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Our knowledge of shape and form remains, in general, a mixture of visual and of tactile experiences... A child learns about roundness from handling a ball far more than from looking at it. --Henry Moore

Please Touch the Art

This compelling video tells the story of an artist, Andrew Myers, who is so moved by a blind man's joy at "feeling" three dimensional art that he is inspired to create three dimensional portraits to be experienced by people who are blind or visually impaired. Why is touching artwork so taboo? According to the producers of the film, "Prior to the mid-1800s, tactile interaction was commonplace for visitors experiencing collections of art, but as museums of art evolved, rules forbidding touch became the norm." In this film, Myers surprises George Wurtzel, a blind artisan working in wood, with a portrait. Wurtzel delights in sharing his portrait with his visually impaired students at Enchanted Hills Camp as he teaches them by example how to work as a blind artisan. Wurtzel's philosophy that "your life is what you decide it will be" permeates the film.

Be The Change:

Make some time today to listen to the extraordinary musical talents of young people from the Academy of Music for the Blind, who provided the music for this video.