyer. Many of the newspapers also had information about the Soldiers' Aid Society, the Christian Commission, and other organizations that Annie was a part of throughout her life. During the Civil War, Annie sent many letters to numerous professionals, explaining her point of view about what she witnessed at military hospitals, and her ideas to improve them. Our group found many articles with summaries of the great accomplishments that Annie Wittenmyer achieved. We've read Annie's book Under the Guns, which provided a great deal of pivotal information for writing our script. To improve our project after Districts, we visited the Iowa State Historical Society's Library, where the archives contained letters written to and by Annie Wittenmyer. These letters gave us valuable primary information for our project.

For our performance, we decided to have three different locations for our scenes. One of the backdrops is an old window with a flower wallpaper behind it. We chose this for our house scene because it fits with the Civil War era. On another one of our backdrops, we painted a stained glass window to depict the old church where the women held planning meetings. It is also used as the office of General Wood. Our last stage setting is in the hospital, which we painted a light shade to show the simplicity and plainness of the military hospitals during the war.

Annie Wittenmyer was a very important woman in history because of her work during the Civil War. She visited many regiments around the Midwest and witnessed horrible conditions that injured soldiers were living in. Mrs. Wittenmyer saw the need for improvements and started working with other women that shared her same passion. She held events to raise money, collected supplies, and helped deliver them to military hospitals. Her work eventually improved the food served to soldiers and conditions within military hospitals around the nation, making hospitals more sanitary and setting higher standards for hospitals in the future.

Primary

Books

Wittenmyer, Annie. *“Under the Guns: A Woman’s Reminiscences of the Civil War.”* E.B. Stillings & CO., Publishers, 1895. Accessed 1 Mar. 2023.

“Under the Guns” by Annie Wittenmyer, provided very important information on the many first-hand experiences she had during the Civil War. We used the chapter, “Hospital Abuses—Putting Logwood in the Coffee,” to write lines for the scene where we confronted the boy about mixing logwood with the food and drink for the soldiers. The book also helped us with the character development of Annie Wittenmyer and Louisa Vance.

Letters

Langworthy, Julia. “Letter to Annie Wittenmyer.” 30 Sep. 1861. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

In this letter written to Annie Wittenmyer, we learned about the struggles of children who were left with no parents because of the Civil War. We also learned in this letter that Mrs. Wittenmyer had donated some supplies for the sick and wounded. This information from the letter helped us with creating our props for our project.

Lisdale, H. S. “Letter to Annie Wittenmyer.” 12 Oct. 1861. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Mrs. H.S. Lisdale worked with the Ladies Aid Society. She explained to Annie Wittenmyer that the most needed supply was wool socks, and she believed that they needed to help the soldiers before they improved the hospitals. This helped our project by giving us more perspectives on what should have been done for the soldiers.

Secretary, Ladies Aid Society. “Letter to Annie Wittenmyer.” 16 Mar. 1863. Accessed 30

Mar. 2023. Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

On March 13th, the Ladies Aid Society shipped a box of hospital clothing, a box of ginger snaps, and a barrel of molasses. This letter gave us a better understanding of what things were donated to hospitals from the Ladies Aid Society. We used this letter to figure out what items to put in the donation box for our third scene.

Senard, Mattie. "Letter to Annie Wittenmyer." 9 Aug. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Mrs. Mattie A. Senard sent a letter to Annie Wittenmyer explaining how she would like to be of assistance to the wounded and suffering soldiers. She explained how the war had affected her life, "I am of good family but the war has nearly ruined us." This letter helped us get a better understanding of how many women communicated with each other in order to help during the war.

Shepard, Edmund. "Letter to Annie Wittenmyer." 22 Nov. 1861. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Mrs. Shepard wrote to Annie to apologize for missing many Ladies Aid Society meetings. She continued, saying that she was going through rough times and could do any work at home that was needed. The information given helped us when developing our meeting scenes.

Shepard, Edmund. "Letter to Annie Wittenmyer." 18 Sep. 1861. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Annie Wittenmyer was greatly appreciated by Mrs. Shepard for all of her volunteer work. Mrs. Shepard wrote in this letter, that because of Annie's volunteer work, the organization was very successful for the time being. This letter and the information helped us with learning more about the organizations Mrs. Wittenmyer was involved in.

Wittenmyer, Annie. "Letter to Mrs. Chittendew." 2 June. 1961. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Papers. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Mrs. Wittenmyer wrote to Mrs. Chittendew about the boxes they were packing for the camps. This helped us to develop scene three, when we were talking about the contributions they have made. The letter also states that these donations included with the box were needed and appreciated.

Wittenmyer, Annie. "Letter to Parker Lanae." 14 Feb. 1863. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023.

Annie Wittenmyer Papers. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Annie Wittenmyer wrote this letter to government officials about the needs of hospitals. She further explained in the letter that soldiers needed more than the bare minimum. This helped our project by giving us information to improve our hospital scene.

Wittenmyer, Annie. "Report of Mrs. Wittenmyer to the Soldiers Aid Societies of Iowa Ladies." 5 Nov. 1861, pg. 2. Accessed 17 Nov. 2022.

In this letter from Annie Wittenmyer to the Aid Societies of Iowa Ladies, we learned about the efforts Iowa women put in during the war. The ladies made clothing which served as the mens' uniforms. We used this idea for the scene in our script about the women who gathered to talk about how to help the soldiers.

Wittenmyer, Annie. "Report of Mrs. Wittenmyer to Governor Kirkwood." 18 May. 1863. iowaculture.gov/history/education/educator-resources/pri-ary-source-sets/iowa-s-connection-to-world/letter-annie-0. Accessed 13 Dec. 2022.

Mrs. Wittenmyer visited most of the Iowa regiments in the field over three months. She stated, "It gives me great pleasure to report that with but few exceptions, I have found their camps and hospitals in as good condition as circumstances would admit." This letter helped explain the short term impact for our project.

Wood, Phila. "Letter to Annie Wittenmyer." 3 Dec. 1861. Accessed 30 Mar. 2023. Annie Wittenmyer Paper. State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Phila C. Wood, along with her mother, noticed Annie's name in the paper which recognized her work. She sent this letter to Annie to explain how she was, "interested in the same line of benevolent operations," as Annie. This gave us a better understanding about how several other women shared the same passion as Annie.

Newspapers

"A Great Work Done." *Quad-City Times*, 4 Feb. 1900.

newspapers.com/image/301183093/?terms=A%20great%20work%20done&match=1. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Reading this newspaper article gave us information about Annie and her life, which helped us with writing our script. We learned that she hired a teacher and opened a free school for children. She also taught a bible school for young men before the war in a church where she, "may be said to have been the founder."

