COMICS & BLACK HISTORY

FUN BOOK ISSUE 30

INCLUDES ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH’S PUZZLES
Comics Panels

The layout below is inspired by a page in *Black Panther* #1 from July 2018. Use it to illustrate the story of mathematician Katherine Johnson, cartoonist Morrie Turner, or another Black historical figure! If you need more layouts, check out our latest 6-page PDF “Comics Layouts 02” from the Museum@Home webpage.
True Value

To add a variety of depth, texture, and tone into newspaper comic strips printed in black and white, cartoonists employ a variety of shading techniques in their work. Use the boxed rows below to practice shading in the style suggested (lines, dots, and cross hatches). Begin by filling in the leftmost box the most, then gradually fill in less as you move across the strip. Then, practice shading the objects at the bottom of the page using your choice of one technique, or a combo!
Color Us Quotable

The quote below is from Alitha E. Martinez, given during a 2019 interview with The Hollywood Reporter. Martinez launched her professional career in 1999 pencilling Iron Man, and has since worked on such titles as X-Men, Black Panther: World of Wakanda, Moon Girl, New 52 Bat Girl, Riverdale, WWE Superstar, and Omni. She also founded Ariotstorm Productions, from which she publishes her titles Yume and Ever, and Foreign.

CREATORS BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO TELL INCLUSIVE STORIES IN THE MAINSTREAM.

- Alitha E. Martinez
Dots & Boxes

Minimum 2 players. Take turns connecting two dots horizontally or vertically only; no diagonal lines! When you complete a box, write your initials in it, then take another turn. Empty boxes are each worth 1 point. Boxes around pop cultural works by Black creators are each worth 2 points. The player with the most points wins!
Word Play

Hidden in this week’s puzzle are Black comics historians as well as educators regarded for using comics in the classroom. How quickly can you find them? Look across, down, diagonal, and backwards.

N J G J Q I A N J T L U Q I J M H O H L V F
J I M A E G O A N D B U Q G O I D T O I J W
L F O Q K I T D A J I P Y O T D N U O Q N U
V B H Y L A S E T N X N N S G Q R M W A T Q
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R R C O F C A R N K E D N B D W U Q O C I C
E Q A F D Q J A G B J A J V D T X A N S R E
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N R G M A O B H L A T B T S A T B Q S S E V
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S I C Y U I K L S W I U O Z I L V D B V O D
A M X B C J T E M D J H N W R S R B J I L T
W J F N K Y T Y A N N U R I E B G N Y M L L
Y A S X P T P K X N N A D I L I F U N A M A
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R K G A J F S K C I R D N E K L I E N R N J
F S H E E N A C H O W A R D H A F L U V O J
A O C J V B U G F S G F C B R Y G C E K K N
W N X L Z N Z Y D X D A V I D H E R E D I A

Adilifu Nama
Darrell Goza
David F. Walker
David Heredia
Deborah Whaley

Deirdre Hollman
Erica Buddington
John Jennings
Jonathan Gayles

Kadiatou Tubman
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FUN BOOK 30

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Cross Purpose

This month’s crossword features Black creatives and works in comics, film, and music. Draw on your knowledge of comics and Black History to complete the crossword below!

ACROSS

2. Afua Richardson drew the art of the fictional comic Orithya _____ featured in Lovecraft Country.
5. Showrunner of supernatural series Lovecraft Country.
8. The Fellowship of Reconciliation distributed a comic in 1957 about this city’s 1955 bus boycott and featuring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks.
10. X-Men’s weather goddess.
11. In 1948, cartoonist Alvin Hollingsworth published a comic book about the rise of this iconic singer, Civil Rights activist, and star of the musical film classic Stormy Weather.

DOWN

2. Object frequently thrown in George Herriman’s “Krazy Kat” comic strips.
3. In 1951, illustrator and artist Robert Pious painted the portrait of this Underground Railroad (s)hero, a painting that currently resides in the National Portrait Gallery.
4. Ava DuVernay will direct the film adaptation of this Jack Kirby comic for DC that features the worlds New Genesis and Apokolips.
6. “______ I’m Coming From” by Barbara Brandon-Croft is the first syndicated comic strip by a Black woman cartoonist to appear in mainstream newspapers.
9. Daisy L. Scott is the first known Black woman cartoonist whose editorial cartoons appeared from 1920–1921 in this Oklahoma city’s Black-owned newspaper until the newspaper’s building was burned down during the city’s race massacre.
Answer Key to Previous Edition
These puzzles appeared in Fun Book 29: Science Fiction & Fantasy. Thanks for playing!

Word Play

Connect & Color

Cross Purpose

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But Wait, There’s More!

TRIVIA TIME!
Head to our Instagram feed (@comicconmuseum) and tap the “Trivia” highlight in our profile to guess the year each listed Black superhero first appeared! Can you score a coveted 10 of 10?

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