Creating an Exhibit

The Historical Section of the Farm Security Administration often put together photo exhibits. Exhibits were a form of advocacy education. The exhibits were designed by the Special Skills Division and the Historical Section of the Information Division. The exhibits fell into three groups: large scale exhibits for expositions; exhibits for smaller conferences, conventions and meetings; and a standard panel exhibit covering the programs of the agency. They were designed to be easily handled and shipped and adaptable for presentation under varying conditions. They were reproduced for each region. Exhibits were shown at county fairs, libraries, and other types of local meetings, such as 4H Clubs. Exhibits were also reproduced as an under the arm photographic portfolio for individual travel by county employees. Students can use their own camera or be provided with a disposable one. They can develop their own shooting script similar to the ones Roy Stryker provided to the Farm Security photographers. The students can then photograph people, places, and events in their own community and create a photo exhibit. The exhibit can be open to the public or even put online as an archival project.