

ARTISTS AND THE WPA

There are five sections on this web site. Visit each one, read through the text, and look at the artworks displayed. Then, answer the questions below in your own words.

Rediscovering America

1. Why were some artists interested in celebrating America's past?

2. Which two artworks do you think best demonstrate American nationalism (an interest in American society)? Why?

Celebrating the People

1. How did artists depict ordinary people? What themes are common to the artists in this section?

2. What examples of everyday life do you find in these artworks?

3. What kinds of American folklore did artists use? Why do you think they were interested in folklore?

Work Pays America

1. In what ways did artists express their gratitude for the president's support of the arts?

2. Which two artworks in this section do you find most interesting and why?

Activist Art

1. How was some of the art produced during this time a form of political action or protest?

2. Describe two examples of activist art, and explain what you think each work means.

Useful Arts

1. What are some of the ways art can be considered useful or practical, as well as beautiful?

2. Which two examples of useful art do you find most interesting and why? Explain how these works were used.