"Annie Wittenmyer: State Sanitary Agent." *The Council Bluffs Nonpareil*, [Council Bluffs, Iowa], 30 Jan. 1864, Image 2.

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84027096/1864-01-30/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=. Accessed 22 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer provided a great service by helping the injured soldiers in war and was so much help that she became an agent in the field. She was requested to select the department she wanted to operate in and was transferred to the Iowa Sanitary Commission. This gave us important information to help with our historical context.

“A Union of Humane Societies.” *The Financial World*, [Pittsburg, Pennsylvania], 1 Aug. 1886. timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1886/08/01/103967581.html?pageNumber=7. Accessed 2 Apr. 2023.

A “national charitable organization” was formed, including the Christian Commission, the Sanitary Commissions, and the Red and White Cross Societies. These organizations worked to keep hospitals sanitary and also to spread the word to all parts of the United States. This helped our project by providing more information on what the Christian Commissions did.

“Birthday of Noted Women.” *Newark Evening Star and Newark Advertiser*, [Newark, New Jersey], 26 Aug. 1915, Page 8, Image 8. chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn91064011/1915-08-26/ed-1/seq-8. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Accomplishments of Annie Wittenmyer included being a nurse during the Civil War, helping to form the Christian Commission diet kitchens, and organizing a model kitchen in Nashville for sick soldiers. After the war, she established the Soldiers Orphan home in Davenport, Iowa, while also being the first president of the N.W.C.T.U. Much of what we used for Annie Wittenmyer’s character development came from this source.

“Death of an Iowa Heroine: Annie Wittenmyer’s Name High on the Roll of Honor.” *The Seattle Post-Intelligence*, 21 Feb. 1900. chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045604/1900-02-21/ed-1/seq- Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

One of the most famous nurses from the Civil War was Annie Wittenmyer. Many men owe their lives to her, which is why she is at the top of Iowa’s record for Roll of Honor from the Civil War. By reading this article, we learned about the impact Mrs. Wittenmyer had on Civil War soldiers.

“Death of a Noted Army Nurse: Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer Passes Away at Sanatoga, Pa.” *Evening Star*, [Washington, D.C.], 3 Feb. 1900, Page 13, Image 13. chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1900-02-03/ed-1/seq-13/. Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

Information was given about Annie Wittenmyer and her life in this source, including the fact that she moved to Iowa after she became married to William Wittenmyer. Her husband died in 1860 and Annie died in 1900, leaving their son Charles Wittenmyer as the only survivor of their family. We used this information to help build Mrs. Wittenmyer’s character for our performance.

"Evening Star. [volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972, May 28, 1961, Page E-7, Image 55." *Chronicling America* « *Library of Congress*, chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1961-05-28/ed-1/seq. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer did many wonderful things to help in the war effort. She formed safer military hospitals, created diet kitchens for sick and injured soldiers, and created orphan homes for the children of soldiers fighting in the war. By using these facts we were able to write more lines for our, "heart of the story" scenes.

"First Album of the City of Davenport, Iowa." *HathiTrust*, *City of Davenport*. babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=loc.ark:/13960/t3nv9sr6t&view=1up&seq=18. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

By using the information from this source, we learned that the Iowa Soldiers Orphans' Home was located at an old soldiers camp that was used during the Civil War. It included a dining hall, kitchen, a school building, sixteen cottages, laundry, a boiler room, and a barn. This helped our project because it described for us what the inside of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home was like.

"Iowa Orphan Asylum." *Sioux City Journal*, 30, Jan. 1864. newspapers.com/image/628353321/?terms=annie&match=1. Accessed 17 Nov. 2022. The 'Iowa Orphan Asylum' explained to us that Annie Wittenmyer, had the desire to provide a home for children of men who had died while defending the country. "This Association shall be known by the name of, 'The Iowa State Orphan Asylum.'" We were able to learn more about the orphan homes from this newspaper, and the information helped us understand more about what gave her the inspiration to build the Iowa Soldiers Orphans' Home.

"Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *HathiTrust*, *Bulletin of Iowa Institutions*, 1903. babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=osu.32435051191799&view=1up&seq=202&q1=hospitals. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

We learned that the Soldiers' Orphans' Home itself was a frontier. "The Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home was the first public institution of its kind established in the United States." Though we are focusing more on the hospitals for our project, this gave us another reason why Annie Wittenmyer was a great topic choice for this year's theme.

**Kirkwood, Samuel “Executive Journal of Governor” *Ex. Office Iowa City, IA.*
Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.**

Annie Wittenmyer was very loyal to dying and disabled soldiers from the war. Kirkwood also wanted to discharge all the soldiers that were in the hospital hoping that they would somehow miraculously recover better at home than at the hospital. These facts proved that Mrs. Wittenmyer had to sometimes defend herself to male power figures.

**“Members of the Executive Board.” *The Saint Paul Globe*, [St. Paul, Minnesota], 5 Sept. 1896.
chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90059523/1896-09-05/ed-1/seq-8/. Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.**

Information was given to us about a meeting that Annie Wittenmyer attended and reported on the Army Nurses’ bill. She said that twelve-hundred women were eligible for it, but only five hundred fifty-nine had secured pensions. This gave us background information on Annie Wittenmyer.

**“Our Army Nurses: Instructions in Securing Pensions- The New Record Book.” *The National Tribune*, March 23, 1893.
[loc.gov/resource/sn82016187/1893-03-23/ed-1/?sp=10&r=0.474,0.239,0.323,0.15,0](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/resource/sn82016187/1893-03-23/ed-1/?sp=10&r=0.474,0.239,0.323,0.15,0).
Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.**

Having pensions paid to Army Nurses was pushed by Annie Wittenmyer. According to the rulings, all Army Nurses who could prove six months of hospital service, could secure pensions whether they were commissioned or not. This showed that Mrs. Wittenmyer worked hard to help not only soldiers, but also army nurses, during the Civil War.

**“Report of the Muscatine Ladies’ Soldiers’ Aid Society for the Year of 1863.”
Muscatine Weekly Journal, 29 Jan. 1864, Image 4.
chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84027253/1864-01-29/ed-1/seq-4/. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.**

In September 1861, Annie Wittenmyer and many other women decided that they wanted to do their part for the wounded soldiers. One woman stated, “A feeling of desire to assist in sending sanitary supplies to our sick and wounded soldiers.” The information we learned from reading this newspaper helped us create the extra women characters in our performance.

