

INSTRUCTIONS: Please use this activity sheet in connection with the Hamilton Cast Read Along session listed below. The activity sheet can be completed during or after watching the Read Along. Students may use the space provided or their own materials to answer the questions.

Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks

BY SUZANNE SLADE (Author) and COZBI A. CABRERA (Illustrator)

Published by Abrams Books for Young Readers

READ BY: Krystal Joy Brown (Eliza, Broadway)

THEME: Perseverance: Gwendolyn Brooks said, *“I wrote what I saw and heard in the streets.”* Her poetry was very close to her and her community. Please keep this theme in mind when completing the activity sheet.

CONNECTION TO SELF

1. Gwendolyn had a great support system that inspired her to keep going and keep writing. Who is in your support system?

CONNECTION TO TEXT

2. Write a tribute poem to Gwendolyn Brooks. It can tell how her words and her story inspire you.
3. Paint, sketch, or design a response or inspiration piece to the poem “Clouds” that you heard at the end of the book. *If you are completing this activity sheet on your computer, please describe in a few sentences what you would draw.*

CONNECTION TO CAST

4. Krystal Joy Brown talked about educators who inspired her. Who is a teacher who inspires you?.

Thank you for participating in Hamilton Cast Read Alongs! We encourage you to share this activity sheet with us by email at hamilton@gilderlehrman.org.