

# Arts & Literature in Old Allegheny\* 1830-1920

\*Locations are approximate

## Mary Roberts Rinehart

Born elsewhere in Allegheny City, Rinehart lived at 954 Beech Ave with her husband & three sons from 1903-1911. She wrote five novels & two plays in this house, including *The Circular Staircase* which sold 1.25 million copies.



## Gertrude Stein

The youngest of five children, Stein was born at 850 Beech Ave in 1874 but left when she was six months old. A leading figure in Modernism at the turn of the 20C, she is known for her extensive art collection & her experimental writing.



## Mary Cassatt

The American painter was born on Rebecca Street (now Reedsdale) in May 1844. She lived in Allegheny City until she was 3 years old before moving to Philadelphia and then, later, to Europe where she became one of the founding members of the Impressionist movement.



## Martha Graham

An innovative choreographer & dancer, Graham was born in Allegheny City in 1894. She moved to Santa Barbara at age 14, where she developed a love of dance. She established the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance in 1926 and earned the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1976.



## Robinson Jeffers

Known for his narrative & epic poetry, Jeffers was born in 1887 at 723 Ridge Ave, now part of the CCAC campus. Son of a Presbyterian minister, Jeffers left Pittsburgh as a young boy. At age 18, he graduated from Occidental College in California, where he lived for the remainder of his life.



## Willa Cather

Cather lived in Allegheny City from 1896-1906, first as a journalist for the *Home Monthly* then later for the *Pittsburgh Leader*. She taught English and Latin at Allegheny High School from 1899-1906. Her first collection of short stories was written almost entirely while living in Pittsburgh.



## Carnegie Library

The first Carnegie Library commissioned in the US (second to open) was completed in 1890 with both Andrew Carnegie & Pres. Benjamin Harrison present at the inaugural events. Carnegie commemorated his mentor, Col. James Anderson, with a nearby monument.



## Stephen C. Foster

Born in Lawrenceville in 1826, Foster moved across the river as a young boy. Famous for parlor & minstrel songs, he composed "Camptown Races," "Oh! Susanna," and "My Old Kentucky Home," among others. His father, William Barclay Foster was mayor of Allegheny City from 1842-1843.