"Sanitary Circular." *Muscatine Weekly Journal*, 13 March, 1863.

newspapers.com/image/541994808/?terms=ANNIE&match=1. Accessed 17 Nov. 2022.

Sanitary conditions of most Iowa Regiments were unfavorable. Mrs. Wittenmyer was trying to urge the importance of directing and controlling the sanitary resources of the state. We used this information for the hospital scenes in our project.

"Soldiers' Home." *Quad-City Times*, 17 Apr. 1865.

newspapers.com/image/299014035/?terms=annie&match=1. Accessed 16 Nov. 2022.

The "Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home" was reported to be in "prosperous condition." There were sixty-two children in their institution and an application was being made for the reception of twenty-five more. By using this information we were able to understand more about the conditions of the orphans homes.

"The Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *HathiTrust, History of Davenport and Scott County Iowa*, 1910.

babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89077942878&view=1up&seq=197&q1=orphans%20home. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

We learned about the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home and how everyone associated Annie Wittenmyer with it. "Any mention of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home, brief or extended, must begin with reference to Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, the Keokuk woman whom Governor Kirkwood commissioned as state sanitary agent, and who during the long years of the Civil War was constantly engaged in works of mercy in the hospitals on the front." This helped our project by giving us more background information on Annie's accomplishments and reputation.

"The Leon Reporter." *The Leon Reporter*, 17 May 1900.

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn87057096/1900-05-17/ed-1/seq-4. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

A physician said that wars played an important role in hospital development. "In the American Civil War, medical men learned that small hospitals, and even hospital tents, are better than large enclosed structures for the sick and wounded." This source helped us with writing our script, and talked about the arrangements to help better the health care.

"The Military Aids" *The Evening Times*, 24 December. 1896, Image 1."

The Library of Congress, The Evening Times,

.loc.gov/resource/sn84024441/1896-12-24/ed-1/?sp=1&r=-0.32,0.165,1.475,0.719,0.

Accessed 16 Nov. 2022.

Many soldiers were being deployed during the war. This meant that many nurses were being sent to military hospitals and battlefields. Six-thousand women from Iowa, including Annie, were deployed into military hospitals and battlefields during this time.

"The Orphans Reach Davenport." *HathiTrust, History of Davenport and Scott County Iowa*, 1910.

babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89077942878&view=1up&seq=198&size=125&q1=orphans%20home. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

"The Orphans Reach Davenport" gave us information about when the orphans from Keokuk arrived in Davenport. There were one hundred and fifty orphans and they were given beds, bedding, and other equipment, along with a breakfast, after getting off of the boat. The information we learned about orphans was used to help with writing our script.

"The Relief Corps" *The National Tribune*, [Washington D.C], 8 July 1897.

loc.gov/resource/sn82016187/1897-07-08/ed-1/?sp=6&r=0.113,0.047,0.532,0.286,0.

Accessed 18 Nov. 2022.

After turning seventy years old, with thirty-six years of being engaged in important work for her country and its people, a gathering on August 26th was planned to celebrate Annie Wittenmyer, by giving her a large testimonial in cash. We learned that "no obstacles were too great for her to encounter, and she knew no such words as fear or fail."

"The Relief Corps." 14 Dec. 1893. *National Tribune*.

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016187/1893-12-14/ed-1/seq-6/> Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

John Reynolds was an assistant secretary that wrote to Annie about working with his farmers, to help in supplying the Women's Relief Corporation for the dietary kitchens. He spoke highly of Annie and her relief efforts for the war. We used information from this source to write one of our scenes talking about the Women's Relief Corporation.

"War Heroine's Pension." *The Evening Times*, [Washington, D.C.], December 24, 1896, Page 6, Image 6.

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84024441/1896-12-24/ed-1/seq-6/#date1=1777. Accessed 9 Jan. 2023.

There was much information given in this source about Annie Wittenmyer and her accomplishments, but it mainly only focused on one. During her service in the war, she collected and distributed more than \$200,000 worth of hospital supplies to help the injured soldiers. We used some of the information from this source to help write the scene in our performance that talked about contributions that had been coming in at the time.

Magazines

Gallaher, Ruth A. "The Wittenmyer Diet Kitchens." *The Palimpsest* Sept.

1931. iagenweb.org/history/palimpsest/1931-Sept2.htm. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

In a military hospital in Sedalia, Missouri, there was a, "large room filled with cots, each one holding a sick or wounded soldier." Also, as Annie stood, looking around the room, she was surprised to see her youngest brother, David Turner, who was only sixteen at the time, lying in one of the beds. We wrote our first hospital scene using this information because we felt it made our project more personal.

Photos

"Annie Wittenmyer, 1860s." *Iowa PBS*, Iowa PBS.

iowapbs.org/iowapathways/artifact/2043/annie-wittenmyer-1860s. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

In this photo we can see what women wore during this time period. They wore long dresses that were very modest, and they often wore bonnets. This was significant to our research because it helped us decide on appropriate costumes for our performance.

"Annie Wittenmyer Orphan's Home, Davenport, 1912." *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/augsc/id/430/. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

After seeing this photo, we learned about children in an orphanage. This is a photograph with children outside of the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home, later known as the Annie Wittenmyer Home. Each child is holding a book, ready for their school day.

Dissette, H.E. "Nursing at the Orphans' Home.", 3 Feb. 1934, *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/scdpl/id/482. Accessed 11 Nov. 2022.

Many children were left orphaned after the Civil War. As a result, many of them needed attention without the care of their own parents. We were able to use the information in the scene where we were talking about the orphans' homes.

"Orphans and Adults Working at Iowa Annie Wittenmyer Home Aka Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/scdpl/id/4077. Accessed 17 Dec. 2022.

This source helped our project by giving us an image of what the orphan homes were like. This is a photo of the workers and children in the orphan home. We learned that there were children of all ages put into the homes and it helped us understand more about the hard work that Annie Wittenmyer put into the orphans' homes.

"Orphans and Adults Working at Iowa Annie Wittenmyer Home Aka Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/scdpl/id/4147/rec/1. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

The image here is a very valuable source because it shows what life was really like in the Annie Wittenmyer home. This picture shows adults working with very young children, while living in the home, and shows how many children had lived in the house at one time. It includes what some parts of the house looked like, and helped us form ideas for our set.

"Orphans and Adults Working at Iowa Annie Wittenmyer Home aka Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/scdpl/id/4145/rec/1. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

Two women that worked in the orphan home were depicted in this image. They seemed happy to be doing such a great thing for the children. This photo helped us understand the many things women did to help in the war effort.

"Orphans and Adults Working at Iowa Annie Wittenmyer Home aka Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home." *CONTENTdm*,

umvphotoarchive.org/digital/collection/scdpl/id/4049/rec/1. Accessed 8 Jan. 2023.

