

MY NMAAHC JOURNAL

THE CULTURE GALLERIES

Use this guide to **explore** the galleries. Find artifacts and stories that **interest** you and complete the following activities.

The **Culture Galleries** are on Level Four.

Let's go!



Name: _____

Date: _____

A FEW NOTES:

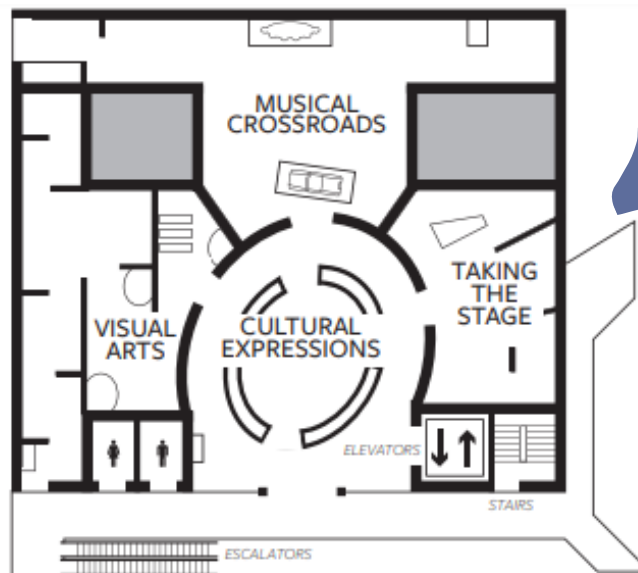
- You can complete the activities **in any order.**
- If you **need a pencil**, you can ask for one at the Welcome Desk located on the Ground Floor.

THE CULTURE GALLERIES MAP

The Visual Arts
and the American
Experience



Musical Crossroads



Taking the Stage

Cultural
Expressions



WHAT EXHIBITIONS DID I VISIT?

Check them off as you explore.

- Cultural Expressions
- Taking the Stage
- Musical Crossroads
- The Visual Arts and the American Experience



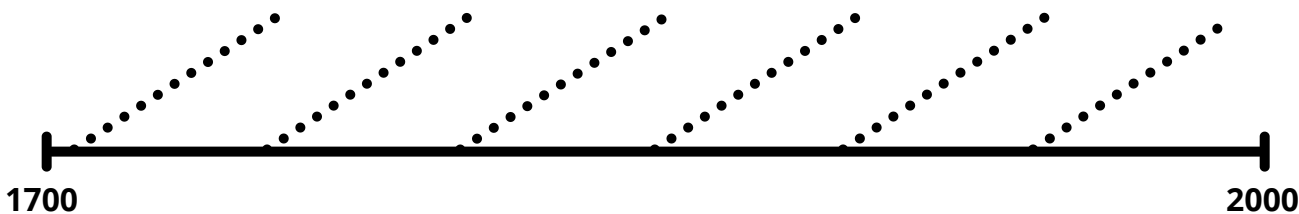
WHICH EXHIBITIONS DID YOU ENJOY THE MOST? WHY?

Return to answer this question after your visit to NMAAHC!

SEARCH THE EXHIBITIONS FOR THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING OBJECTS:

Write the dates next to each event. Next, organize the dates chronologically (in order) on the timeline.

- | | | | |
|---|-------|---|-------|
| • Big Mama Thornton singing "Hound Dog" with Buddy Guy | _____ | • Boat seat with spider web design from Ecuador | _____ |
| • <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> written by Zora Neale Hurston | _____ | • Playbill for Ira Aldridge in <i>Othello</i> and <i>The Slave</i> at the Theatre Royal | _____ |
| • <i>Ethiopia</i> sculpted by Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller | _____ | • Horse shoe candlestick crafted by blacksmith Phillip Simmons | _____ |



QUESTIONING PRIMARY SOURCES

Historians learn about history by examining primary sources, which is anything created by the historical person or anything that existed or created during that time period.

Find any primary source that you find interesting from the Culture Galleries and sketch it in the space below. Next, answer the following questions using information from the exhibition.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS?

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE SOURCE IS MADE OUT OF?

WHAT WOULD THIS SOURCE FEEL LIKE IF YOU TOUCHED IT?

DESCRIBE THIS SOURCE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE SOURCE WAS USED FOR?

WHO DO YOU THINK WOULD HAVE USED THE SOURCE?

WHAT DOES THE SOURCE TELL US ABOUT THE TIME PERIOD WHEN IT WAS MADE AND USED?

DO WE STILL USE THIS SOURCE TODAY? IF SO, HOW IS IT DIFFERENT?

