NASA ART

50 YEARS OF EXPLORATION

Educational Resources

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service is proud to present NASA | ART: 50 Years of Exploration. This exhibition contains 72 individual artworks from the NASA Art program, and these pieces cover every aspect of NASA, from its missions to its astronauts and behind the scenes. The resources included in this section should serve as a guide for your docents and educators and can be used to assist teachers bringing their students to the exhibition.

Information about the NASA Art Program

Established in 1962 by NASA Administrator James Webb, the NASA Art Program has documented America's major accomplishments in aeronautics and space. More than 200 artists have generously contributed their time and talent to record their impressions of the U.S. aerospace program in paintings, drawings and other media. Not only do these art works provide a historic record of NASA projects, they give the public a new and fuller understanding of advancements in aerospace.

NASA's art collection includes works by Robert Rauschenberg, Annie Leibovitz, Vija Celmins, Doug and Mike Starn, William Wegman, Andy Warhol, Robert McCall and Jamie Wyeth. The works depict a wide range of subjects including Space Shuttle launches, aeronautics research, probes to Mars, the Hubble Space Telescope and even virtual reality.

Artists commissioned by NASA receive a small honorarium in exchange for donating a minimum of one piece to the NASA archive, which now numbers more than 800 works of art. In addition, more than 2,000 works, including those by Norman Rockwell, have been donated to the National Air and Space Museum.

Many of the NASA-owned pieces are displayed at galleries, museums and NASA Centers around the country. The Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida has a particularly large selection of NASA art work on display.

A sampling of NASA's collection can be viewed on "Copernica" which is NASA's first commissioned piece of artwork using the World Wide Web as a medium. Artist Martin Wattenberg in collaboration with Rhizome.org created a database of artwork which would also be a piece of art in its own right. Over 500 works are on display.

Courtesy: The NASA Art Program's Copernica page http://www.hq.nasa.gov/copernica/

Remarks from the NASA Art Program Founding Director

- "At the core, both art and aerospace exploration search for a meaning to life."
- James Dean, Founding Director, NASA Art Program, 1962-1974

In 1962, I worked for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at its headquarters in Washington, DC. When a major launch or test flight took place, NASA cameras recorded everything. Yet when we looked at all these photographs something was missing. We were not experiencing the excitement or significance of these events.

We came to the conclusion that artists must be asked to help complete this visual record. Machinery can duplicate and preserve the cold facts but the emotional impact of what was going on is within the province of the artist.

With the close cooperation of the National Gallery of Art, I invited some of America's best known artists to observe and record NASA activities and become eyewitnesses to history in the making. Artists as varied as Robert Rauschenberg and Jamie Wyeth and Lamar Dodd and Norman Rockwell participated.

We covered the Mercury and Gemini programs of earth orbital flights and the Apollo moon landing program. It was a personally enriching experience - one which I will never forget. The resulting art was shown in two major exhibits at the National Gallery of Art in Washington and then toured throughout the United States and other countries for several years. The art is now part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air & Space Museum.

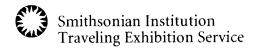
As a result of that program we now have a record for the future of historic events of the present in a permanent medium that is as old as recorded history itself--the eye and hand of the artist.

I directed this program from its inception in 1962 (well before there was National Endowment for the Arts) until 1974 when I became Curator of Art at the National Air and Space Museum.

In 1980 I left the Museum to devote time to my painting. During the early 1980's I was invited by NASA to record my impressions of the space shuttle program during launch preparations at Cape Canaveral and a landing in the Mojave Desert. In the end, I got to see the NASA Art Program from the other side--giving me a delayed but well-rounded experience in what must be the longest running art program in government.

Courtesy

http://web.mac.com/stevedean/The Other James Deans Studio on the Internet/Artwork/Pages/NASA Space Art.html



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Reading List

Books

Books about NASA and the NASA Art Program

Dean, James; and Bertram Ulrich. NASA/ART: 50 Years of Exploration. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2008.

Written by the exhibition curators, both directors of NASA's Art Program, this book celebrates the hundreds of artists who have participated in the program and the art they have produced over the past 50 years.

