

Let's take a minute to look at this next work and notice the materials in this set of sculptures and just look before we discuss it. **[Allow a full minute of looking. State the artist's name and the title first.]**

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ET AL, or The Child Plaintiffs as Power-figures: Courage and Play, Love and Hope, Grace and Compassion, Will and Might, Serenity and Music, Light and Joy, Warrior and Intellect, Creativity and Vision, 2024

- The title is kinds of like a poem, isn't it?

This set of sculptures was made for an exhibition that the artist put together specifically about the 70th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board* historic ruling. That was a court case that said that it was illegal for schools to be segregated based on race. So, 70 years ago this court case made it so that Black children could no longer be forced to attend different schools than white children. And this sculpture represents the children who helped make that change possible.

I am going to list some of materials that the artist used to make this, as she wrote it and wanted it put on the label:

Love and research, plaster, wood, wood glue, plaster gauze, rage, wire, ...

- Which of these doesn't seem like a typical material for artwork?

tears, shock and the understanding that these children made a new world, auto body paint, pedestals so tall that the figures MUST be looked up to ...

- She says that the figures must be looked up to, why do you think she wanted us to have to look up to them?

cloth, twine, strands of beads, buttons, keys put together by the community of Topeka: ... The buttons speak to the power of MENDING ... The keys are forgiveness — internal and external forgiveness.

- Why do you suppose the artist put all of these things in the list of materials? Why would including ideas like love and tears and forgiveness be important to include?