





## Pardon our dust!

The Capitol is undergoing a much-needed restoration. As we work to preserve its legacy, let's highlight the artist who is responsible for the majority of art!

Violet Oakley, a Philadelphia artist in the early 1900s, was commissioned to "add interest to the building and act as an encouragement of women of the state." In honor of Women's History Month, we showcase her art of historical events important to Pennsylvania.

Across her 13 murals installed at the Capitol over 25 years, Oakley depicted the birth, progress, and hope of our state. She recognized PA's history of religious tolerance, formation and evolution of the Union, and ideal of peace. William Penn, President Lincoln, John Locke, and even Oakley herself can be spotted throughout her visual epics.

Oakley insisted on being inclusive in her murals. She painted African Americans, and refused to erase the Japanese flag during World War II. She supported community art centers, world peace with the United Nations, and nuclear disarmament. Oakley is the embodiment of the PA spirit, and her resilience can be seen in her art.

Help us carry on this important legacy. Fund future grants for women in art, and celebrate the accomplishment by women in our state government.

