

ART CLUB

African American Artists

Here is a look at just a couple incredible African American artists that have influenced the American art world.



ERNIE BARNES

Born in Durham, North Carolina, July 15, 1938. He loved to draw and loved art, but he grew up during the Jim Crow (segregated south) era and wasn't allowed to visit art museums. His mother was a housekeeper for a Durham attorney and took him to work with her sometimes. There he studied art books and listened to classical music. He was a shy and quiet child who was often bullied. When he reached high school he started to play football and was so good, he received a scholarship to

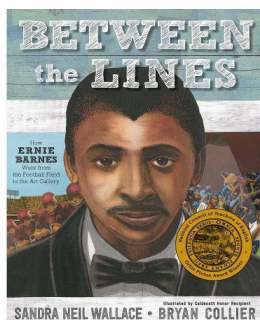
© Ernie Barnes Family Estate. attend North Carolina Collage, studying art and playing football. After graduating he played pro-football for several years and continued to paint and draw. He became one of the best sports painters in America. He went on to paint many vibrant and well known paintings about growing up in Durham, North Carolina, using his unique style.



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To learn more about Ernie Barnes, watch this video and check-out this book!:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QBj726-bwI&feature=youtu.be>



Between the Lines

How Ernie Barnes went from the football field to the Art Gallery.

by Sandra Neil Wallace

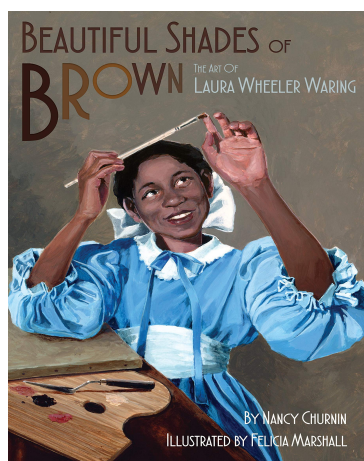
LAURA WHEELER WARING



Born May 16, 1887 in Hartford, Connecticut, her father was a pastor and her mother was a teacher and amateur artist. She grew up painting portraits of her family and dreaming about being an artist. She studied at Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and when she graduated, she was awarded a scholarship to study at the Louvre in Paris, France. Laura believed, “that paintings of great African Americans would bring distinguished

Laura Wheeler Waring educators, artists, poets, activists, and leaders the recognition they deserved so that their accomplishments wouldn't be forgotten and they could inspire new generations.” (Churnin. 2020) She went on to paint many prominent African Americans, such as opera singer Marian Anderson. Laura was an important artist in the Harlem Renaissance, she was also an educator, a writer and an advocate for art education.

To learn more about Laura Wheeler Waring check-out this book:



Singer, Marian Anderson, Laura Wheeler Waring

Beautiful Shades of Brown The Art of Laura Waring
by Nancy Churnin

Churnin, N. (2020). Beautiful Shades of Brown, The Art of Laura Waring. Creston Books: Berkeley, C.A.

LOIS MAILOU JONES

Watch this short video from,
The Spotlight about Lois Mailou Jones
and try the project below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSE4hYsX9rs>



Photo courtesy of the Lois Mailou Jones Pierre-Noël Trust, Washington, DC

Here is an art project for you to try:
Draw like Lois Mailou Jones, from Art Projects for Kids (artprojectsforkids.org)

You will need:

Paper (any paper you have to draw on)
Black Marker
Crayons

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Draw-Like-Lois-Mailou-Jones.pdf>

