

Michelangelo Buonarroti

An interactive poem by  
Margaret Chancellor Caldwell

Michelangelo  
BUONARROTI,  
Born in 1475,  
WAS HE THE GREATEST SCULPTOR  
AND PAINTER  
WHO HAS EVER BEEN ALIVE?

Born in Caprese.  
CITIZEN OF FLORENCE.  
Worked for Ghirlandaio  
WHEN HE WAS A LAD.  
Knew as a youngster he'd be artist.  
THAT SURE MADE HIS FATHER  
MAD!

A marble pieta---  
WHEN HE WAS 23,  
The young Mary looks  
AS LIFELIKE AS CAN BE.  
A Moses with horns.  
A DAVID THREE GUYS TALL.  
Sistine Chapel frescoes!  
HE COULD DO IT ALL!

An architect and poet.  
ST. PETER'S DOME AND MORE.  
He learned throughout his life.  
HE DIED IN 1564.

Michelangelo!  
BUONARROTI!

(Lower case: teacher;  
UPPER CASE: STUDENTS;  
UNDERLINED: All)

Grant Wood

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Grant Wood, artist,  
WAS BORN IN '91.  
He loved to draw!  
HE LOVED TO PAINT!  
FOR HIM IT WAS BIG FUN!

Grant Wood understood  
AN ARTIST NEEDS TO MULL  
The trends and news in art work  
TO MAKE THEIRS POWERFUL!

Wood studied art in Europe.  
HE LEARNED THE "ISMS" THERE.  
He liked the Flemish portraits---  
SO CLEAR, PRECISE, AND SPARE.

He'd paint the people of his state  
THROUGH PLENTY AND  
DEPRESSION  
Iowa and Iowans  
IN RAPID SUCCESSION!

American Gothic's instant fame---  
A BIG CHICAGO PRIZE---  
Wood's sister and his dentist  
HIS REGIONALISTIC TIES.

A mural of Abe Lincoln  
ENGAGING COUNTRY SCENES  
Turner gave him access  
WHEN HIS FAMILY LACKED THE  
MEANS.

Anamosa, Cedar Rapids,  
IOWA CITY, TOO  
Grant Wood---a local boy makes Art!  
HE DID AND SO COULD YOU!

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) An Interactive Poem by  
Margaret Chancellor Caldwell

When we study Leonardo,

WE HAVE ONE ENORMOUS HURDLE

Are we talking Renaissance genius,

OR TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLE?

Leonardo, born near Vinci,

USED HIS EYES TO LOOK AND LEARN.

Studied with the great Verrochio,

THEN AS MASTER TOOK HIS TURN.

Worked in Florence, then at 30,

FROM MILAN HE GOT A CALL

There he painted The Last Supper

FOR THE MONKS' NEW DINING HALL.

Leonardo was a lefty,

WRITING DOWN FROM RIGHT TO NEAR.

Backwards writing kept it secret---

AVOIDED MAKING HIS INK SMEAR!

Leonard asked some questions:

HOW? WHAT IF?

Were daily fare.

BUT IN ARTWORKS ALL HIS PEOPLE

SEEM TO THINK!--SOME SEEM TO CARE!

Leonardo, the inventor,

PICTURED STUFF THAT CAME TO BE:

Parachute and helicopter---

ARMORED TANK, IMPROVED PULLEY!

Catapult and armored chariot,

MOVEABLE BRIDGES, SUBMARINE!

Tackles, dredges, fortifications---

MACHINES HIS WORLD HAD NEVER SEEN!

Best known for his Mona Lisa:

LANDSCAPE, PORTRAIT, MYSTERIOUS  
SMILE,

To see it in the Louvre Museum,

YOU MAY WAIT IN LINE AWHILE!

Leonardo---so widely accomplished,

HE WAS CALLED A RENAISSANCE MAN.

He left a bit of work unfinished---

ALL YOU CAN DO IS WHAT YOU CAN!

10,000 pages in his sketchbooks,

SERVICE TO DUKES, A POPE, A KING,

Living with a zest for knowing,

THAT WAS LEONARDO'S THING!

Moving now to Renaissance Masters as

CRIMEFIGHTING NINJAS IN A HALF SHELL,

We'll learn names of other talents:

MICHELANGELO-DONATELLO-RAPHAEL!