



*ABC Portraits of Deaf Ancestors* is created for middle school students, their families, schools and libraries.

Short bios of important Deaf people in US history, who were born before 1925, are included along with original painted portraits.

This book features Deaf women and men from a variety of cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds. Discover the remarkable lives of our Deaf ancestors.



*De'VIA Ancestors* is created for Deaf and Hearing children, families, schools and libraries.

Short snapshots of the lives and art of three of the founders of Deaf VisualImage Art are featured here. Each story is designed to stand alone or to be read in one sitting. Young children may wish to have the stories redesigned to them until they are ready to read independently. Repetition of lines and ideas across the stories are used to create a sense of rhythm, emphasis and connection. Discover the amazing lives and work of Betty G. Miller, Guy Wonder and Chuck Ward!

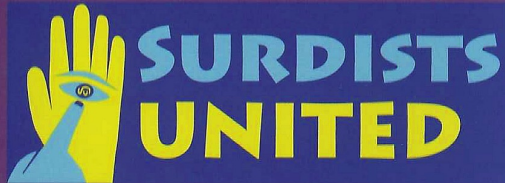


*Deaf Artist Ancestors* is created for Deaf and Hearing children as well as their families, schools and libraries.

This eye-catching picture book features short, illustrated biographies of three Deaf artists who worked in different media (photography, sculpture, and mixed media). Each story is designed to stand alone or all may be read in one sitting. Young children may wish to have the stories redesigned to them until they are ready to read independently. Repetition of lines and ideas across the stories are used to create a sense of rhythm, emphasis, and connection. Sit down and enjoy learning about the diverse and dynamic Deaf artist ancestors who were Theophilus d'Estrella (a Chicano Deaf photographer), Cutapus John L. Clarke (a Blackfeet Deaf woodcarver) and Mary T. Smith (a Black Deaf painter).

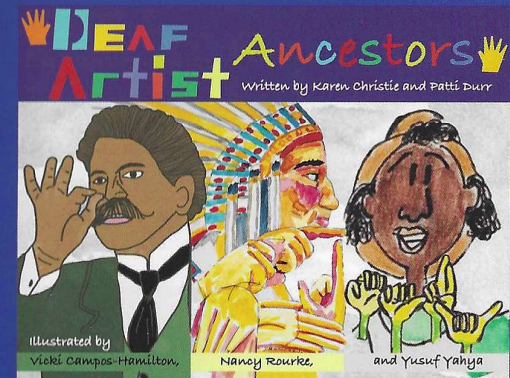
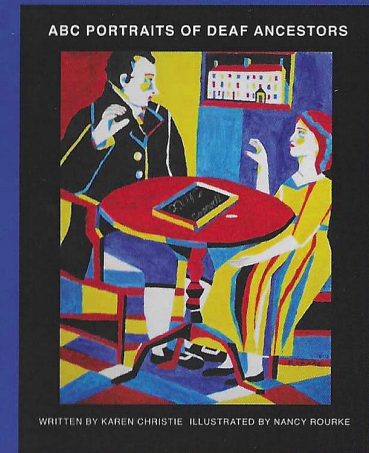


Publishers have recently harnessed the power of beautifully illustrated children's books highlighting the accomplishments of women, African Americans, and others underrepresented in our history books. Contributing to this popular genre, Surdists United, Inc., a non-profit arts organization, has proudly published three books featuring Deaf historical figures: ***ABC Portraits of Deaf Ancestors, De'VIA Ancestors, and Deaf Artist Ancestors.***



These books were created for Deaf students, their families as well as students of Deaf history and culture. Deaf children need to grow up learning about others like themselves. For Deaf readers, these brave and bold Deaf people spark a sense of pride and a feeling of kinship. The life stories of these remarkable Deaf individuals also offer compelling lessons in resilience that all readers can appreciate.

**Surdists United** is committed to producing Deaf-themed books with Deaf authors, artists, and publishers.



To order any of our books, go to: <https://surdistsunited.square.site/>

**ABC Portraits of Deaf Ancestors** is for middle school students (and everyone else)! This book includes over 26 short bios of diverse Deaf and DeafBlind people. Accompanying each bio is a beautifully painted portrait, bringing them to life. Individuals include: Nellie Zabel, the first woman pilot from South Dakota, whose beloved airplane appears in her portrait and Roger O'Kelly, a Black DeafBlind lawyer who graduated from Yale University, portrayed with his distinctive signature.



is for **WILKINS**

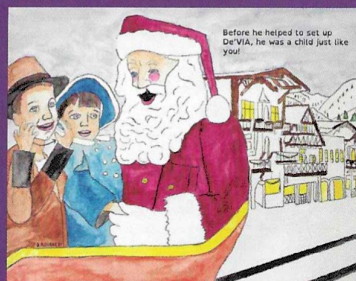
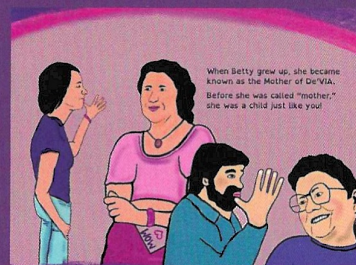
**Blanche Wilkins was a pathfinder. She worked tirelessly as a teacher and community advocate.**



Wilkins (1876-1936) was the first African American woman to graduate from the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf. She taught at the schools for Black Deaf students in Texas and North Carolina, where she was the first African American Deaf woman teacher. She likely achieved another first when she was chosen for a National Association of the Deaf committee in 1899. Later in life, Blanche Wilkins Williams became a community advocate.

Order while supplies last:  
<https://surdistsunited.com/store/>

**De'VIA Ancestors** was created for very young readers who may wish to have the short, biographical stories signed or read to them first. This colorful book spotlights the lives and art of three founding members of Deaf View/Image Art (De'VIA) movement: Betty G. Miller, Chuck Baird and Guy Wonder. These amazing artists worked to recognize and celebrate artworks specifically about Deaf people's experiences.



**Deaf Artist Ancestors**

re-creates the format of De'VIA Ancestors with three separate, but similarly formatted stories of three Deaf artists. The Deaf Artist Ancestors in this book are photographer, Theophilus d'Estrella, wood carver, Cutapuis (John L. Clarke), and mixed media artist, Mary T. Smith. In addition to learning about their lives, we are shown depictions of their work and gain an appreciation of Deaf people who strove to be artists.