Dick, Steven, Robert Jacobs, Constance Moore, and Bertram Ulrich. *America In Space: NASA's First Fifty Years*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2007.

In honor of NASA's 50th anniversary, this book looks at unmanned space travel, manned space flights, and other NASA programs. More than 400 photographs and images share NASA's story in pictures.

Squyres, Steve. Roving Mars: Spirit, Opportunity, and the Exploration of the Red Planet. Hyperion, 2006.

Written by the principal investigator for the Spirit and Opportunity missions, *Roving Mars* examines the problems and triumphs of landing the rovers on Mars.

Ulrich, Bertram and Roger Launius. *NASA & the Exploration of Space*. New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang (Abrams), 1998.

Exhibition curator Bert Ulrich joins NASA historian Roger Launius for an in depth look at NASA's space exploration efforts.

with Anne Collins Goodyear and Anthony Springer. Flight: A Celebration of 100 Years of Art and Literature. New York: Welcome Books, 2003.

Science fiction, poetry, politics, and art combine to tell the story of 100 years of flight, published in 2003 for the centenary of the invention of the airplane.

A Selection of Books by and about the Artists

Boyle, Richard J. *George Weymouth—A Retrospective*. Brandywine Conservancy, 1991. From the Weymouth exhibition at the Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

Calle, Paul. *The Pencil*. Writers Digest Books, 1985.

Calle looks at his career from editorial illustration through his NASA art up to his work in the American West, while discussing the pencil in art.

Duff, James H., et al. An American Vision: Three Generations of Wyeth Art. Bulfinch, 1987. An illustrated look at James Wyeth, his father, and grandfather.



Eiland, William U. and Lamar Dodd. *The Truth in Things: The Life and Career of Lamar Dodd*. University of Georgia Press, 1996. An autobiography covering Lamar Dodd's life and work.

Faberman, Hilarie. *Aerial Muse: The Art of Yvonne Jacquette*. New York: Hudson Hills Press, 2002. In association with Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for the Visual Arts at Stanford University.

Gruskin, Alan D. *The Painter and His Techniques: William Thon*. Viking Press, 1964. An early, focused look at William Thon's unusual style.

Guerrero, Pedro E. Calder at Home: The Joyous Environment of Alexander Calder. New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1998. The author explores Calder's home life and how it affected his artwork.

Horgan, Paul. *Peter Hurd: A Portrait Sketch from Life*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1965. Published for the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art. Illustrated.

Kingman, Dong, and Helena Kuo Kingman. *Dong Kingman's watercolors*. New York: Watson-Guptill Publications, 1980. The artist and his wife share his work.

Kotz, Mary Lynn. *Rauschenberg: Art and Life*. Abrams, 2004. A detailed account of Robert Rauschenberg's life and work, with hundreds of illustrations.

Leibovitz, Annie. A Photographer's Life, 1990-2005. New York: Random House, 2006. Photographs of well-known people are interspersed with those of Leibovitz's family and friends.

Women: Photographs by Annie Leibovitz. New York: Random House, 1999. Pictures of 150 women with an essay by Susan Sontag.

Marter, Joan M. *Alexander Calder*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997. A biography and critical interpretation of Calder and his work.

Rose, Barbara. *Rauschenberg, an interview*. Vintage Books, 1987. A detailed, personal look at Robert Rauschenberg.

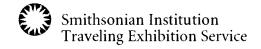
Thon, William. *The Poetry Within: The Life and Work of William Thon*. Portland Museum of Art, 2002. Thon himself explores his life and art.

Tomkins, Calvin. Off the Wall: Robert Rauschenberg and the Art World of Our Time. Penguin Books, 1981.

Detailed biography and insight into the artist and his work; includes a discussion with curator Jim Dean about Rauschenberg's time with the NASA art program.

Vickrey, Robert, and Diane Cochrane. *New Techniques in Egg Tempera*. Watson-Guptill Publications, 1989. The Vickrey piece in the exhibition is on egg tempera; here he shares his techniques for working with the medium.

Vickrey, Robert. Robert Vickrey: Artist at Work. New York: Watson-Guptill, 1979.