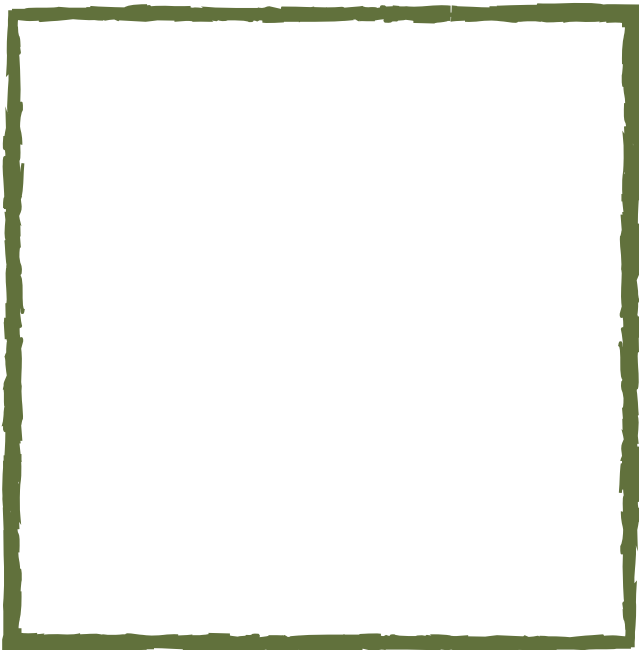
SKETCHING THE VISUAL ARTS

Go to the *Visual Art and the American Experience* exhibition. Use the spaces below to sketch a drawing and answer questions based on the prompts.

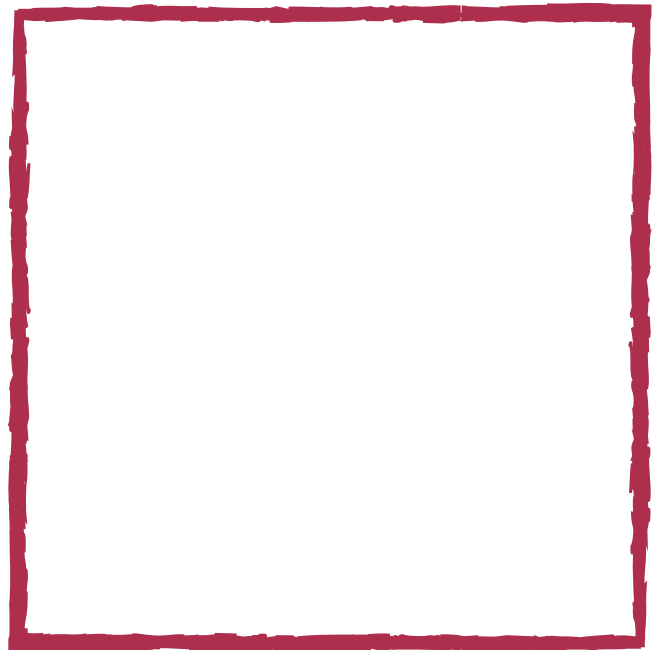
Find and sketch an artwork that appeals to you. Use the line below to record the name of the object and who created it or used it. Briefly explain why the art appeals to you.



Sketch an image of one of the sculptures that appears in the gallery. Use the line below the box to record their name.



Create art for this exhibition. Based on the theme of the exhibition, sketch an artwork that you would put into the exhibition. Remember to name your artwork!



CAUSE AND EFFECT

Go to the Musical Crossroads exhibition



Choose **one of the categories music (or genres)** as your focus. Write your choice on the following line.

List some of the factors that influenced (or impacted) the development of this genre of music. Who were some of its notable musicians?

List some of the effects the genre of music had on the African American community and vice versa.

MAKING AN ARGUMENT

Go to the Musical Crossroads exhibition

1. Choose and explore one of the categories of music (or genres) OR music history sections (category of music) as your focus.
2. Using that information, write a short paragraph sharing why you think this music genre, aspect of music history or industry was important in African American or music history.

PLACE, PERSPECTIVE, AND THE DIASPORA

Go to the *Cultural Expression* exhibition.

The African Diaspora displays are wrapped around the back and on both sides of the central seating section.

Choose three to six African countries of the Diaspora featured in the exhibition. Write each chosen country on a line. On the line below write one interesting fact you found about each place after reading the text and viewing the objects.

COUNTRY 1: _____

COUNTRY 2: _____

COUNTRY 3: _____

COUNTRY 4: _____

COUNTRY 5: _____

COUNTRY 6: _____

□ _____ □

Choose one location from the exhibition. Consider how the experiences and perspectives of persons of African descent were unique to your chosen place. Use information from the section to help explain why you think that was/is.

CHOSEN PLACE: _____

HISTORICAL SOURCES AS EVIDENCE

Go to the *Taking the Stage* exhibition

Taking the Stage has five sections. Find a section and circle your choice below.

Theater

Dance

Film

Television

Comedy



1. In your selected exhibition section, choose a story or case. Explore the objects and museum labels. Write the exhibition case or story title here:

2. Choose **one** of the primary sources in the case and explain:

How does the primary source serve as historical evidence to help tell the narrative?



Congratulations!

You have finished exploring
The Culture Galleries!