

**American Writers Museum
American Voices Field Trip
Student Materials**

Student Name: _____

Activating Prior Knowledge:

What is Author's Purpose?		
Below, write the definition for each purpose. Then write an example of each purpose.		
Persuade:		
Inform:		
Entertain:		

Guided Exploration of the Museum Instructions:

Today you will be guided through the museum. We encourage you to take your time and read through pieces that you find interesting: poems, biographies, etc. Feel free to engage in the kiosks or activities provided. Throughout all of this you will also need to:

- 1. Complete the Author's Purpose Chart:** Every writer writes for a reason. As you explore the museum and learn about many authors, begin to determine what purpose they have for writing. Search for an author for each type: persuade, inform, and entertain. Write down evidence that helped you determine which type: quotation from a text, example of what they wrote, or from reading the anecdotal notes on the author.
- 2. Personal Word Waterfall:** Great writers will brainstorm before writing. Developing a list of words or phrases that have stood out to you can be one way of brainstorming. As you explore the museum, write down words or phrases that you like, find meaning or connection with, intrigue you, etc. By the end of your exploration, you will have a waterfall of words that you can use to write a story or poem.

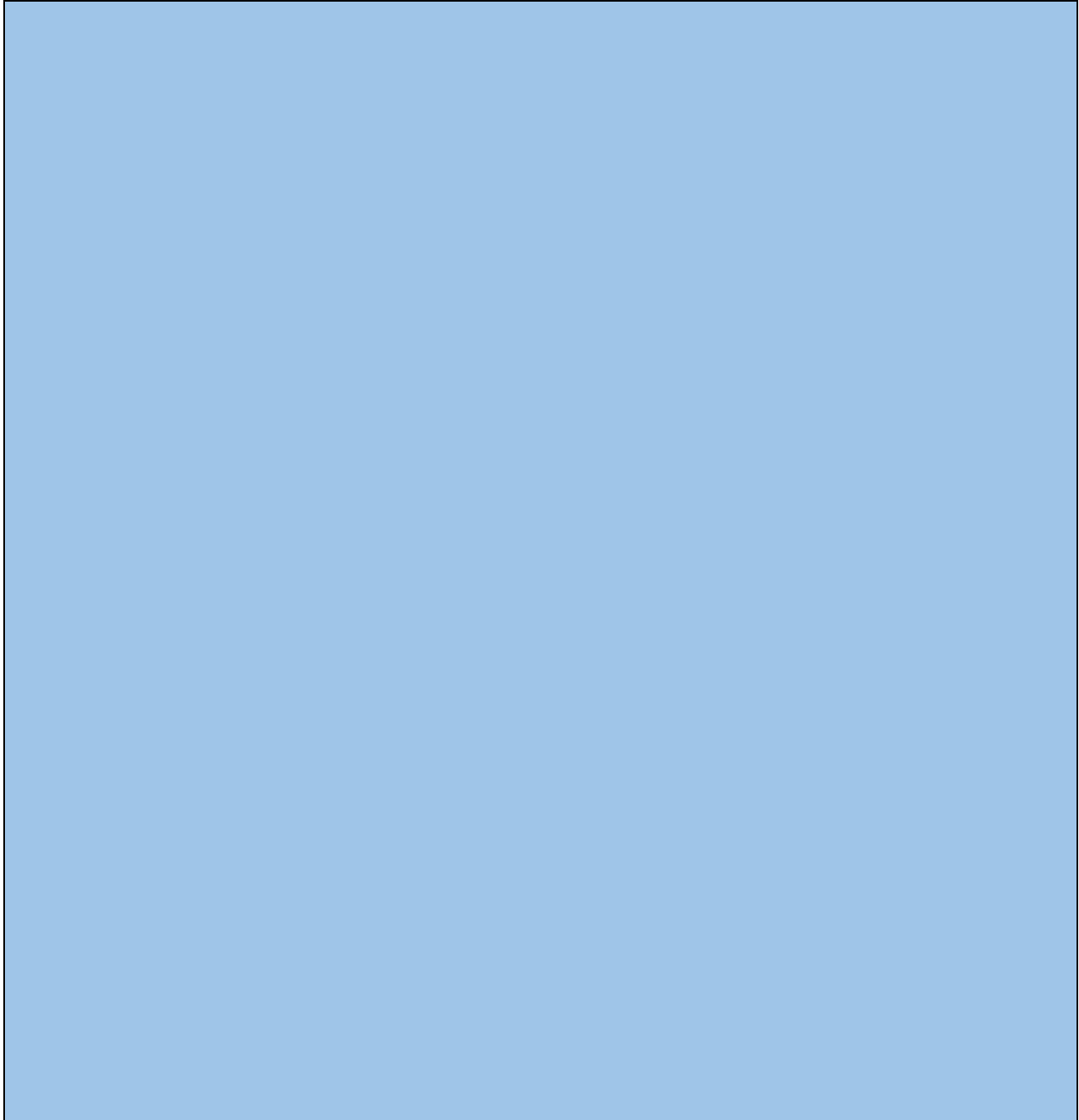
Author's Purpose Chart

As you explore the museum and learn about many authors, begin to determine what purpose they have for writing. Search for an author for each type: persuade, inform, and entertain. Refer back to your notes about what each of those is. Write down evidence that helped you determine which type: quotation from a text, example of what they wrote, or from reading the anecdotal notes on the author.

