History of Zimbabwean Shona Sculpture

African Stone Sculpture from Zimbabwe is often called Shona Sculpture, named after the largest Ethnic Group in Zimbabwe (about 82% of the population). Zimbabwe - derived from the Shona word dzimbandzamabwe which means “house of stone” – is the only country on the African continent that has large deposits of stone suitable for sculpting.

In ancient times, stone was used extensively for building and for decorative purposes. The Great Zimbabwe settlement, now a World Heritage Site, is testimony to the skill and artistry of the ancestors of today’s sculptors. Between the 12th and 15th centuries, at a time when Europe was just emerging from the Dark Ages, these accomplished stone masons used hand-hewn granite blocks to painstakingly and precisely build ornate towers and enclosures – all free of mortar. Parts of the settlement combine natural rock formation and dry stone construction – the two blending aesthetically and functionally.

Artists draw extensively on traditional culture for their inspiration: the mythology, folklore, rituals and beliefs in ancestral spirits that remain strong strands even in the ancestors of today’s sculptors. Built from Serpentine, a mineral rock. The stone has been extensively for building and for decorative purposes. The Great Zimbabwe art movement attracts, and continues to attract, sculptors from surrounding African countries – Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia. So while the Shona people are still predominant, in the mythology, folklore, rituals and beliefs, women are also a significant source of inspiration: the mythology, folklore, rituals and beliefs of Mark and Bonnie Barnes many years ago. They felt the art movement attracts, and continues to attract, sculptors from surrounding African countries – Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia. So while the Shona people are still predominant, in the ancestors of today’s sculptors. They felt the inspiration: the mythology, folklore, rituals and beliefs in ancestral spirits that remain strong strands even in the ancestors of today’s sculptors. This traditional design of the Shona culture caught the eye of Bonnie Barnes since years ago. They felt the sculpture symbolized the relationship between a nurse and their patient and referred to it as the Healer’s Touch. These beautiful pieces of artwork for DAISY Honorées have created an umbrella of economic protection and sustenance over the group of artists and their families we support. In the midst of economic disaster, each artist is incredibly grateful for the consistent support and peace of mind this work provides them in a country with such little hope and so few opportunities. The artists’ gratitude resonates through each sculpture, which in turn honors and recognizes the incredible work that nurses perform every day. Moreover, since the Shona people hold their traditional healers in very high esteem, viewing them as treasures in their community, there is no one better to carve such special gifts for our DAISY Honorées.

Congratulations to each DAISY Award Honoree! For more information and a video of two Shona artists carving Healer’s Touch Sculptures, please visit DAISYfoundation.org/daisy-award/2021-healers-touch

Congratualtions! You have joined a community of the most amazing nurses whose practice is renowned for outstanding clinical skill, compassion, and inspiration. You are the epitome of nursing’s unique blend of art and science. The DAISY (Diseases Attacks the Immune System) Foundation™ was created in 1999 by the family of J. Patrick Barnes to say, “thank you!” to his nurses for the care and compassion they provided during his illness and at the end of his life. The foundation has grown over the years and expresses gratitude to Nurses with programs to honor them wherever they practice, in whatever role they serve, and throughout their careers. Today, The DAISY Award™ is embedded in thousands of healthcare facilities and schools of nursing, internationally.

As a DAISY Honoree, we ask the following:

• Don’t miss out on your international recognition! Please remind your DAISY Coordinator to register you on our website. This entitles you to many wonderful benefits. Upon registration, we will create your DAISY spotlight page upon registration. You will share your nomination story and a photo of your sculpture, which in turns honors and recognizes the incredible work that nurses perform every day. Moreover, since the Shona people hold their traditional healers in very high esteem, viewing them as treasures in their community, there is no one better to carve such special gifts for our DAISY Honorées.

• We are very active in social media. Please “like” DAISY Foundation on Facebook where we share updates, latest news and many photos and stories! There is also a DAISY Nurses Facebook page, where you can connect with other recipients! In addition, you can connect with us, send Best Practice Ideas by following us on Twitter @DAISYNurses, Pinterest.com/DAISYFoundation, Instagram and LinkedIn!

• If you attend a nursing conference, please look for our DAISY display and say Hello. It will mean so much to us to meet you and wish you well in person and to give you your conference DAISY nurse ribbon!

• Become a DAISY Ambassador. Ambassadors help us achieve our vision of having The DAISY Award in every healthcare organization or school of nursing that wants it and will do what it takes to make it meaningful to their nurses. Contact erinascher@DAISYfoundation.org for more information.

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The “Care and Feeding” of Your Healer’s Touch Sculpture

Your beautiful Sculpture is hand-carved in Zimbabwe from Serpentine, a mineral rock. The stone has been polished with wax to bring out the deep color of the stone. Should it suffer a scratch, it is very easy to restore. Your beautiful Sculpture is hand-carved in Zimbabwe from Serpentine, a mineral rock. The stone has been polished with wax to bring out the deep color of the stone. Should it suffer a scratch, it is very easy to restore. Applying Restora Finish (Neutral) to the entire sculpture will do what it takes to make it meaningful to their nurses. Contact erinascher@DAISYfoundation.org for more information.

If you have any questions, please email us at DAISYsupplies@DAISYfoundation.org
Thanks to the American Nurses Credentialing Center, DAISY Honorees are eligible to apply for or renew ANCC Certification at a special rate. When your DAISY Coordinator registers you as a DAISY Honoree, you will receive the web link and discount code. We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful offer!

Chamberlain University generously offers reduction in tuition to DAISY Honorees. The DAISY Honoree Scholarship is available to nurses who have a current, active RN license in the U.S. or in a jurisdiction that is an Associate Member of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NC SBN). Chamberlain’s DAISY Honoree Scholarship is designed to encourage continuing education in the nursing profession and, assuming Chamberlain’s admission requirements are met. Contact chamberlain.edu/DAISY for more information.

Once a year, registered Honorees are eligible to apply for the Cherokee Nursing Conference Scholarship to support nursing professionals and their career advancement! Cherokee will award $2,000 each to 10 DAISY Award Honorees to support attendance at a conference of their choice where they may learn and earn CE units. Honorees must be registered on The DAISY Foundation website. www.cherokeenursingscholarship.com

Each fall, registered Honorees can be nominated for Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. This recognition celebrates the personal commitment to patient and workforce safety in the delivery of compassionate care by nurses for patients and families and raises awareness of the significant contributions by nurses with respect to patient and workforce safety.

DAISY Medical Mission Grants

Many nurses serve on medical missions, often using vacation time and funding the trip themselves. DAISY wants to help! Each year, DAISY Honorees can apply for a medical mission grant. 10 grants of up to $1,500 are awarded to encourage nurses who have demonstrated extraordinary compassion in daily practice to contribute to patient care for the world’s most underserved and vulnerable people. Check our website for past recipients and more information about this opportunity!

*For a full list and eligibility requirements: www.daisyfoundation.org/daisy-award/honorees-benefits For Faculty and Students: www.daisyfoundation.org/faculty-and-student-honorees-benefits