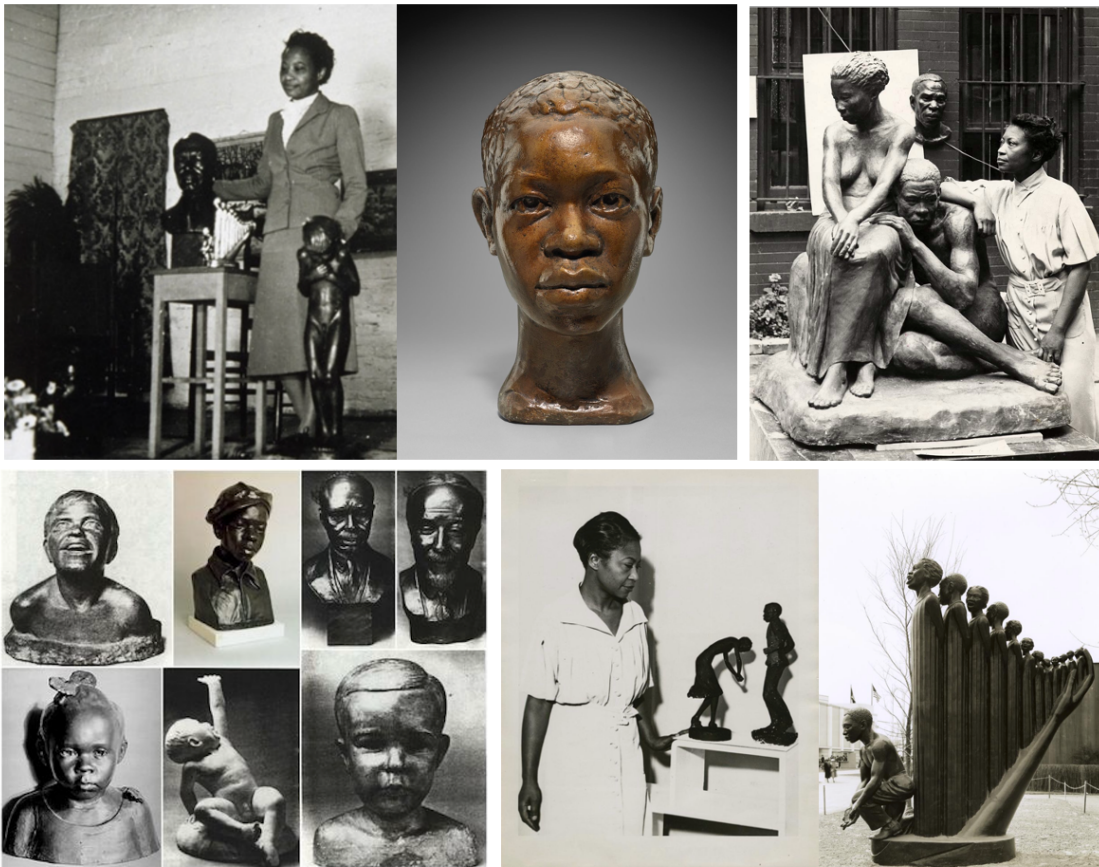


WIDE RAINBOW LESSONS: Artist Augusta Savage

ARTIST INTRO:

Augusta Savage (1892-1962) was African-American sculptor associated with the early years of the Harlem Renaissance. She was an artist, teacher, activist and community leader. Known most famously for her 16 foot sculpture *"Lift every Voice and Sing" or "the Harp"* 1937 that she was commissioned for the 1939 New York World's Fair. Savage was only Black artist to receive the commission, but after the fair she could not afford to cast it in bronze, and it was destroyed. Prior to that she attended Cooper Union art school in NYC and received grants as well as fellowship to travel in Europe. Savage studied at the Académie de la Grand Chaumière and exhibited her work in the Salon d'Automne at the Grand Palais in Paris after being initially rejected from a scholarship to Fontainebleau School of Fine Arts because she was a Black woman. In the 1932, Savage returned to New York and started *Savage Studio of Arts and Crafts*. She later became the first African-American member of the *National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors (now the National Association of Women Artists)* and worked with W.P.A Federal Arts Project to establish the *Harlem Community Art Center* becoming its first director. Savage was a champion of community-driven education. She was a voice for Black artists. Though she passed away in relative obscurity and most of her work has either been lost or destroyed, Savage inspired a generation of Black artists to succeed and her legacy lives on today.

ARTWORK:



WORKSHOP:

Let's draft and create our own new monuments in honor of Augusta Savage's lost sculpture "The Harp"...

