

# Truman Library Finals

# McKenna Stoltz

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- I was inspired by the artists of *KC On The Block* and Thomas Hart Benton. Benton was my technical artist of inspiration, therefore I wanted to paint my project. I watered down acrylic paint to get the flow of the lines creating movement as Benton. *KC On The Block* inspired my message of equity due to their multiple street murals in the Kansas City area. I combined photographs from 2020 and 1965 with protesters and police. I also added a mural of Isaac Woodard blinded by an American flag.
- This project connects to the mission and vision of the Truman because the BLM movement connected people all around the world and the portrait of Isaac was included because he played a large role in how Truman felt about the Civil Rights Movement. Truman fought for his justice by desegregating the military.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Justice*

Size: 25" x 21 ½"

Medium: Acrylic on canvas paper

Intent: I wanted to create a piece that connected the past and the present to show there is still more we need do before we truly accomplish equality for all. President Truman played a large role in this work by desegregating the military in the **Executive Order 9981** on July 26, 1948 after learning of the the brutality of Isaac Woodard.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1840375906135749&set=a.139621639544526>

# Vy Nguyen

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[https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ShrVEB8Da6XAP\\_mYNnjyILdl1N80DxhT7zXXUaVcfA/edit?usp=s\\_haring](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ShrVEB8Da6XAP_mYNnjyILdl1N80DxhT7zXXUaVcfA/edit?usp=s_haring)

- My artists of inspiration are Thomas Hart Benton & Johnson Tsang. Benton is used conceptually. The composition of Benton's mural forms an apex, and my sculpture is the same. He creates work that features objects in the progression of America (factories, railroads, etc.) Truman ending the internment camps is a right step into the future.
- I chose to create a sculpture, because it's a new media & I was drawn to Johnson Tsang's work.
- This project connects to the mission and vision of the Truman by sparking discussion & raises question in the American learning curriculum. Why aren't we including the history of Asian-Americans? This promotes diversity and Truman.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Home*

Size: 20" x 6"

Medium: Air-dry clay, paper with wooden base

Intent: I wanted to emulate the release of Japanese Americans from the internment camps during WWII. The Oxford shoe represent President Truman allowing those incarcerated to return home, hence the executive order number placed on the sole of the shoe. Located on the wrist of the hand was Roosevelt's executive order of forcing first and second generation Japanese Americans into the camps by accusing them of not paying their taxes. Oftentimes, Asian American history is overlooked, and it's important to talk about it. Truman is part of their history needing to be told.



Grand Reopening Summer of 2021 Grand Reopening Summer of 2021  
Truman Presidential Library Truman Presidential Library



- The Artists of Inspiration were Banksy and Thomas Hart Benton. I chose to make a poster digitally because it is the medium I am most comfortable with, and would result in the easiest form for printing.
- I chose the subject of the lasting effects of the Cold War because it fit with the mission and vision of the Library and with Banksy as inspiration. Banksy often creates politically loaded murals on walls, while the Library wishes to talk on the lasting effects of President Truman, and as such I chose to highlight the continued Cold War that Truman's policies helped start, and many think to be over. The "cutouts" are representation of blue-collar/essential jobs, and relates back to both Banksy and Thomas Hart Benton, as in both of their artwork have made a point to highlight these groups. Either in their daily lives or struggles. It also relates back to the mission and vision by highlighting their service to the nation, and the protection of it's democracy.

## Exhibition Text

Series Title: *Old Wounds*

Size: 11in x 17in, Can be printed smaller if needed

Medium: Digital media using Photoshop

Intent: To show the effects of Truman's Presidency upon both the world stage and locally, as well as to advertise the opportunity to learn about it at the Library at the grand re-opening.

Link to images - [Images](#)

# Mallek Dyer

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- This piece is inspired by Thomas Hart Benton and statues in the Greek and Roman era.
- The piece is intended to be a freebie sticker as stickers are incredibly popular promotional merchandise.
- This particular subject was chosen to highlight different oppressed groups and note the Library as a welcoming environment to everyone.
- It connects to the mission and vision of the Truman Library by sparking discussion and learning about disparities in communities and highlighting Truman's act of desegregating the military on the basis of sexuality.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Overcome*

Size & Medium: The piece was done on a digital canvas intended for print on 3" or smaller stickers.

Intent: It highlights the Truman Library's welcoming space and educational environment. The person's robe signifies the LGBTQT community, the injured foot symbolizes those wounded in combat or disabled, the safety pin communicates the Truman Library is a safe place and the fist with a bruised arm speaks for the suffering of others and standing together as one.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12-IHHO2b1jczd0fxUx3r89BwPLGubzGq9gBqlehvYI/edit> .