All of the children were taken care of in the homes. It was snowy in the picture, and the children were dressed very warmly. This improved our project by giving us a visual of what the homes looked like and by showing how well taken care of the orphans were.

Secondary

Interviews

Badar, Tracey. Personal interview. 10 May 2023.

Mr. Tracey Badar is the head of food service at Floyd Valley Hospital in LeMars, Iowa. He explained to us how he and his staff have to prepare meals for eighty-three different diets for the patients. This helped our project by further proving the impact Annie's work had on the diet plans and how today's health systems have become even more specialized to fit patients' needs.

Milbroat, Tina. Personal Interview. 27 Apr. 2023.

Tina Milbroat is a _____ at our school, she helped us understand how much effort is put into making sure students are able to have a healthy meal everyday. She explained how every meal has to follow many rules, like the state and federal guidelines, "there are endless rules." Also, students that come from families that aren't able to afford lunches at home are able to eat a well prepared meal.

Rommereim, Charlotte. Personal interview. 8 May 2023.

Charlotte Rommereim is a dietician at Nursing Homes across South Dakota and Iowa, she explained some of the rules she has to follow in order to be sure patients are getting the right nutrition. Charlotte explained, "I have to provide education, do an assessment, help them decide goals, and report it all to the physician to be sure it is done correctly." Charlotte also stated that the guidelines are set by the state and the country in order to make sure everything is clean and sanitary.

Newspapers

"Annie Wittenmyer: Civil War Heroine." *The Des Moines Register*, 22,

22, February. 2009. newspapers.com/image/131354207/. Accessed 17 Nov. 2022.

By the end of the war, Mrs. Wittenmyer had constructed more than 100 kitchens for wounded troops. Annie focused on getting homes built for war orphans, the first home being opened in Farmington, IA in 1864 with 20 children. It needed more space, so more homes were built, and we decided to include this in our script.

Liebig, Rosa. *The Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home*, [Marshalltown], 16 Aug. 1905, p. 1, chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85049554/1904-05-06. Accessed 20 Nov. 2022.

The orphans' home was opened to any dependent and neglected children under the age of twelve, with emotional or mental problems in the mid- 1960's. In 1975, after more than a century of service, the homes were closed. After reading this newspaper article, we were able to better understand Annie's impact on children.

“Wittenmyer Tireless Advocate for Civil War's Sick, Wounded.” *The Rock Island Argus*. 09, July. 2011.

newspapers.com/image/436447071/?terms=annie%20wittenmyer%20soldier%20hospitals&match=1. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

In August of 1863, Annie Wittenmyer visited the four hospitals in Helena with her secretary, Mary Shelton, and there they found around 2,000 sick or wounded soldiers. When the women in the Keokuk Ladies Soldiers Aid Society saw the situation in Helena, they used some supplies that were intended for Vicksburg hospitals, to give to Helena. This source helped us with understanding how Annie made a difference.

Papers

John C. Kennedy. "Race, Civil War Memory, and Sisterhood in the Woman's Relief Corps."

vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/bitstream/handle/10919/72932/Kennedy_Race_Civil_War_Memory_and_Sisterhood_in_the_Womans_Relief_Corps.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y. Accessed 14 Dec. 2022.

At the Woman's Relief Corps's eighth annual national convention, Annie Wittenmyer, the president, stood before the assembled delegates. In her speech she said, "It seems to me that the question in the Women's Relief Corps should not be: whether a woman's face is black or white, but whether her heart is white and loyal, and her life is pure and generous." This source showed us how involved Annie was in equality for people interested in joining the WRC.

Websites

“A Home for Soldiers’s Orphans.” *Teaching Iowa History.*

teachingiowahistory.org/virtual-exhibits/a-home-for-soldiers-orphans.

Accessed 14 Nov. 2022.

We learned about what led to the start of the Annie Wittenmyer Home. She started raising money and sending food to help aid military hospitals, but soon she turned her attention to the orphans. Annie could see that the orphaned children of the soldiers were struggling, so she decided to help them by starting the Iowa Soldiers’ Orphans’ Home. We improved our project by using this to help write the conclusion for our script.

“Annie Turner Wittenmyer.” *Britannica.*

[britannica.com/biography/Annie-Turner-Wittenmyer](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Annie-Turner-Wittenmyer). Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Annie had many accomplishments, some being a relief worker and reformer during the Civil War. Also, after the war she “worked on behalf of the Iowa Orphans’ Home Association.” We used this source for our script, talking about her accomplishments, and how she opened orphan homes.

“Annie Turner Wittenmyer.” *Military Wiki.*

military-history.fandom.com/wiki/Annie_Turner_Wittenmyer. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Mrs. Wittenmyer helped in the war by being a nurse, and traveling to military hospitals. During the war, she created orphan homes in Iowa, including the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home, which was later renamed the Annie Wittenmyer Home. We gained information from this source to help create one of our scenes, and help with our conclusion.

“Annie Turner Wittenmyer Sculpture.” *University of Northern Iowa (UNI).*

scua.library.uni.edu/university-archives/outdoor-sculptures/annie-turner-wittenmyer-sculpture-1. Accessed 20 Nov. 2022.

The Annie Wittenmyer sculpture, located on UNI’s campus since April 20th, 1996, is described in this source. Around the base of the sculpture, there are seven tablets engraved with Annie’s achievements. This source helped us understand how much Mrs. Wittenmyer was greatly appreciated.

"Annie Wittenmyer (1827-1900) - Find a Grave..." *Find a Grave - Millions of Cemetery Records,*

www.findagrave.com/memorial/7477341/annie-wittenmyer. Accessed 8 Jan. 2023.

A picture of Annie is included in this source, and it also talks about many of the heroic things she did. She was a social Reformer, organized the local soldiers' aid societies, was appointed State Sanitary Agent by the Iowa Legislature, as well as served as National President of the W.C.T.U, and established the Woman's Relief Corps. This gave us background information on Annie Wittenmyer, which helped us form her character development.

"Annie Wittenmyer." *History of American Women,* 5 Apr. 2007.

womenhistoryblog.com/2007/04/annie-wittenmyer.html. Accessed 11 Nov. 2022.

Because of Annie Wittenmyer's help in the war, an approximate total of 160,000 dollars worth of supplies were received. Along with that, she lobbied a bill that would grant pensions to former civil war nurses. We used this source to help us write a scene in our script.

