



MORRIS CENTER

FOR LOWCOUNTRY HERITAGE

Grade Levels:

9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Duration:

10-20 minutes to introduce the activity

1-2 days research

1-2 days for activity

Materials:

- Web/Book research
- Clips of music (optional)
- Paper
- Pencils
- Art supplies
- Collage media (recycled materials)

SC State Standards:

SCCCR-Social Studies

MWH.1-5.E; USHC.1-5.CC

SCCCR-General Music

GM.C.NL.8.1; GM.R.IH.6; GM.C AL.8

SCCCR-English/Language Arts

(W) 3.1

Visual Arts

VA.CR.NM.1.1

Musical Icons Lesson Plan

Overview

In this study, students will create an image of a historical musical figure using collage. They will research the person's life and work to identify key characteristic to include in their finished product. Afterwards, students will write about and present their musical "icon," speaking about the musician's origins and artistic intent.

This activity can be done anytime. It connects to the *Soul of the South* exhibition on view at the Morris Center.

Learning Objectives

- Students will research time period and musical career of an historical figure .
- Students will contextualize how the musical figure connects to the a specific time and place .
- Students will illustrate the figure with a visual piece of iconography using elements of art and design.
- Students will write about key characteristic of their musical figure.



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Activity

- Introduce the activity to your students. *Understanding the musical figures of a specific time period provides perspectives on the people who lived then and their stories. You will have a chance to research and tell a visual and written story of a musical artist from World or US History.*
- Assign or direct your students to a topic of research. Here are some examples based on South Carolina Social Studies curriculum.
 - Modern World History: Pick a musical individual or group
 - United States History and the Constitution: Pick a musical individual or group
- *Now, you will research and identify key characteristic or events you would like to include in the visual representation of your figure. Think about how you can illustrate these elements.*
- *You will model your visual icon after iconography of the Byzantine Empire. [See example below] You will use paper, pencil, and other art supplies to create the icon portrait. You can even use recycle materials to collage a background for you piece. [Depending on the grade level you may want to give students some specific guidelines.]*
- *Now, you will now write a brief paragraph highlighting the elements of the figure's life that you included in the icon portrait.*
- Students can present their piece. Depending on classroom capabilities, students can use music to accompany their presentation.

