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Aaron Douglas -

* Aaron Douglas, born in 1899, was referred to as “the father of Black American art” was an African American artist born in Kansas who was a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance. Douglas came to fame during the New Negro Movement in the 1920s with his works of art and for his time working as a professor at historically black universities in the 1930s and 1940s.
* Ever since Aaron Douglas came to Harlem in 1925, his paintings and graphic art were very successful and won him many awards that rose him to fame. His works focused primarily on his interest in modernism, African Art, Art Deco, and elements of Egyptian wall paintings. However, he is known best for creating powerful images of African American life and struggles through his works.

Augusta Savage –

* Augusta Savage, born in 1892, was known best for being a talented sculptor during the Harlem Renaissance. When she was younger, she began using natural clay found in her area of Florida, where she grew up, to create art. She was a talented sculptor even as a child and was known for sculpting animals and other small figures when she was younger.
* In the 1920s, Augusta moved to NYC to study at Cooper Union and finished college early and chose to make a name for herself as a portrait sculptor. Her works included famous historical African American figures like W.E.B. Du Bios and Marcus Garvey. Augusta would later get opportunities to study abroad in Paris where she exhibited her works of art that won her many awards like the Julius Rosenwald fellowship in 1929. Perhaps most notably, she helped found the Harlem Artists’ Guild and assisted many African American artists during her time by lobbying for the Works Projects Administration (WPA) to help other young artists find work during this tough economical time in history.