"Annie Wittenmyer" *Iowa Women's Hall of Fame.*

state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/iafame-wittenmyer.html Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

Annie became concerned about sanitation for the wounded soldiers and cleanliness of the food when she was living in Keokuk, Iowa. She then worked throughout the war to improve sanitary conditions. Later she spent time working at the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home. The information given in this source helped us write our script, where we talk about the hospital conditions.

"Annie Wittenmyer." *Iowa Department of Human Rights.*

humanrights.iowa.gov/annie-wittenmyer. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

While living in Keokuk, Iowa, Annie Wittenmyer first became concerned about the cleanliness of the food served to the soldiers and the hospital sanitation, during the Civil War. She spent most of her time at the Iowa's Soldiers' Orphans' Home that started in Farmington, IA in 1864, but later moved to Davenport. Much of our script was written based off of this source, as we used it to help write many scenes.

“Annie Wittenmyer.” *Visit Quad Cities.*

visitquadcities.com/content/famous-faces. Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Mrs. Wittenmyer was “a strong advocate for the sick and wounded in army hospitals.” She was concerned about the welfare of the Civil War orphans and she eventually convinced Governor Kirkwood to start homes for the orphans. She founded the first orphans' home in Davenport, IA in 1865. In our conclusion we talk about how Annie was a great part of healthcare today, and how she also created orphan homes for children.

"Annie Wittenmyer." *Pennsylvania Center for the Book.*

pabook.libraries.psu.edu/literary-cultural-heritage-map-pa/bios/Wittenmyer__Annie. Accessed 11 Nov. 2022.

A few of the organizations that Annie Wittenmyer started, as well as a few of the books and poems she wrote, one of them being the “Ladies’ and Pastor’s Christian Union,” were talked about in this source. We read some of those poems, and one of her books. The book helped us form her character in our project.

“Biography: Annie Turner Wittenmyer.”

pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/biography/grant-wittenmyer/pscrlybrys=b11c4das. Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

After Annie's husband passed away, she became very wealthy, so she chose to invest her money and labors in the war effort. In 1863, Annie became president of the Iowa State Commission, and received a pension at the age of 71, dying only two years later on February 2, 1900. In our script we talk about how Annie used some of her own money to help with the supplies for the sick and wounded.

Burns, Stanley B. "Civil War-Era Hospitals." *Civil War-Era Hospitals | Behind the Lens: A History in Pictures | Essays and Photos Courtesy of The Burns Archive | Mercy Street | PBS, PBS,*

pbs.org/mercy-street/uncover-history/behind-lens/hospitals-civil-war/?scrllybrkr=5a7a3f4f. Accessed 28 Nov. 2022.

Surgeries were "routine for the day" in a Civil War hospital. Many soldiers that had infectious wounds or other injuries, went straight to the operating room to help them get better. We were able to understand more about the military hospitals during the Civil War from this source.

"Civil War Casualties." *American Battlefield Trust*, 24 Aug. 2021, battlefields.org/learn/articles/civil-war-casualties. Accessed 30 Nov. 2022

During the Civil War, women worked very hard to help the soldiers. Almost thirty thousand soldiers were injured or died, forcing many women into working overtime. This helped our project because we used it to help write our script when talking about the women and the many things they did to help in the war.

"Civil War Women: Annie Turner Wittenmyer, Diet Kitchen." *Sandra Merville Hart*, 7 Apr. 2019, sandramervillehart.wordpress.com/2019/03/07/civil-war-women-annie-turner-wittenmyer-diet-kitchen/. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer created the Diet Kitchens for injured and sick soldiers. She wanted to ensure better meals would be prepared and fed to the soldiers. The women would prepare the meals, to fit the needs of the soldiers. This was crucial information for our heart of the story scenes.

"Country Facts and Folklore By Andy Reddick." *Van Buren County Iowa Genealogy*.

iavanburen.org/FactsAndFolklore/AnniesOrphans.htm. Accessed 11 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer was very helpful to soldiers and their families. She helped form schools for children, helped with military hospitals, and created orphan homes. We used this information for our conclusion scene.

"Details Page - The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa - The University of Iowa Libraries." *University of Iowa Press Digital Editions*, uiopress.lib.uiowa.edu/bdi/DetailsPage.aspx?id=415. Accessed 14 Nov. 2022.

Valuable information was given to us on the orphan homes Annie opened in Davenport, Cedar Falls, and Glendale, Iowa. The Cedar Falls and Glendale locations were closed in the mid 1870's. The Cedar Falls facility later became a school that is part of University of Northern Iowa.

"Everyday Life in a Civil War Hospital." *American Battlefield Trust*, 25 Mar. 2021, battlefields.org/learn/articles/everyday-life-civil-war-hospital. Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

Two types of hospitals were used during the Civil War, field hospitals and general hospitals, and they were extremely understaffed and very unsanitary. "The smell is horrible," said a woman, whose house was converted into a hospital. The information gave us a better idea as to what the conditions were like in the hospitals.

Gaul, Alma. "Who/What Is Annie Wittenmyer?" *The Quad-City Times*, 28 May 2012,

[qctimes.com/who-what-is-annie-wittenmyer/article_d36f7496-a93e-11e1-ad9e-001a4bcf887a.html](https://www.qctimes.com/who-what-is-annie-wittenmyer/article_d36f7496-a93e-11e1-ad9e-001a4bcf887a.html). Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

The orphan homes are still used today, although they have been renovated. The size of the kitchen was tripled, the dining hall was reinstalled, and offices were created. They made such an impact, even on today's world. This shows the long term impact Annie Wittenmyer's work had on orphan homes.

"Grave of Temperance Leader Sarah 'Annie' Wittenmyer to Get Historic Plaque in Pottstown." *Reading Eagle*, 22 Aug. 2021,

www.readingeagle.com/2017/08/05/grave-of-temperance-leader-sarah-annie-wittenmyer-to-get-historic-plaque-in-pottstown/. Accessed 13 Dec. 2022.

We learned that Annie's Special Diet Kitchens saved many soldiers' lives, as well as permanently changed the feeding of injured soldiers' in military hospitals. Annie also started the Women's Temperance Union. In our final scene, we show how patient's diets are still personalized today.

Grabowski, Amelia. "Civilian Organizations Aided The Union War Effort."

***National Museum of Civil War Medicine*, 10 Dec. 2020,
www.civilwarmed.org/commissions/.**

The Sanitary Commission helped during the war, by devising a new "pavilion" layout for military hospitals that minimized the spread of disease. The group was also very involved in gathering supplies donated by home-front societies. This gave us information on one of the groups that helped raise money and supplies for Annie's cause.

"History of Iowa From the Earliest Times to the Beginning of the Twentieth Century/4/Annie T. Wittenmyer - Wikisource, the Free Online Library."

