Step 2 of the Novelist badge is to “[c]reate great characters.”

Characters are the heart of a great novel. If you have a story concept already, keep that in mind during this step. If not, build your characters and see what happens. Many novelists start with characters, and then figure out what should happen to them – and a story idea blooms from there.

Option 1 says to let real people inspire your characters. Explore the History Center for inspiration, using the list below as a guide. Then, create a character profile for three real people. If you don’t know all of the answers, make your best guess. Try exaggerating some qualities of real people to create more fascinating fictional characters.

If you find another historic Pittsburgher that you would like to use in your story, go for it!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Exhibit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Heinz</td>
<td>Senator John Heinz: A Western Pennsylvania Legacy, 1st floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Aliquippa</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Foster</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Jackson Rodman</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Westinghouse</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bertha Lamme</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nellie Bly</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crystal Eastman</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Berkman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Carnegie</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Bolden</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<td>George Marshall</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonas Salk</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Carson</td>
<td>Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Rogers</td>
<td>Special Collections Gallery, 4th floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.J. Heinz</td>
<td>Heinz, 4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Delany</td>
<td>From Slavery to Freedom, 4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanaghrisson</td>
<td>Clash of Empires, 5th floor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Character Profile for

What are this person’s hobbies?

What is this person most ashamed of?

What is this person most proud of?

Is this person a parent? A sibling? A grandparent?

What makes this person happy?

What makes this person sad?

What makes this person angry?

Who does this person love the most?

Who does this person dislike the most?

Does this person have a job? If so, what does this person do?

Does this person go to school? If so, what grade is this person in?

What is this person’s secret ambition?

What is this person’s best childhood memory?

What is this person’s worst childhood memory?

Does this person have a plan for the future?
Character Profile for

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