# Diego Ortiz

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- Thomas Hart Benton & Kenneth Halliwell were my artist of inspiration.
- The medium of the project was in poster format using graphic design and images from the Truman website.
- The idea of my work revolves around advertising the release of the grand reopening of the Truman Library. I used the concept of Thomas Hart Benton's story telling along with the collage work of Kenneth Halliwell to bring out a short story of Truman's life up until his inauguration in 1949.
- This project reflects on Truman's vision and mission statement by demonstrating the actions of people through their lives. There are multiple views regarding friendship, love, loyalty, and origin in this piece.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Truman*

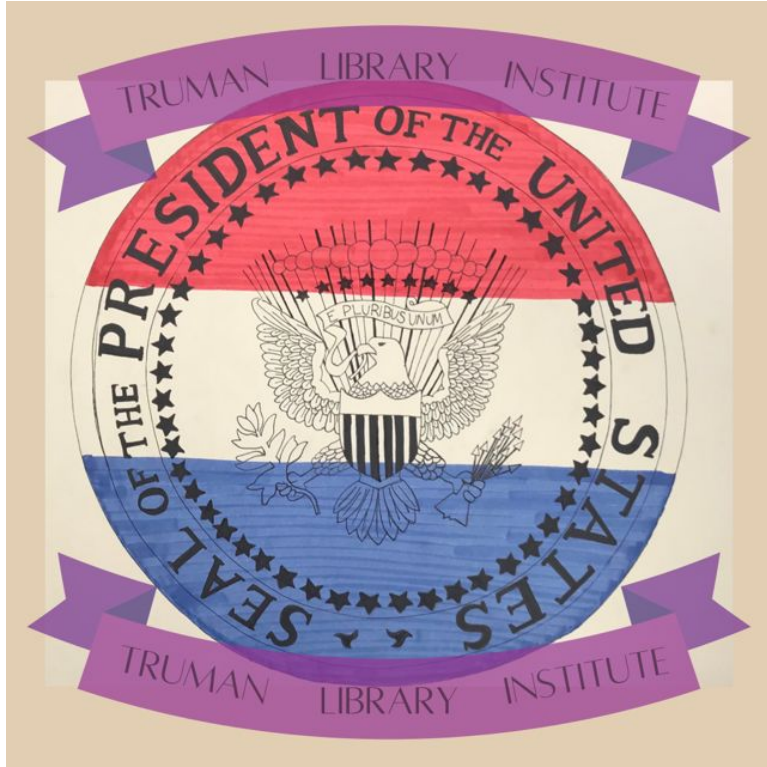
Size: 24in x 36in

Intent: This piece is all regarding reflection and remembrance on Truman's success up until his presidency. Come to the Library and learn about these moments and more.

[Printable Link](#)

# Savannah Park

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- My first artist of inspiration was Thomas Hart Benton because he portrayed the history of Independence which included the history of Missouri, hence my inclusion of the Missouri flag. My second artist was FAILE which are two spray paint artists. They use bold blocks of color hence my inclusion of bold color layered over the seal and flag.
- I chose to use marker and digital media because they accommodated the project timeline and use of Canva for social media.
- I chose an instagram post because it is a way to support the opening of the library through social media promotion.
- This artwork represents the mission and vision of the library because it symbolizes Truman and the current need to unify our country along with teaching historical content of the presidential seal, his presidency and life within Missouri.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Symbolism of Truman*

Size: 14in x 14in

Media: marker, digital media

Intention: This social media post symbolizes the historical ties of Harry S. Truman promoting peace and a lifetime spent in Missouri. Truman changed the presidential seal turning the head of the eagle towards the olive branch while the purple ribbon signifies the need of bipartisanship today and historically. It also represents the purple heart found in his desk with a private letter.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12WpAUTW4Oz9TvJtsqtqvceZ1pDMNmCJGU0wWopknakE/edit>

# Megan Huggins

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- The artists I took inspiration from are Thomas Hart Benton and Kurt Schwitters. I was inspired by the history behind Benton's mural in the library and made a collage in the style of Schwitters to showcase the history of the museum.
- My two posters are Truman Library 1 & 2. They are both 7in x 11in and they are made using collages in photoshop.
- I used photoshop because I wanted the poster to be very clean and precise and I love working in photoshop.
- I also made the posters minimalist so it can grab the viewer's attention and make them aware of the Truman libraries reopening and make them want to visit.

## Exhibition Text

Title: *Truman Library Posters 1 & 2*

Size: 7"x11"

Intent: These minimalist promotional posters were inspired by Thomas Hart Benton and Kurt Schwitters to educate others of the life and legacy of Harry S. Truman. By attending the grand re-opening of the Truman Library one can learn more of the impact he made on our country historically and today.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BBRVAIPRSLSWHws4gszaX-PHPkMpDVcb/view?usp=sharing>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B8AACBu-9UMqiRNck1z3R1BEDAflweMJ/view?usp=sharing>