***Wikisource, the Free Library*, History.com Editors. "Woman's Christian Temperance Union."**

en.wikisource.org/wiki/History_of_Iowa_From_the_Earliest_Times_to_the_Beginning_of_the_Twentieth_Century/4/Annie_T._Wi. Accessed 17 Dec. 2022.

In 1861, Annie Wittenmyer visited the soldiers, and began collecting and distributing supplies for camps and hospitals. When she found armies camped in unsafe places, she would get the camp moved to a healthier location, saving many lives. This showed what caused her to become inspired to improve hospital conditions.

**"Iowa Civil War Monuments." *Iowa Civil War Monuments*,
www.iowacivilwarmonuments.com/cgi-bin/gaarddetails.pl?1236628841~2. Accessed
20 Dec. 2022.**

Information in this source was given on how Annie Wittenmyer is most known for her founding of the diet kitchens. General Grant said, "No soldier on the front line gave more heroic service than she rendered." We used this powerful quote in the conclusion of our performance.

**LaRocca, Lauren, and The Frederick News-Post, Md. "Civil War-style,
Nondenominational Church Service." *Yahoo Finance - Stock Market Live, Quotes,
Business & Finance News*, 24 Sep. 2021,
finance.yahoo.com/news/civil-war-style-nondenominational-church-231900627.
Accessed 20 Dec. 2022.**

One of Annie Wittenmyer's contributions was caring for wounded soldiers under enemy fire. Another contribution she made was pushing to install special dietary kitchens in military hospitals.

**"Iowa's Annie Wittenmyer: A Different Kind of Civil War Soldier." *The
University of Iowa*. uiowa.edu/~humiova/differentsoldier.html. Accessed 20 Nov.
2022.**

We learned that Annie Wittenmyer was very important to the soldiers in the Civil War. General Ulysses Grant, commander of the Union army said, "No soldier on the firing line gave more heroic service than she rendered." We also learned that Annie Wittenmyer started a free school for poor children in Keokuk, Iowa.

**"Iowa Pathways." *Iowa PBS*.
[iowapbs.org/iowapathways/artifacts?field_art_m
edia_type_value=All&combine=](http://iowapbs.org/iowapathways/artifacts?field_art_media_type_value=All&combine=). Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.**

This timeline was very helpful in our understanding of some background events that were happening during Annie's work in military hospitals. We learned that in 1864, during the civil war, Annie created diet kitchens to provide food and rest for wounded soldiers, and then later opened a home for Civil War orphans. We used the information to help write our script.

"Ontario Civil War Nurse Had to Fight to Get Recognition for Wartime Service." *Press Enterprise*, 26 Sept. 2017, pressenterprise.com/2017/09/25/ontario-civil-war-nurse-had-to-fight-to-get-recognition-for-wartime-service/. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

Annie formed kitchens called "diet kitchens" during the Civil War, where soldiers would get meals fit to their needs. Women would prepare the food for them, including any of the special nutrients they needed. Through Annie's work, hospitals and meal plans were improved, which saved many lives.

"Ontario Civil War Nurse Had to Fight to Get Recognition for Wartime Service." *Daily Bulletin*, 26 Sept. 2017, dailybulletin.com/2017/09/25/ontario-civil-war-nurse-had-to-fight-to-get-recognition-for-wartime-service/. Accessed 20 Dec. 2022.

Before Annie Wittenmyer, there were poor food options for wounded soldiers. After Wittenmyer's work with the Christian Commission, military hospitals started serving healthy, well-prepared meals to patients. This helped our project by helping us understand the importance of diet nurses and how they helped patients.

"Portrait: Sarah "Annie" Turner Wittenmyer." 13 May 2016. timelinesmagazine.com/publication/citizens_companion/portrait-sarah-annie-turner-wittenmyer/article_325cda37-1e09-50f2-8514-0bc114c4d339.html. Accessed 19 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer was concerned about the welfare of soldiers' orphans. We learned that in October of 1863, she held a convention of all the Aid Societies in Iowa, where she introduced the idea of an orphans' home. This helped us gather information for our fifth scene, where we talk about her home in Farmington, Iowa.

Robert, Reilley F. "Medical and surgical care during the American Civil War, 1861-1865" *National Library of Medicine*. ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4790547/. Accessed 28 Nov. 2022.

Nurses and doctors worked on many soldiers with wounds that needed surgical attention. Oftentimes, they would work anywhere from forty-eight hours to seventy-two hours without rest. This source helped us understand how much women worked during the war to assist the soldiers.

"Sarah Ann Turner Wittenmyer." *Welcome to HymnTime.com*, www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/w/i/t/t/wittenmeyer_sat.htm. Accessed 8 Jan. 2023.

Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer wrote her first poem at the age of 12. When her husband passed away in 1860, she joined the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society. In 1874, she became the first president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

**"The Wittenmyer Diet." *WVIK, Quad Cities NPR, 25 Apr. 2022,*
wvik.org/2022-04-25/the-wittenmyer-diet. Accessed 17 Dec. 2022.**

To set up a special diet kitchen for sick, and injured soldiers, Annie Wittenmyer had to convince the government. We learned that her idea had two women prepare meals for each patient, according to the doctor's orders, which helped the death rate drop dramatically. After reading this source, we were able to better understand Annie's idea.

"The Annie Wittenmyer Home: A History of the Annie Wittenmyer Complex." *Micheal Flores.nnbac.wikispares.com/ThetAnnieWittenmyerHome?responseToken-0509331716bb775c14ff62d733b7d9do* Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

People still visit Annie Wittenmyer's house today. Her house in Davenport is a landmark, and a symbol of individuals stepping up for children. This source helped us better understand the long-term impact that Annie Wittenmyer made, especially since people still visit her house today.

**"The Inhospitable Hospital: Gender and Professional in Civil War Medicine."
The University of Chicago Press Journal.
journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/494734?journalCode=signs. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.**

American Women were enthusiastic to support medical efforts during the Civil War, which helped us better understand women's role in the war. We learned that they used their homes, schools, and churches for medical and sanitary supplies that they received from generous organizations. Also, over twenty thousand women worked in the military hospitals of the Confederacy and the Union, to earn a living.

**"Sarah Ann Turner Wittenmyer." 13 Dec. 2016. *Hymn Time.*
hymntime.com/tch/bio/w/i/t/t/wittenmeyer_sat.htm. Accessed 19 Nov. 2022.**

Annie Wittenmyer's life was summarized well in this source, which was very helpful for our project. She moved to Keokuk, Iowa in 1850 with her husband William Wittenmyer, who later passed away, leaving his fortune to Annie. Also, in 1874, Annie became the first president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and the national president of the Women's Relief Corps.

