### Online supplemental materials

3 supplemental figures and 5 movies.

Figure S1, related to Figure 1. Figure S2, related to Figure 3. Figure S3, related to Figure 4. Movies S1-2, related to Figure 2. Movies S3-5, related to Figure 3.

# **FIGURE S1**



### Figure S1, related to Figure 1.

(A) Replicated mitotic chromosomes from mock- and H1M-depleted extracts. Paired sisters are visible along the length of the chromosomes and paired kinetochores (BubR1) are frequently observed. Addition of 1  $\mu$ M H1M restores morphology and anti-H1M immunofluorescence.

(B) Partial rescue of H1M-depleted chromosome morphology by 0.4  $\mu$ M H1M. To illustrate the normal variability among chromosome dimensions, three conditions from Figure 1B are shown as a scatter plot of individual chromosome morphologies instead of averages. Also shown are P-values (unpaired t-test) for length differences between the populations.

(C) Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE gel of recombinant, 6XHistidine-tagged X. tropicalis H1M, H10, and H1A proteins (M, 0, A) and corresponding anti-6XHistidine immunoblot of egg extract supplemented with each of the proteins.

(D) Representative images (left) and morphological quantification (right) of mitotic chromosomes assembled in H1M-depleted extracts. 1.3  $\mu$ M recombinant Xenopus H1A or calf thymus H1 (ctH1) fails to rescue the phenotype. Scale bars, 10  $\mu$ m; error bars, standard error.

## **FIGURE S2**



(A) Anti-H1M and anti-H1A Western blots of whole embryos during X. laevis development. Embryos were extracted in RIPA buffer and the soluble fraction was resuspended in SDS-PAGE sample buffer. Transcription initiates at stage 8.

(B) H1M and H1A immunofluorescence in somatic cells. Embryos were paraformaldehyde-fixed, cryosectioned, and stained using isoform-specific antibodies. Prior to the mid-blastula transition (St7), only H1M localizes to mitotic chromosomes. In gastrulae (St12), H1A localizes brightly while H1M appears reduced due to dilution of the maternal pool. Bar, 10  $\mu$ m.

(C) Absolute H1:DNA fluorescence intensities of H1A-GFP wild-type versus non-phosphorylatable (AA), or phosphomimetic (EE) mutants expressed in embryos from Figure 3D. A significant difference between H1A-AA and the other two conditions is observed during anaphase (ANA) but not interphase (INT). Values are ± standard error.

(D) Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) curves for H1A wild-type, non-phosphorylatable (AA), and phosphomimetic (EE) mutant. The AA mutant recovers much more rapidly and to a greater final extent than wild-type or EE, indicating a shorter residence time and larger mobile fraction. Representative time-lapse images for H1A-GFP and H1A-AA-GFP are shown at bottom (Bar, 1  $\mu$ m). Five or more FRAP curves were averaged for each timepoint and plotted. Error bars, standard error.

**FIGURE S3** 



#### Figure S3, related to Figure 4.

(A) Top: Domain structure of H10/H1M chimeras shown in schematic. Bottom: Coomassie-stained gel showing associated protein profiles for H1M, H10, and H1M/H10 chimeric GST fusion proteins retrieved from mitotic egg extracts. Both chimeras showed higher affinity for importin  $\beta$ /RanBP7 than H1M. Substitution of chimeras for H1M in extracts gave inconsistent results in chromosome morphology and binding assays (not shown).

(B) GST-fusion pull-downs of wild-type (WT) H1A or mutants in which consensus phosphorylation serines have been replaced with alanines (AA) or glutamic acids (EE). All interact with importin  $\beta$ /RanBP7 in a RanGTP-regulated manner. The lowest band represents a minor degradation product of the GST-tagged proteins.

(C) Model of linker histone function at interphase (left) and mitosis (right). Unlike H1M (orange), somatic H1 (green) binds a heterodimer of importin  $\beta$ /RanBP7 (pink). In interphase, high concentrations of RanGTP (light blue) cause release from the heterodimer and promote chromatin binding. At mitosis, cytoplasmic H1A exists in an equilibrium between importin- and chromatin-associated forms, dependent on RanGTP as well as multiple phosphorylation by Cdk1.