Wyeth, N.C. One Nation: Patriots and Pirates Portrayed by N.C. Wyeth and James Wyeth. Essays by Tom Brokaw and David Michaelis. Boston: Bulfinch Press/Little, Brown & Company, 2000.

Wyeth, N.C., with Andrew Wyeth, Jamie Wyeth, and Howard Pyle. *The Wondrous Strange: The Wyeth Tradition*. Boston: Bulfinch, 1998.

Essays on all of the Wyeth artists as well as N.C. Wyeth's mentor, Howard Pyle, accompanied by illustrations.

Books Especially For Kids

de Goursac, Olivier. *Space: Exploring the Moon, the Planets, and Beyond* Illustrated by Pascal Laye. Abrams Young Readers, 2006. A fun, colorful book for kids looking at all aspects of our Solar System.

Gherman, Beverly. *Norman Rockwell: Storyteller with a Brush*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2000.

Rockwell's life and work, including paintings of children, astronauts, and family scenes, written for kids.

Venezia, Mike. *Alexander Calder*. New York: Children's Press, 1998. From the series, "Getting to know the world's greatest artists."

Other Resources

Available on DVD

For All Mankind

Criterion (2000)

Originally aired in 1989, this documentary can still be seen on television and is available on DVD. This story of the 24 men who have flown to the Moon was nominated for an Oscar and features interviews and film footage.

From the Earth to the Moon

HBO Home Video (2005)

This 1998 miniseries hosted and produced by Oscar-winning actor Tom Hanks chronicles the NASA's Apollo program. (12 hours)

In the Shadow of the Moon

Velocity/ThinkFilm (2008)

Featuring interviews and archival footage, this film explores the Apollo program through the eyes of the twelve men who have walked on the Moon. (110 minutes)

Roving Mars

Buena Vista Home Entertainment (2007)

Steve Squyres and the late Paul Newman present Squyres' story of the Mars Rovers in a fascinating film that puts you into the engineering rooms and onto the Red Planet.

The Way Back: A Portrait of George A. Weymouth

Brandywine River Museum (2004)



Portrait of George A. Weymouth, the founder of the Brandywine Conservancy and Brandywine River Museum. Includes interviews with Andrew Wyeth and James Wyeth.

When We Left Earth: The NASA Missions

Discovery (2008) [Included in this package]

First aired in June 2008, this series includes original mission footage, in high definition for the first time, and covers the whole of NASA's history, as told by the men and women who lived it.

Websites

http://www11.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/

Find detailed information about the astronauts depicted in the exhibition on this NASA website.

http://www.nasm.si.edu/collections/imagery/apollo/apollo.htm

This website from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum contain information about the Apollo program.

http://www.nasm.si.edu/exhibitions/attm/attm.html

This website from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum contain information about the Apollo program.

http://collections.nasm.si.edu/code/emuseum.asp

Here's a chance to see inside the National Air and Space Museum's vast collections. Browse the database of artifacts, and see other art from the NASA Art program.

Exhibition Artists

Following is a complete list of the artists featured in the NASA | ART exhibition. We have included a short biographical statement for your interest and use.

NASA ART

Artist Biographies

Paul Arlt

Commissioned by NASA in 1965 to create artwork depicting the Gemini program, **Paul Arlt** (1914-2005) had worked as a World War II combat artist and an editorial cartoonist before moving to Washington, DC to work as a political cartoonist and graphic artist. He covered Capitol Hill hearings, drew images of elected officials, and captured Washington landmarks in his watercolors, drawings, and silkscreens. Over the years his work was exhibited at such famous locales as New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Corcoran Gallery in Washington.

Zigi Ben Haim

Israeli artist **Zigi Ben Haim** (born 1945) was born in Baghdad and studied art in Israel and the United States. He is based in New York and his art is displayed at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, and other museums worldwide. Shortly after the February 2003 Space Shuttle *Columbia* tragedy, NASA commissioned Ben Haim to create a memorial exhibition. Ben Haim's artistic philosophy focuses on culture and cultural integration, whether looking at people moving between countries or astronauts moving between Earth and space.