**"The Annie Wittenmyer Home." 10 Nov. 2016. *Davenport Public Library.*
[Davenportlibrary.com](http://davenportlibrary.com). Accessed 20 Nov. 2022.**

By the end of the Civil War ,13,589 men were left dead, and many more were sick or badly wounded. This source was helpful for our project by providing information about how Annie Wittenmyer started a few orphan homes in hopes to aid these families.

"The Truth Will Out: Annie Wittenmyer." *Primary*

***Selections from Special Collections*, 13 Oct. 2022,**

blogs.davenportlibrary.com/sc/2022/10/13/the-truth-will-out-annie-wittenmyer/.

Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer passed away at her homestead in Sanatoge, Pennsylvania, in 1900. She was a widow that had to provide for her son, but still had an enormous sense of empathy and desire to improve the quality of life for soldiers. This source was very helpful while we were learning about Annie Wittenmyer and her achievements.

SCblogger. "What's in a Name? The Annie Wittenmyer Home." *Primary*

***Selections from Special Collections*, 16 Nov. 2012.**

blogs.davenportlibrary.com/sc/2012/11/15/whats-in-a-name-the-annie-wittenmyer-home/. Accessed 22 Nov. 2022.

In this source we learned that the first Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home was opened in Farmington, Iowa, in 1865. The home was extremely overcrowded with orphans, due to the death of 13,500 Iowa soldiers. Scene five in our script mentions Annies Farmington house.

"The Orphans of Oakdale Cemetery." 3 Oct. 2008. *Davenport Library*.

blogs.davenportlibrary.com/sc/2008/10/13/the-orphans-of-oakdale-cemetery/.

Accessed 19 Nov. 2022.

On November 11, 1865, more than 150 orphaned children traveled on a steamboat from the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home in Farmington, Iowa, to the new home in Camp Kinsman, a deserted Civil War training camp located in Davenport. As we wrote our script, we learned about Annie's orphans homes, and we used this source to help us.

"United States Christian Commission." *Tennessee Encyclopedia*.

tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/united-states-christian-commission/. Accessed 20 Dec. 2022.

In Nashville, many volunteers served as nurses in military hospitals, and contributed to "the Special Diet Kitchen Service and the Lending Library System." In the kitchens, army cooks, "prepared more hospital diets under the watchful supervision of commission women." In scene three, we use facts from this website while talking about the diet kitchens.

"Wittenmyer, Annie Turner (1827–1900)." *Encyclopedia.com* | *Free Online Encyclopedia.*

[encyclopedia.com/women/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/wittenmyer-annie-turner-1827-1900](https://www.encyclopedia.com/women/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/wittenmyer-annie-turner-1827-1900). Accessed 14 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer took actions to provide medical supplies for soldiers in the Civil War. She also started the first free school in Iowa, allowing poor children to get an education. The information about the schools that Annie started helped us get a better understanding on how well Annie cared for others.

"Wittenmyer, Annie, 1827-1900." *The University of Iowa Libraries: Special Collections.* space.lib.uiowa.edu/agents/people/4394. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

Mrs. Wittenmyer, "inherited a large sum of money following the death of her husband, and she used her fortune to fund the education of hundreds of children in Keokuk, Iowa." She became a state sanitary agent for Iowa in 1862, and changed the way dietary kitchens worked. This showed how much Annie Wittenmyer worked to help children.

Articles

"Annie Turner Wittenmyer." *PBS.*

[pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/grant-wittenmyer/](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/grant-wittenmyer/). Accessed 15 Nov. 2022.

Wittenmyer launched a statewide system for collecting supplies for the war while she was secretary of her local Soldiers' Aid Society. The details in this article helped us with our build up scene. Also, Annie was appointed President of the Iowa State Sanitary Commission in 1863.

"Annie Wittenmyer." *The Palimpsest.*

pubs.lib.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/article/id/23708/. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

Since Annie Wittenmeyer was the executive secretary of the Keokuk society, she was assigned the task of finding the needs of soldiers in camps and hospitals, so that state aid could be handled better. Before Annie's idea of dietary plans, all soldiers had been fed the same food, but after her plan was implemented, soldiers received foods that were recommended by their doctors. This source gave valuable information about Annie Wittenmyer's idea of dietary plans.

"A Woman with a Mission- Before Moving to Area, Annie Wittenmyer Was 'Famous' Throughout the Civil War." *The Mercury*, 24 Sept. 2021, pottsmmerc.com/2003/01/13/a-woman-with-a-mission-before-moving-to-area-annie-wittenmyer-was-famous-throughout-the-civil-war/. Accessed 22 Nov. 2022.

During the Civil War, camps and hospitals were established near Wittenmyer's own home. When she went to visit a military hospital in Sedalia, Missouri, she found one of her own brothers injured. We used many facts from this article In our third scene.

Carlson, Victoria. "The Goldfinch Iowa History for Young People." *ERIC*, Nov. 1987. files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED294787.pdf. Accessed 20 Nov. 2022.

Annie Wittenmyer became the leader in the Soldiers' Aid Society of Keokuk. The Iowa General Assembly gave her the job of State Sanitary Agent, so she had to distribute large amounts of food and supplies to the soldiers, as well as solve many problems. The article was very helpful for writing our first meeting at the church in our script.

"Civil War Begins." *Senate.gov*. senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/Civil_War_Begins.htm. Accessed 12 Dec. 2022.

Fort Sumter was attacked on April 12, 1861, by the Confederate troops. Thirty-four hours after the "battle" started, the Union forces surrendered. We used information from this source for our opening scene, where we talk about the Civil War.

Guinn, Lisa. "Annie Wittenmyer and Nineteenth Century Women's Usefulness." pubs.lib.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/article/6134/galley/114936/view/. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

On January 23, 1864, Annie Wittenmyer wrote to William Stone, Iowa's Governor, asking for more duties to be included in her responsibilities as Iowa State Sanitary Agent. We also learned that for many of the women, the Civil War offered opportunities where they could, "experience independence and usefulness as part of a new self-identity." In our project, we mention how dedicated Annie Wittenmyer was to the soldiers during the war.

"History." *Davenport Junior Theatre*. davenportjuniortheatre.org/history-djt. Accessed 8 Dec. 2022.

Before Annie's diet kitchens, soldiers' meals consisted of pork, beans, coffee, and bread, afterwards, the meals became prescribed for each soldier, so that the soldiers were getting the right nutrients. These kitchens continued to be used after the war. Most of our information in our long-term scene was included in this source.

