



# YOUTH MATERIALS

## UMBRELLA GALLERY: I SPY

Walk around the gallery and see if you can find these images in the artwork

- a bird
- a fish
- a dog
- a sneaker
- a radio
- the sun
- the Concord zip code
- the Recycling Symbol

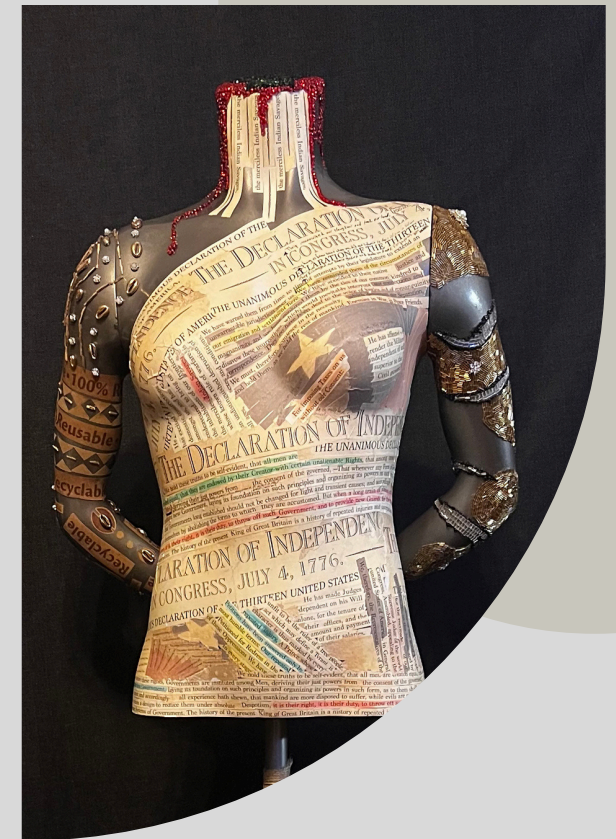
## WALDEN WOODS

In the reflection circle there are bottles hanging from the trees. Can you count how many there are?

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

This exhibition features work of Sharon Chandler Correnty, Ife' Franklin, Stephen Hamilton, Whit Harris, Ekua Holmes, Perla Mabel, Marla McLeod, Kimberly Love Radcliffe, and Anthony Peyton Young.

This exhibition honors the memory of the Black inhabitants of Walden Woods and reclaims this space as a site of Black storytelling, Black perspective, and Black identity, inviting future generations to connect with these histories in meaningful ways.



# WEAVING AN ADDRESS

Educational Pamphlet



THE UMBRELLA  
ARTS CENTER



# GALLERY INFORMATION

**Weaving An Address** is a two-part exhibition confronting the complexities of American History and the ongoing significance of Black identities.

The art is inspired by the lives of formerly enslaved people who made a community in Walden Woods. This community was started by Brister Freeman, one of the first enslaved people to gain freedom in Concord.

In Walden Woods, the outdoor exhibit weaves along the trails and immerses you in its history. The indoor textile-based works, in the Allie Kussin Gallery, illustrate the challenges of tracing Black ancestry and the importance of reclaiming erased histories.



## BRISTER FREEMAN

Brister was taken away from his birth parents, who were both enslaved on different estates in Concord, at the age of two. When he was nine years old Brister was given to Dr. John Cuming and his new bride as a wedding gift. He spent the next 25 years of his life enslaved to John Cuming, until enlisting and serving in the American Revolution. During his last enlistment he no longer used the name Brister Cuming, but Brister Freeman. After his service in the Revolution, Brister gained his freedom.

Following the Revolution Brister and another former slave, Charlestown Edes, pooled their resources to buy land in Walden Woods. While living there Brister did not pay his poll tax, and town officials used this as an excuse to strip Brister of his land owner status, thereby removing Brister's rights as a citizen.

On his death, John Cuming left money for Concord schools and his former slaves including Brister Freeman. However, this money was never given to Brister, and was instead given to the town of Concord.



## ENGAGE WITH THE ART

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What does freedom mean to you?
- Why is a supportive community meaningful?
- How would you honor you ancestors' memory?

### SUGGESTED READING

Ages 5-10

**Follow the Drinking Gourd**

By: Jeanette Winter

Ages 10+

**Child Out Of Place**

By: Patricia Q. Wall

Ages 15+

**Black Walden**

by: Elise Virginia Lemire