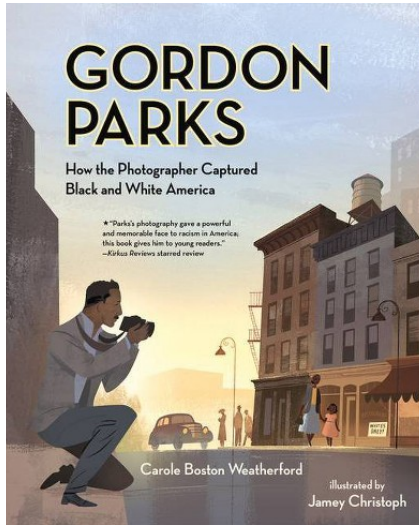


ART IS ACTIVISM

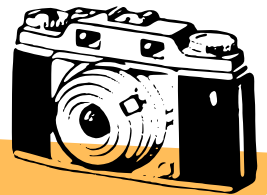


February is Black History Month so our selection is focused on a well known African American artist Gordon Parks. Parks found success not only in photography but also in film, writing, composition, and painting. Our corresponding art project this month doesn't limit you to one medium, but rather asks you to create a piece of art that illustrates something you believe in. We hope you share your creation with us by using #LymanAllynatHome.

For more information on Parks and to see examples of his work please visit gordonparksfoundation.org or visit The Gordon Park Museum in Fort Scott, Kansas.

A sample of Gordon Park's work:

- *American Gothic, Washington, D.C.*, 1942 [photography]
- *Drinking Fountains, Mobile, Alabama*, 1956 [photography]
- *Duke Ellington Listening to Playback, Los Angeles, California*, 1960 [photography]
- *Flavio*, 1964, [short film]
- *Shaft*, 1971, [film]
- *Solomon Northup's Odyssey*, 1984 [film]
- *The Learning Tree*, 1963 [writing - semi autobiographical]
- *Shannon*, 1981 [writing - fiction]
- *Eyes with Winged Thoughts*, 2005 [writing - poetry & photographs]
- *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*, 1953 [music - composition]
- *The Learning Tree Symphony*, 1967 [music - composition]
- *Martin*, 1991 [music - composition]



February Book of the Month

*Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured
Black and White America*

Illustrator Jamey Christoph brings Carole Boston Weatherford's words to life as she introduces readers to Park's work as a photographer. As an African American growing up in the U.S., Parks experienced racism throughout his life, but found ways to use his art to document and comment on the injustices he saw happening around him.