



Gamin by Augusta Savage



Augusta Savage

1892-1962

Augusta Savage was an artist, educator, activist, and community leader during the Harlem Renaissance, a period of African American cultural growth. Savage built a reputation as a portrait sculptor, her subjects included prominent African Americans of her time. At 30, she was awarded a scholarship to the Fontainebleau School of the Arts in Paris, only to have the offer rescinded when they discovered she was black.

Activism and art went hand and hand for Savage. She taught other artists and nurtured their careers by providing space, supplies, and even her gallery to show their work..

Questions:

1. Savage's sculpture (left) was titled **Gamin**, which means "street urchin." What do you think made it unique for the time it was created, 1929?
2. Savage believed that teaching others was far more important than creating art herself. Can you think of a teacher or other adult who inspired or encouraged you?