Chakaia Booker

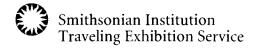
New Jersey-born artist **Chakaia Booker** (born 1953) has been turning rubber tires into art for nearly two decades. She has also created wearable sculptures and art from discarded materials. Her studies included ceramics, weaving, and dance. Booker often represents issues of African American identity in her work. Her work has been seen at the Metropolitan Museum of Art as well as at the White House.

Alexander Calder

Although primarily known for his mobile sculptures, **Alexander Calder** (1898-1976) was also a painter, toymaker, and lithograph artist. Crossroads is a gouache on paper created less than a decade before Calder's death.

Paul Calle

Paul Calle (born 1928) was one of the first artists selected for NASA's new art program, in 1962, and continued to produce NASA-based artwork for many years. Calle even designed a postage stamp based on the 1969 moon landing. He has also been a chairman of the Department of Interior's "Artists in the Parks" program.



Henry Casselli

New Orleans born **Henry Casselli** (born 1946) studied at the John McCrady Art School, building a close relationship with John McCrady himself. A few years later, Casselli served as a combat artist for the Marine Corps. This led to his commission from NASA to record the astronauts' preparation for the launch of the Space Shuttle Columbia in April 1981. The destruction of his hometown resulted in the development of a series of drawings related to Hurricane Katrina. He has also created portraits of President Ronald Reagan and Muhammad Ali, and his art can be found in museums such as the national Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Vija Celmins

Latvia born **Vija Celmins** (born 1938) is known for her very realistic paintings and drawings of the natural world. This artist works by studying photographs rather than directly observing her subject matter and has been particularly interested in how to portray three-dimensional space on the two dimensional surfaces used for her art. She has taught at various institutions, such as Yale University and the University of California, Irvine. Celmins work has appeared in museums throughout the world, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Institute of Contemporary Art in London, and the Douglas Hyde Gallery in Dublin.

Russell Crotty

Amateur astronomer **Russell Crotty** (born 1956) spent several years drawing surfer stick figures before finally turning to the planetary drawings for which he is now well-known. His drawings appear in large sketchbooks and on paper covered Lucite globes. Crotty has been admitted to the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, and his work has appeared in museums all over the world, including the Suzanne Tarasiève Galerie in Paris, The Drawing Room in London, and the Susan Inglett Gallery in New York City.

James Cunningham

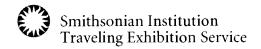
James Cunningham (birth date unknown-1991) was known for using geometry, color, and symbolism in his artwork. He spent more than 10 years creating art related to the space program and was inspired by the Hubble Space Telescope, the Space Shuttle, and distant planets. Sadly, he died in a helicopter accident soon after returning from a NASA art assignment in July 1991.

E.V. Day

E.V. Day (born 1967) received her Masters in sculpture from the Yale School of Art. Her eclectic artwork has been featured in several group shows and solo shows including "Bride Fight," an installation of two dueling wedding gowns. Much of Day's art resides permanently in the collections of museums such as the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

James Dean

Watercolor artist **James Dean** (born 1931) is known for his paintings of diverse American scenes. His various commissions have included the design of Christmas stamps for the U.S. Postal Service, as well as the creation Space Shuttle paintings for NASA. He was a Curator of Art at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum and a Director of the



Fine Art Program at NASA headquarters in Washington, DC. His work has appeared in several exhibitions displayed in museums such as the National Gallery of Art and the National Academy of Design in New York.

Lamar Dodd

Georgia-born Lamar Dodd (1909-1996) studied at the Art Students League in York City before returning to the south in 1933. Dodd's paintings were considered to be "local art" that prominently featured the southern people, history, and scenes for which Dodd was so passionate. He became a member of the University of Georgia faculty, consolidating all of the school's visual arts into a single department that has become one of the largest schools of art in the U.S. He began a series of paintings for NASA in 1963 and continued to paint for the rest of his life, occasionally expanding his repertoire to include such varied subjects as the human heart and the glove from the O.J. Simpson trial.