	Author: Who uses this purpose?	Evidence: How did you know?
Persuade:		
Inform:		
Entertain:		

Personal Word Waterfall:

As you explore the museum, write down words or phrases that you like, find meaning or connection with, intrigue you, etc. By the end of your exploration, you will have a waterfall of words that you can use to write a story or poem.

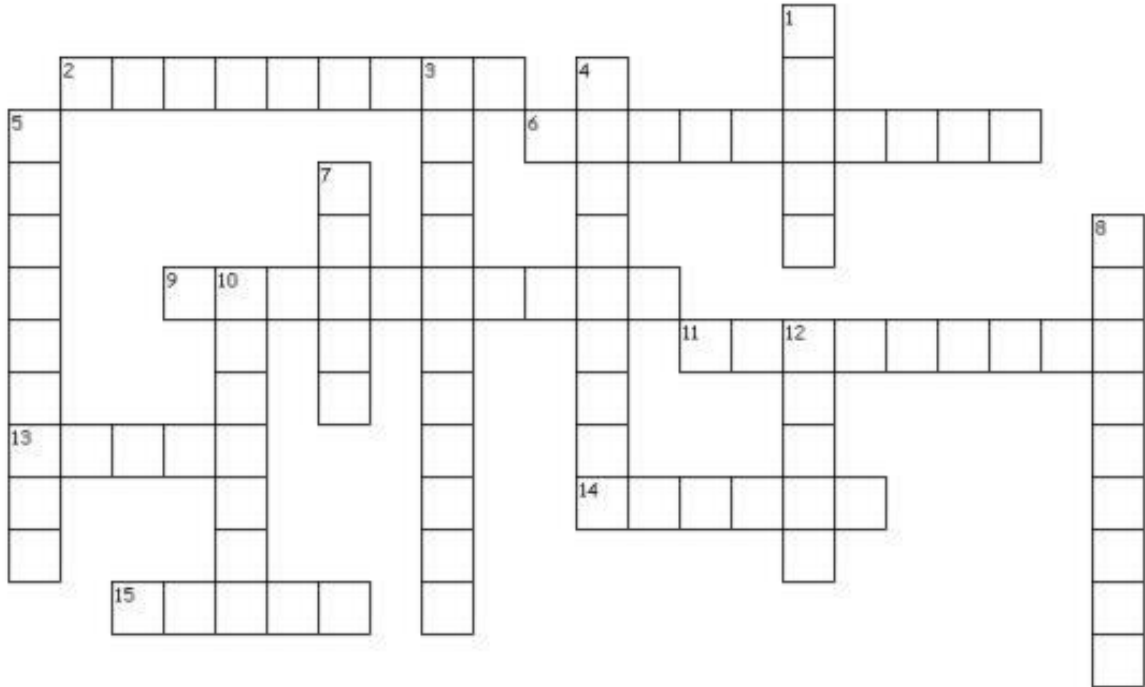


Below are 16 of the more than 300 writers highlighted in the museum. See if you can write a note(s) about each author! You can find all the information you need in the **American Voices** exhibit.

Anne Bradstreet	Phillis Wheatley	William Apess	Frederick Douglass
Maria Ruiz de Burton	Ida B Wells	James Weldon Johnson	Jack London
William Carlos Williams	E.B White	John Steinbeck	Margaret Wise Brown
Ralph Ellison	Gwendolyn Brooks	Flannery O'Connor	Oscar Hijuelos

CHICAGO WRITERS: Visionaries and Troublemakers

Find the answers to the clues below on the panels and the interactive map in **CHICAGO GALLERY** to fill in the crossword puzzle. Writers are referred to by their last names only.



Hint: The names of the eras on the map are on the top in yellow.

Across

2. Who “gave voice to the American Indian diaspora in Chicago?”
6. The Organization of Black American Culture is still prevalent today. Which era saw its formation?
9. The NBC Studio was located in the Merchandise Mart during this era
- 11: First best-seller written by an African American
13. Journalist whose favorite haunt was the Billy Goat Tavern
14. Film critic Ebert partnered with
15. The Newberry Library revived the Chicago Bughouse Square tradition in this era

Down

1. Her work “galvanized the anti-lynching movement”
3. The Chicago Defender was in the ____ era
4. She founded the South Side Community Center and DuSable Museum of African American History
5. First African American woman to produce a Broadway play
7. Who is the “most dangerous woman in America?”
8. Native American tribe Benny Bearskin was a member of
10. Name the era the Hull-House Theater was in business
12. Number of National Book Awards Saul Bellow won