

## Impact Statement

Xorin Kuester, Grade 8.

***The actions you don't see***, 2021.

Mixed media sculpture, 8 x 8 x 4 Inches.

LaVilla School of the Arts, Jacksonville, FL

Unsung Hero: Elizabeth Frances Williams

My Unsung Hero's name is Elizabeth Frances Williams; and the project I made that represents her is called "The actions you don't see". My name is Xorin Kuester. I made this project at LaVilla School of the arts.

About one month ago we got assigned this as a class project, we each had to pick one hero and do research on them. I chose Elizabeth Frances Williams because I was drawn to her story the most. How she moved to Hollywood and the way people treated her and how she just didn't care. In her time women usually picked cotton so when they acted in movies they wore scarves to cover the cotton that was stuck but she refused to wear one. I love that when she noticed that African Americans were treated unfair, she took it into her own hands and decided to rent out a building to make and a gallery and jazz jam out building. She said that in a matter of week thousands of people every race was in and out of her building.

During my research I learned a lot from her. Elizabeth when she opened her jam out building there where people who did not like the idea, so they made public complaints about it. Eventually she got letters from people and from court saying she was going to be put on trial if she didn't close her building. She refused to close the building; and the night before her trial she sat at her desk and wrote all night. The day of her trial she read everything she had to say everything. When she walked in there were just a bunch of angry and hateful faces but when she finished reading everyone was in tears hearing her story and the struggles she went through every day. When I started thinking about how I was going to make something that represented her; I thought it had to be something that could move and not let anything stop it. So, I decided to make a flexagon something that moves forever. I designed her life in a couple of slides to represent her never ending fight for equality.

What I learned from her is that you should never give up and keep moving no matter what cause in the end you will win. She might not have been noticed at first but that was not her goal. Her goal was to become an actress and to help gain equality for our world. They I would add this my life is by making myself open to more new places, I often don't go places with some of my friends because there is almost no one my skin. I try to remember that it's not about my skin were all people with feels and interests. I will try to be like Elizabeth and not let that stop me from moving forward.

I believe that her story a lot of people could use her as a role model. She was a change in history that wasn't noticed at first glance; but she wasn't looking for glory or fame she was just a hero disguised as a normal person. My unsung hero is Elizabeth Frances Williams an African American actress activist looking for peace worldwide.