

ZC

Professor Ramser

English 350

Extra credit AA Quilts

A quilt is a multi-layered textile or patterns, usually made up of three layers of fiber, a woven cloth top, a layer of filling, and a woven back, using the quilting technique, and process of sewing the layer together. The pattern of stitching is the key element of a single piece of fabric that is for the top quilt, in some cases it might be pieces from smaller fabric pieces, and the pattern and color of the pieces will be important for the top design. The quilt that was the most significant to me is Rosa Parks and Maxine Waters by Ramsess. Ramsess is a self-taught artist and educator. He works as an African American quilter, multiple mediums, textile, painting mosaic, illustrations and stain glass. Ramsess used two very powerful women to embrace who they from politics, minorities rights, woman's movement, courage, and change.

Every quilt is unique, each one tells a story, from the textile, patterns, to its colors, and facial expression. The moment I walked into the library I can see Rosa Parks and Maxine Waters quilt, which really captured my eye. The quilt is divided in half on the left side it's Rosa Park and the right side it's Maxine Waters. On the left half of the background, it has different patterned fabric, shapes and rainbow color textile. Rosa Parks has a green and yellow tie dye hat. Her face and hand are black and white with red lips. She is wearing a pink blazer coat with a teal collar and sleeve. On the other hand, Maxine Waters back round is a peach solid color. Her face and hands are different shades of brown and yellow. Her hair and hat are black with a shade of white. Her eyeshadow and lips are purple. She is wearing a black flower pattern blazer coat with blue swirled collar and sleeve.

Rosa and Maxine both have pearls on, with the exception that Maxine's pearls are bigger. They both have a straight empowering facial expression. They are also holding a rectangle with their hands. What's the significance of the rectangle? What is Ramsess implying by the rectangle? My conclusion is that it might have been a box of pixie dust of courage and change for the future. The outer layer of the quilt is red with yellow swirls and the inner layer next to it is light blue.

Rosa Parks was born February 4th, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama. Rosa was a civil rights activist. In December 1, 1955 after coming out of work, she refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Which meant that all African Americans had to sit in the back of the bus. The bus got full and many white passengers were standing up. Back then the bus driver was able to move passenger out of their seats for white passengers to sit. The bus driver asked her to move so a passenger could have a seat, but she refused to comply. The bus driver called the police and she got arrested. Her courage triggered the Montgomery Bus Boycott by many African American leaders that lasted 381 days. The city of Montgomery changed segregation on public buses and the boycott ended December 20, 1956. If it wouldn't have been for her courage, who knows what it would be like today.

Maxine Waters was born August 15, 1938, in St. Louise, Missouri. She is a member of the Democratic party. Recognized as the most powerful African American politician. She is the representative for California's 43rd congressional district since 2013. She is serving her 15th term in the House of Representative since 1993. Prior, she was U.S. Representative for California 35th and 29th district. She advocates for minorities, poor communities, women, and children. More than anything she is brave, bold, courageous, and not scared to speak her mind as a woman

leader. Maxine Waters is an inspiration to all women and minorities, it doesn't matter where you came from you can live your dream and reach for your goals, without limits!

In conclusion Ramsess quilt of Rosa Parks and Maxine Waters represents courageous women making a change in their community for the unspoken. This was a way to acknowledge them in a form of art. Ramsess quilts are beautiful and full of life with bright colors. The textile is precise to make them look like an exact replica of Parks and Waters. It is also a form of expression in a creative way. Rosa Parks was a civil rights activist. Not giving up her seat, she changed segregation on buses. Maxine Waters represents California district 43. She fights for children, women, and minorities rights. There are no limits to being creative and making a change in the community. Just believe that it can be possible.