“Iowa: A Free but Complicit State to Slavery.” *IDCA*.

iowaculture.gov/history/education/educator-resources/primary-source-sets/civil-war. Accessed 7 Dec. 2022.

Most Iowans didn't support slavery, so when the Kansas-Nebraska Act was passed, allowing Nebraska to become a slave state, Iowans were very upset. “The Republican Party emerged strongly opposed to any further extension of slavery into western territories.” Our background scene used much of this information because it helped explain where Iowa stood in the war.

“Iowa In the Civil War.” *Iowa PBS*.

iowapbs.org/iowapathways/mypath/2699/iowa-civil-war. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

Though not many battles were fought in Iowa, many Iowans still fought for the Union. During the war, Annie Wittenmyer helped improve the hospitals for Union soldiers by “organizing shipments of supplies and demanding better medical treatment from army doctors.” This source helped us greatly to understand more about Iowa's role in the Civil War.

McPherson, James. “A Brief Overview of the American Civil War.” *American Battlefield Trust*, 20 Nov. 2008.

battlefields.org/learn/articles/brief-overview-american-civil-war. Accessed 14 Dec. 2022.

This source gave us a short summary of the Civil War. “The Civil War started because of uncompromising differences between the free and slave states over the power of the national government to prohibit slavery in the territories that had not yet become states.” We used this background information for our first scene in our performance.

“Medical Improvements in the Civil War and Their Effect on Modern Military Medicine.” *National Museum of Civil War Medicine*, 9 Nov. 2016.

civilwarmed.org/surgeons-call/modern/. Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

“Most of the major medical advances of the Civil War were in organization and technique, rather than medical breakthroughs.” Many hospitals had poor conditions rather than bad doctors and surgeons. This information was very helpful towards our project because it gave more background knowledge about the state of military hospitals.

Rood, Lee, and The Des Moines Register. "The Des Moines Register." *DES*, 21 Sept. 2014,

[desmoinesregister.com/story/news/investigations/readers-watchdog/2014/09/21/five-siblings-abandoned-reunited/15998149/](https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/investigations/readers-watchdog/2014/09/21/five-siblings-abandoned-reunited/15998149/). Accessed 19 Dec. 2022.

A family had been sent to the Annie Wittenmyer Orphan Home located in Davenport, Iowa, when their mother abandoned them. This shows that not only did Annie care about the soldier's children, she cared about other children as well. We used this information to understand more about Annie's orphans homes.

Schwieder, Dorothy. "History of Iowa." *Iowa Official Register*.

publications.iowa.gov/135/1/history/7-1.html. Accessed 30 Nov. 2022.

After Annie Wittenmyer visited her brother in a Union army hospital, she saw the conditions he was in, and objected to the food served to the patients. Annie explained, "no one could get well on greasy bacon and cold coffee." Information from this article was used for writing our heart of the story scenes.

Theresa R. McDevitt "A Melody Before Unknown: The Civil War Experiences of Mary and Amanda."

pubs.lib.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/article/id/14482/. Accessed 14 Dec. 2022.

During the Civil War, thousands of soldiers were wounded in battle and had life-threatening illnesses that were likely spread from Union hospitals, "too often unsanitary and impersonal, and nearly always dreaded by patients." Annie Wittenmyer set off to determine the needs of Iowa troops based on their conditions. After reading this article, we were able to understand more about how other women helped some of the same organizations as Annie.

"The Day the Civil War Orphans Arrived in the Quad-Cities." *Quad-City Times*, Nov. 16, 2015.

[qctimes.com/news/local/the-day-the-civil-war-orphans-arrived-in-the-quad/article_e4d2ae88-3df7-58ff-8a39-1f812f4ef7od.html](https://www.qctimes.com/news/local/the-day-the-civil-war-orphans-arrived-in-the-quad/article_e4d2ae88-3df7-58ff-8a39-1f812f4ef7od.html). Accessed 21 Nov. 2022.

The first orphans to be housed at the Annie Wittenmyer House in Davenport, arrived on November 16, 1865, and they arrived on a steamboat from another orphanage in Farmington, Iowa. The previous orphanage had been "ridiculously overcrowded" and that is why they sent some of the orphans over to the Annie Wittenmyer Home. When talking about Annie's short term impact on the orphans of Iowa soldiers, we used this source.

"The Estate House Hospital." *Palimpsest*.

pubs.lib.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/article/id/25263/download/pdf/. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

At the Estate House, Annie Wittenmyer received credit for correcting the diet of the soldiers in the hospitals in 1862. It sheltered hundreds of wounded men brought from the southern battlefields. In our scene located in Sedalia, we use details from this article.

Tweet, Roald. "Annie Wittenmyer." *WVIK, Quad Cities NPR*, 8 Oct.

2020. wvik.org/community/2020-10-08/annie-wittenmyer. Accessed 14 Nov. 2022.

Reading this article gave us valuable background information that helped with our performance. We learned that, "using her position as Iowa State Sanitary Agent, she visited Iowa Governor Samuel Kirkwood and convinced him to establish homes for children orphaned by the War." It also informed us on how the home was supposed to be like, "a community within a community."

"Wittenmyer, Annie, 1827-1900." *Explore - Social Networks and Archival*

***Context*, snaccooperative.org/ark:/99166/w6b60hkt. Accessed 22 Nov. 2022.**

Annie Wittenmyer organized the Keokuk Ladies Aid Society and began visiting military camps and hospitals in April of 1861. Wittenmyer ran the diet kitchen operations, which grew to over 100 kitchens in military hospitals. Reading this article helped us understand how Annie Wittenmyer's idea improved military hospitals.

"Women Take Charge of the Home Front." *IDCA*.

iowaculture.gov/history/education/educator-resources/primary-source-sets/civil-war. Accessed 13 Dec. 2022.

During the Civil War, women worked to provide clothing, food, and medical supplies for the troops. "Annie Wittenmyer of Keokuk became a national leader in improving conditions for the sick and wounded in Union hospitals." We used this information for our third scene, where we talk about how women helped during the war.

"160 Years Ago Today, the Civil War Came to Iowa When the Battle of Athens

Spilled Across the Des Moines River." *Des Moines Register*, 5 Aug. 2021.

desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/columnists/iowa-view/2021/08/05/civil-war-battle-athens-croton-iowa-anniversary/5486179001/. Accessed 6 Dec. 2022.

The Battle of Athens was fought in Athens, Missouri and Croton, Iowa. This battle happened very early in the Civil War, and was, "between militia units rather than regular Union and Confederate troops." This source helped us gather background information for our project.