Keith Duncan

Keith Duncan resides in New York and works as an Outsider artist. His art is often unconventional and disturbing, and Duncan is known for his paintings of urban life that contain a touch of the supernatural. He received his Master of Fine Arts from Hunter College and now teaches art at several schools in New York City.

Judith Eisler

Judith Eisler (born 1962) develops her paintings using both source imagery from films and pictures of stills from the film footage. Two distinct features of her paintings are glossy surfaces and blurred imagery. Her solo and group exhibitions have taken her around the globe to Vienna, Munich, and London, as well as several cities in the U.S.

Nathan Greene

Michigan artist **Nathan Greene** (born 1961) is known for his Christian art in which he places Christ in contemporary settings such as the operating room. Greene's unique style combines contemporary painting with a background in classical art in a way that yields very realistic human, animal, and landscape subjects. He has worked as a freelance illustrator for clients such as **Christianity Today**, the National Wildlife Federation, Focus on the Family, and NASA.

Peter Hurd

It took two years of service in the United States Military Academy at West Point to lead Roswell native **Peter Hurd** (1904-1984) to a career in art. After serving as a war-correspondent artist for Life Magazine during WWII, he began to focus on western paintings of southeastern New Mexico for which he is world-renowned. Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed Hurd to the Commission on Fine Arts in 1959. Hurd also painted the official portrait of President Lyndon B. Johnson, which is located in the national Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC.

Chrystal Jackson

Based in the St. Louis area, Ms. Jackson has been working with watercolors for many years. Her son is also an artist.



Yvonne Jacquette

Yvonne Jacquette's (born 1934) artwork reflects her fascination with the aerial view. She begins her landscapes by directly observing the world below from the seat of an airplane or from atop a high-rise building. Jacquette is a painter and a printmaker whose work can be seen in such museums as The Museum of Modern Art in New York City and the Staatliche Museum in Berlin.

Mitchell Jamieson

Mitchell Jamieson (1915-1976) served as the official combat artist in the Naval Reserve in 1942 after attending both the Abbott School of Fine and Commercial Arts and the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. He was commissioned by NASA three times between 1963 and 1972 for various projects. Jamieson later went to Vietnam to volunteer as a civilian artist for the U.S. Army. Many of Jamieson's combat paintings appeared in magazines such as *Life* and *Fortune*.

Dong Kingman

California-born **Dong Kingman** (1911-2000) developed his talent for watercolor painting as a young child when his family lived in Hong Kong. Upon return to California, he began painting his main subject – urban scenes, which made him a leading artist during America's Depression era. During Kingman's extensive career, he managed to serve in the army, teach at Columbia University, serve as a cultural ambassador for the U.S., and work as a technical advisor for the film industry. His paintings can be seen in many American museums, such as the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Annie Leibovitz

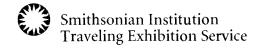
Photographer Annie Leibovitz (born 1949) is widely known for her provocative celebrity portraits, which include the historic photos of a nude John Lennon curled around Yoko Ono and of a nude, pregnant Demi Moore holding her stomach. Leibovitz served as *Rolling Stone* magazine's chief photographer for 10 years and became the first contributing photographer for *Vanity Fair* magazine in 1983. She has also photographed such diverse people as Scarlett Johannson, Bill Clinton, Madeline Albright, and Miley Cyrus. Leibovitz's photographs have appeared in various publications, including *Vogue*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *The New Yorker*, as well as in American Express, the Gap, and Milk Board ads.

Robert T. McCall

After spending time in the Army Air Corps during WWII, **Robert T. McCall** (born 1919) launched his artistic career with a job in advertising art. He later switched to magazine illustration, working for a wide range of periodicals such as *Life*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *Popular Science*. McCall has since created some 45 paintings for the Air Force in addition to all the paintings he has created as a NASA artist. His space-related artwork has also appeared in movie posters for *2001: A Space Odyssey*, on stamps for the U.S. postal service, and in the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Franklin McMahon

Franklin McMahon received the Renaissance Prize of the Art Institute of Chicago which helped circulate his art to museums in both France and Germany. His art has also appeared in The Brooklyn Museum in New York, the University of Chicago, and the National Air and



Space Museum in Washington D.C. His book, *This Church, These Times*, includes works that were created since Vatican Council II, many of which depict Pope John Paul II's travels. His paintings and drawings have also appeared in publications alongside words from Desmond Tutu and The Dalai Lama. Yet McMahon's talent is not solely limited to art: He was the producer and director of a series of documentaries for PBS and CBS, which received three Emmys and a Peabody award.

