

Samantha Dew: Free Woman of Color

Image Guide

Introduction

The story of abolition in the 19th century is richly represented in visual and print culture. Follow the links below to several of the images used in the virtual performance Samantha Dew: Free Woman of Color and find out more about the people and places that S.E. Dew encounters on her journey to becoming a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

Educator tip: Create a virtual gallery walk using these images, or have students find their own images using Smithsonian Open Access, Google Arts and Culture, Library of Congress or other library databases.

Selected Images

Map of Northern Georgia (cropped to Subligna, GA) Library of Congress, Washington, DC https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3920.cws00031/?ciw=1198&clip=3 0.2443.2418.1451&rot=0



Lyman Beecher (James Henry Beard, 1863)
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
https://www.si.edu/object/lyman-beecher%3Anpg_NPG.75.5



Harriet Beecher Stowe (Alanson Fisher, 1853)
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
https://www.si.edu/object/harriet-beecher-stowe%3Anpg_NPG.68.1



On the Ohio River (unidentified artist, ca. 1840) Smithsonian American Art Museum https://www.si.edu/object/ohio-river%3Asaam_1966.55



Certificate of Freedom for Joseph Trammell

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

https://www.si.edu/object/certificate-freedom-joseph-trammell%3Anmaahc 2014.25.1

Volunteers have transcribed the letter as a project for the Smithsonian Institute Transcription Center. Read it here.



A Northern Freeman Enslaved by Northern Hands

The American Anti-Slavery Almanac, 1836-1844 The New York Public Library

 $\frac{https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47da-759f-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99}$

Published yearly by the American Anti-Slavery Society, the Almanac shared the realities of slavery to inspire support for abolition. The Society hosted famous debates at the Lane Seminary in Cincinnati.



Cincinnati From Covington, Kentucky (Robert S. Duncanson, 1850)

Cincinnati Museum Center

https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/cincinnati-from-covington-kentucky-1850/9wGyEZAIWb1Nvg?hl=en

Robert Scott Duncanson was perhaps the most accomplished African American painter in the United States from 1850 to 1860. Read the Smithsonian Institute's biography here.



The Underground Railroad (Charles T. Webber, 1893)

Cincinnati Art Museum

http://www.discoveringthestory.com/ugrr/index.asp

Webber portrayed his friends, the notable Cincinnati abolitionists Levi Coffin, Coffin's wife Catharine, and Hannah Haydock, leading a group of people to freedom. The artist set the figures at dawn in a wintry field, possibly at Coffin's farm, which was located between Ayondale and Walnut Hills.