



Artist & Composer Study

This session's featured artist is John Trumbull. We've included six art selections for your kids and teens to use for picture study. They are:

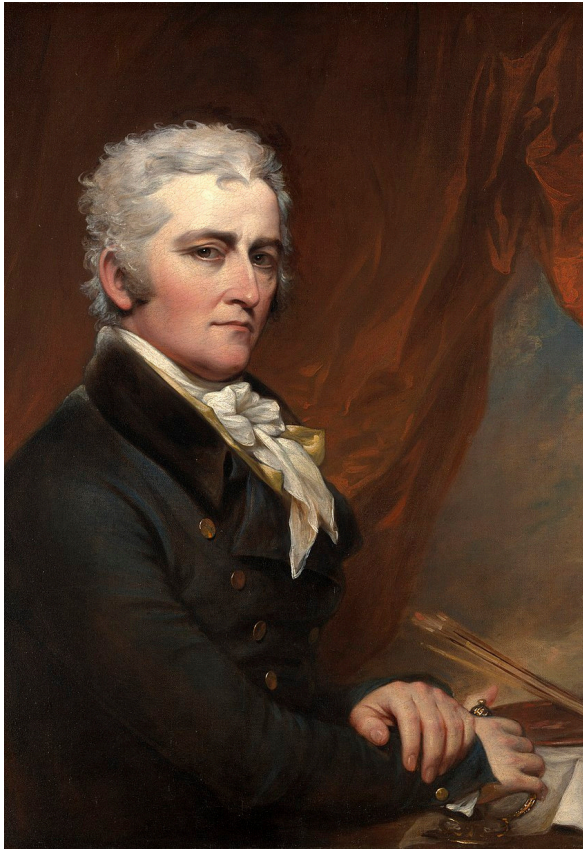
- *Portrait of George Washington and William 'Billy' Lee*
- *Declaration of Independence*
- *Portrait of Alexander Hamilton*
- *The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis*
- *General George Washington Resigning his Commission*
- *The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775*

Our featured composer is C.P.E. Bach. We've included six of his pieces (with links to each) to listen to. They are:

- Solfeggietto in C minor (H220, Wq. 117:2)
- Concerto for Harpsichord or Fortepiano and Strings in E Minor Wq. 15
- String Quartet No.14 D minor
- Cello Concerto in A minor, Wq. 170
- Quartet in G Major, Wq 95, H539
- Quartet in A Minor, Wq 93: II. Largo e sostenuto

We have also added a selection of Colonial music for you to listen to.

Artist & Composer Study



John Trumbull

June 6, 1756 - November 10, 1843

John Trumbull was born in Lebanon, Connecticut. His parents, Jonathan and Faith, were members of the elite in Colonial America. Despite his obvious aptitude and desire to develop his talent as an artist, his father wanted his son to continue the family legacy of greatness, rather than "degrade" himself by becoming one.

To encourage Trumbull to go in another direction, his parents sent him off to Harvard in the hopes that law or ministry would strike his fancy and help him forget any foolish ideas about pursuing art.

One evening, John Trumbull visited a man named John Singleton Copley. Copley showed Trumbull his paintings. Trumbull was transfixed. He realized then he could not justify doing anything else with his life but pursue his one true desire—painting.

The very next morning, Trumbull studied art with renewed vigor. Harvard's lack of an art major didn't deter him. Trumbull made use of the many pieces of artwork around campus, copying and sketching them into a notebook. He scoured through art books found in the library of his campus. In 1773, Trumbull graduated from Harvard with quite an art education, despite not obtaining his degree in this pursuit.

Trumbull's brother Joseph helped him secure a place as an officer in the Continental Army. He used his talent for drawing to make a map of the British army's location, and presented it to George Washington. Washington later appointed Trumbull to a position as assistant to a senior officer. He held this position for a year, becoming Colonel John Trumbull. At the end of that year, a disagreement caused him to resign from the army.

Despite this, his experience in the military gave him cause to bring scenes from the war and army camps to life through his paintings. Trumbull sailed for London to study under famed artist Benjamin West, an American painter who resided there.

While in London, Trumbull began to decide the path his paintings would take. Some of his colleagues planned to return to America to paint portraits of important people, while Trumbull desired to paint historical scenes. After two years in Connecticut, Trumbull went back to London to pursue painting again.

His goal was to develop his talent enough to become worthy of painting the important scenes of the Continental army's recent victory over British forces. He created several notable works, including *Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill* and *The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis* at

Yorktown. He later went to visit Paris, where Thomas Jefferson was serving as ambassador.

Jefferson told Trumbull that he should move away from battle scenes and paint something with the Declaration of Independence.

With Jefferson's memory helping him to place the participants in the scene, John Trumbull painted *The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776*, one of his most famous works. In the painting, five men hold out a draft of the declaration to John Hancock, the president of the Continental Congress.

Trumbull spent 27 years of his life traveling north and south through the colonies, attempting to paint all 47 people in the painting from life.

In later years, Trumbull used his influence to help guide American art in a certain direction. He became President of the conservative American Academy of Fine Arts, and wrote an autobiography just two years before his death, which highlighted his contributions to painting and artistry in the early years of the new country of America.

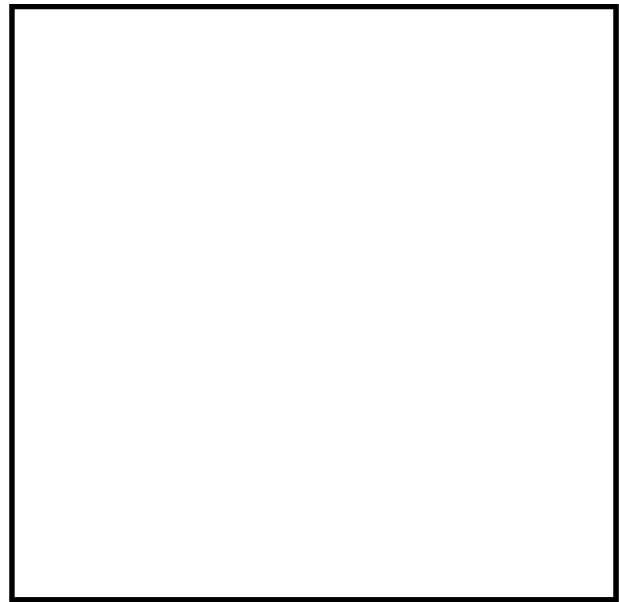
Artist Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Artist Fun Facts: _____



Art Mediums Used: _____

Famous Artworks: _____

Further Study:



Portrait of George Washington and William 'Billy' Lee, John Trumbull, 1780



Declaration of Independence, John Trumbull, 1817 - 1819



Alexander Hamilton, John Trumbull, 1792



The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, John Trumbull, 1819 - 1820



General George Washington Resigning his Commission, 1817 - 1824



The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775,
1786

Picture Study

Title: _____

Date Created: _____

Art Mediums Used: _____

Further Study: _____

Use the box to draw a picture inspired by this artwork.