Greg Mort

Greg Mort uses watercolor, oil, and pastel to create the landscape, still life, and space works of art for which he is known. His work as an amateur astronomer helped land him a job as a NASA artist. He also serves on the Boards of the McDonald and Lowell Observatories. In addition to the United States, Mort's work has been exhibited in Switzerland, Japan, Russia, and Canada.

Lowell Nesbitt

Although some subjects of his realist paintings include clothing, fruits and vegetables, and Manhattan's bridges, **Lowell Nesbitt** (1933-1993) is best known for his large floral paintings. He became the official artist for flights Apollo 9 and Apollo 13. The U.S. Postal Service also created stamps out of four of Nesbitt's floral paintings. His work can be seen today in several major museums, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.

Nam June Paik

Korean-born **Nam June Paik** (born 1932) studied music, composition, art history and philosophy in school. This background led him to a career in art in which he now creates video installations with single monitors. These installations often include performances and music. Paik has become a pioneer in the world of video images by moving from the traditional literal representation of a subject to the expression of his own views of the subject. As a result, he has challenged the idea that televised events depict reality.

Jack Perlmutter (1920-2006) considered himself to be an abstract realist. Busy, bold, and vibrant, his pictures and prints displayed action and movement in urban scenes. Perlmutter began integrating Japanese design into his art after spending a year in Japan as a Fulbright scholar. He worked for the Navy and learned lithography before enlisting during WWII. His art made him was very well known in Washington from the 1940s to the 1980s.

Clayton Pond

Clayton Pond (1941) is known for his use of intense colors to dramatize the obscure objects, such as radiators and bathtubs, seen in his paintings and prints. Having received his MFA from Pratt Institute, he went on to enhance the silk screen medium by adding a high gloss finish over his images. Pond has completed commissions for both NASA and the Kentucky Derby. He has also had more than 70 solo exhibitions and is featured in over 50 museum collections including U.S. embassies in 17 countries.

Barbara Prey

The watercolor paintings of **Barbara Prey** have earned the artist an international reputation and a Senates Women of Distinction Award. Prey received a commission for NASA in which she created four paintings for the *Shuttle Discovery: Return to Flight* collection. She also

served as the official artist for the White House 2003 Christmas card. Prey is a U.S. international ambassador whose paintings reside in major museums, U.S. embassies, and the White House permanent collection.

Robert Rauschenberg

Robert Rauschenberg (1925-2008) became a groundbreaking pop artist by combining unusual and everyday three-dimensional objects with paint. In the 1960s, he began incorporating photographs, such as that of John F. Kennedy, into his work. Not to be limited to just one medium, Rauschenberg also tried his hand at painting, sculpture, set and costume design, and choreography. He was even presented with a Grammy Award in 1984 for best album package for a Talking Heads album. In the years prior to his death, he founded Change Inc., an organization that helps striving artists to pay their medical bills.

Paul Henry Ramirez

Abstract painter **Paul Henry Ramirez** (born 1963) infuses his art with contrasting colors, precise lines, and layers of imagery. Geometric shapes are also a common theme in his ambiguous, often sensuous work that allows for the viewer's interpretation. Ramirez's paintings have appeared in solo and group exhibitions all over the country from Massachusetts to San Francisco. His paintings are also on permanent display in museums such as the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and the El Paso Museum of Art in Texas.

Norman Rockwell

Manhattan-born **Norman Rockwell** (1894-1978) is best known for his depictions of American life that appeared on 321 covers of *The Saturday Evening Post*. He also worked as a freelance illustrator for various magazines, illustrated several children's books such as Mark Twain's classics, and became the art director for *Boy's Life* magazine. His popular series The Four Freedoms served as a contribution to the WWII effort. A year before Rockwell's death, President Ford gave him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor a U.S. civilian can receive.