

Catalog Items

Docent # 4 – African American Women

Billie Holiday

24" x 36" Print 1988-1989

Artist: Carole Hand, b. 1940

Designed by Tim Lewis, Pomegranate Publications

Born Eleanora Fagan in Baltimore, MD, April 17, 1915 to teen-age parents, Billie told a writer for Tan Magazine in 1953, "I know how the gin joints looks on the inside. " I had been signing in after-hours joints, damp, smoky cellars, in the backs of bar rooms in an attempt to climb clear of the barrel". However, it was the small spots of Harlem where people of the likes of John Hammond, Paul Muni, Mildred Bailey, and others heard her, encouraged her, and encouraged others to listen to her voice. Lester Young, who blew delicate saxophone solos behind her, was the first to call her "Lady" because she refused to practice the old-established gin-mill custom of taking the customer's money off of the tables. Lester later took the "day" out of Holiday and that made her "Lady Day".

(11A)

"Who Can Spell Cream of Wheat?"

Copyright 1917 by COW, Co.

Painted by Edward V. Brewer

The smiling face of Rastus, the Cream of Wheat chef who was once the most recognizable black man in America, has not changed. While dining in a restaurant in Chicago, Emery Mapes was struck by the pleasantly smiling face of a Negro waiter. He paid him five dollars for his picture. Thus, the original (1925) Cream of Wheat trademark of the black chef gave way to the image that survives to this day on the product now owned by the Nabisco Company.

(16A)

The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey
Traveling Museum

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African American Women

23"x36" Graphic Design shows collection of photographs and biographies.

Pomegranate Publications

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|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Rosa Parks | 11. Mahalia Jackson |
| 2. Edmonia Lewis | 12. Dorothy Height |
| 3. Marian Anderson | 13. Gwendolyn Brooks |
| 4. Shirley Chisholm | 14. Katherine Dunham |
| 5. Pearl E. Primus | 15. Mary C. Terrell |
| 6. Lillian Evanti | 16. Althea Gibson |
| 7. Lena Horne | 17. Barbara Jordan |
| 8. Josephine Baker | 18. Mae Jamison |
| 9. Lorraine Hansberry | 19. Maggie Lena Walker |

A gift from Okia and Tahj to Ralph (grand and great-grandfather on his 65th Birthday).
(25A)