



**Title:** Wall Of Inspiration

**Catalog Number:** LPA15

**Artist:** Vivian Cooke

**Date:** 2000

**Location:** Dunbar Historical Lake, MLK Boulevard and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lubbock, TX.

**Description:** A large mural depicting historical and inspirational vignettes of African-American life in the Lubbock area. It includes images of Tuskegee Airmen, a space shuttle blasting off in honor of black astronauts, such as Bernard Harris a Texas Tech University graduate. It also includes children playing, students in camps and gowns, workers toiling in a field, a church congregation, the Buffalo Soldiers, an African mask and the Lubbock city skyline.

**History:** Vivian Cooke is a retired public school art teacher and long-time resident of the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights neighborhood. Local artist and internationally renowned sculptor, Eddie Dixon described Cooke as “a great talent and an up-and-coming sculptor.” The Buddy Holly Center donated art supplies, volunteers and equipment. A \$4000 grant was awarded by the

city of Lubbock on recommendation of the Lubbock Arts Alliance to help with funding. The purpose of the mural was to provide inspiration for African-American youth in the neighborhood. It demonstrates the hard work of previous generations and shows opportunities outside of professional sports and music.

**Other artwork by artist/places exhibited:** "Sandlot Player," Mae Simmons Park, East 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Oak Avenue, Lubbock, TX.

**Works Cited:** Williams, Brian. "Wall Of Inspiration." *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, September 5, 2000,

Local.

**Material:** Acrylic paint, concrete.

**Dimensions:** Half a block long.

**Condition:** 5

**Owned By:** The wall is owned by Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, the mural itself by The City of Lubbock, P.O. Box 2000, Lubbock, TX 79457; (806) 775-3000.

**Commissioned By:** Buddy Holly Arts Center, the city of Lubbock, and private donations.

**Entered by:** Victoria Beles

**Date Entered:** 5/19/2007