



The Black Artist's Way



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Introduction

Historically Black artists have been excluded from creative spaces. No matter the talent, the level of recognition and respect artists received in the U.S. was heavily dependent on race. The talents we focus on in this study have all been directly impacted by the horrors of discrimination.

Project Focus: To collect photos that portrayed the artists in their glory and to hopefully tell their unique stories through the archives.

Purpose of Project:

Our mission of our project is to highlight the many Black artists who have pioneered and paved the way through their courageous, inspirational and strengthening work. In efforts to create more diversification in the classroom, we put together archives that will be included in an educational film for students.

Methods

- Conducted a case study to discover and explore the impact in American society and their contributions to Black history
- Researched scholarly museum archives and articles as well as watching documentaries and interviews to collect photos and important information regarding these subjects
- Took note of details from their lives that we found to be meaningful to our study
- Searched for non-copyrighted materials and requested access to photos of the subjects that did have copyrights

Results and Conclusions

Predicted Results

With the information that we discovered during our research we hope to recognize these artists in the way they deserve. With our results and many other researchers who are also interested in this topic, we predict that with recent traumatic events, we as society will begin to highlight the pioneers that came before us and credit them for their contributions to the art world as we know it today.

Additionally, we predict that schools with Cinematic Production Colleges will begin diversifying their colleges as well as research. This will create spaces for many students of color within the arts to have a safe space to create.

Conclusion:

All in all, The Black Artists' Way is a visualization of the brilliance that were these women. In efforts to create more diversification in the classroom, we put together archives that will be included in an educational film for students. To honor these impactful figures, we chose the photos that portrayed them in their glory as that was not always the case with the media in the age that they lived in due to racism. When it came to researching these women, it was found that there are many details missing from their stories. Although it's impossible to gather those missing pieces, we attempt to bridge the gap through photos; in hopes to tell their story how they themselves would want it told.

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Participants:



Dorothy Dandridge

Josephine Baker

Toni Morrison

Zora Neale Hurston

Lorraine Hansberry

Billie Holiday