

## Curatorial Overview

Our project was to inform everyone about the Black Comic book artist that displayed such boldness, heart, and soul in their craft. The text we chose was *Invisible Men: The Trailblazing Black Artists of Comic Books* by Ken Quattro, who writes about many African-American comics of the 1940s and how many artists felt these "color lines" in and outside of their work. This era pushed many-colored comics to display their work in entertaining stories, which sought to underline class, race, and history. With much respect to the text, we would have loved to include each of these fantastic artists and storytellers. Clarence Matthew Baker was the first black comic book artist to produce his superhero; thus, his life was short; he created countless hours of art because that's what he loved. Elmer Cecil Stoner was a classically trained artist who produced crime comics and would have drawn the iconic "Mr. Peanut." Alvin Hollingsworth, who was lucky to live where opportunities for a young black artist didn't always come by, thrived with his eye for horror comics, leading to fine arts. Calvin Levi Massey had many trades and an eye for art, sculpting, and producing meaning in his imaginations. Though these four comic book artists made innovative moves in their work, they all still struggled with racism and the hierarchy of the comic book industry of the time. All these artists in this text accomplished something that should not be hidden or forgotten but shown loudly and proudly.