

ARKANSAS BLACK HISTORY



Image courtesy of Encyclopedia of Arkansas

Isaac Scott Hathaway was an educator and artist born in Lexington, Kentucky. Hathaway worked with ceramics, most notably creating busts and life/death masks of notable African Americans. Not only did Hathaway create busts and masks of figures such as Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver and Frederick Douglass, but he was also commissioned by the U.S. Mint to design two coins. Hathaway taught at what is now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB), where he chaired the department of ceramics and encouraged Black students to practice the arts. The Isaac Scott Hathaway collection, which is the largest collection of his works, resides in Little Rock (Pulaski County) at Mosaic Templars Cultural Center. A bust of Hathaway, that was created by his wife, Umer Porter, is on display in the Hathaway/Howard Fine Arts Center at UAPB.