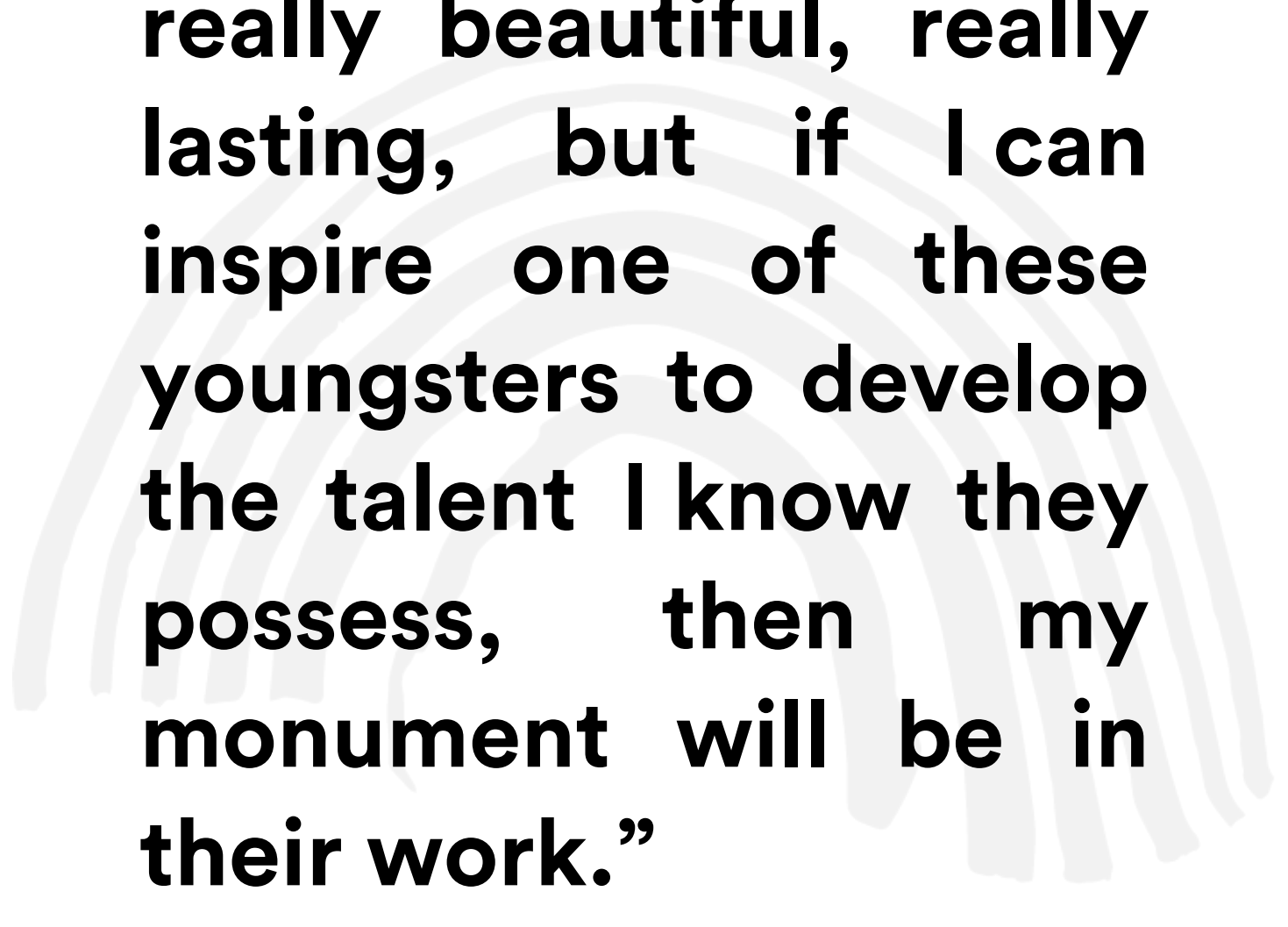
1. Imagine you were invited to participate in a World's Fair
2. What kind of monument would you create, and like to see?
3. Draw your ideas on paper with a pencil
4. Make notes about the materials, size, and the significance
5. Share the meaning of your sculpture with fellow students, friends and family

MATERIALS:

- Pencil
- Paper



Augusta Savage at work on the sculpture that would become known as “The Harp.” via The New York Public Library



“I have created nothing really beautiful, really lasting, but if I can inspire one of these youngsters to develop the talent I know they possess, then my monument will be in their work.”

-Augusta Savage



FOLLOW UP:

What does your monument mean to you?

Where in the world would you like to see your monument exist?

Why? What significance does that place have to you, to you art?

How could you bring your sculpture or monument to life?

What lasting impact do you think your sculpture could have on future generations?

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