

Improving Artist Diversity

Wikipedia edit-a-thon



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Presented by
AMLIT
&
Wikimedia District of Columbia

November 18, 2017 | Washington DC

12PM-5PM

Agenda

- Thank you!
 - Housekeeping: Wiki event page and social media
 - Introduction: What is Wikipedia?
 - Wikipedia and gender
 - Basics and policies
 - Create and username/Sign-in
 - Article anatomy
 - Let's practice
 - Other ways to edit
 - Let's edit!
-

**Thank you
AMLIT AND
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**

amlit“”
ART
FILM
PHOTOGRAPHY
POETRY
PROSE

Housekeeping

Navigate to the wiki event page.

Go to Wikipedia.org and enter the following shortcut into the search bar.

WMDC-AUAD

Bookmark this page. We will use it throughout the day.

Social Media

Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

@wikimediadc

@amlitmag

Introduction

Wikipedia: the 21st-century encyclopedia



“Imagine a world in which every single person on the planet is given free access to the sum of all human knowledge. That's what we're doing.”

-Jimmy Wales, co-founder, Wikipedia

About us

Free as in beer, Free as in freedom ... gratis et libre

Created and edited by volunteers

Overseen by nonprofit Wikimedia Foundation

All edits and versions recorded forever (revision history)

5+ million articles, 270+ languages

75k active users/month, 11k very active users/month



Free...

All content freely licensed without restrictions

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Written content or image/video/audio uploads

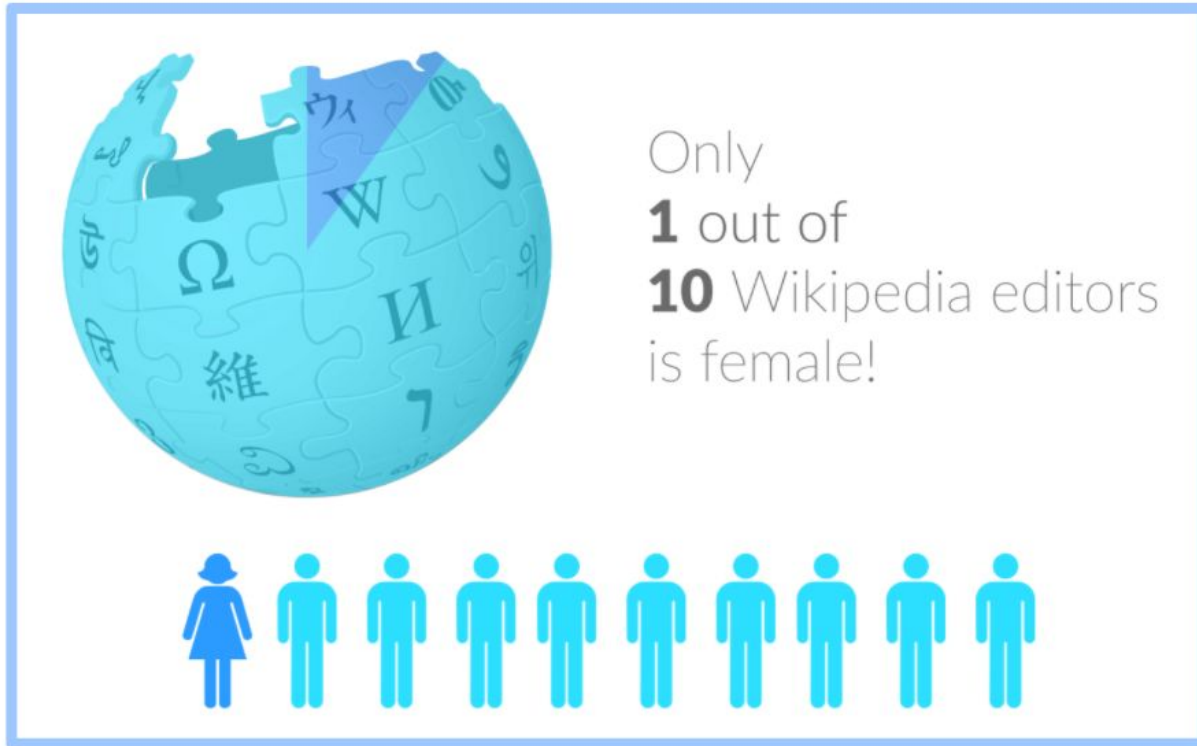
Wikimedia Commons - multimedia repository
commons.wikimedia.org

Commercial re-use is absolutely allowed. Google,
publishers...



Wikipedia and Gender

Editor gender gap? Unsilence the silent



Content gender gap? Make the invisible visible

Percentage of women's biographies

1957	November 2014	May 2017
3.6%	15%	16.97%
Ramón Armando Rodríguez. <i>Diccionario Biográfico, Geográfico e Histórico de Venezuela</i>	English language Wikipedia	English language Wikipedia

How Can We Fix This?

- Engagement through edit-a-thons, training opportunities and Wikiprojects like Women in Red.
- Ideal Partners Are: Nonprofits*, colleges/universities, government entities and beyond

***75% of nonprofit employees are female.
These nonprofits include educational, scientific and literary
organizations. It's time to engage these 'gatekeepers'.**

*Source The White House Project's 2009 report, *Benchmarking Women's Leadership*,

Basics and Policies

Wikis

- A website where anyone can edit any page at any time
- Meant to be "quick"
- Remembers all versions (nothing ever destroyed)
- Hyperlinks between pages

Wikipedia policies

- **Neutral Point of View** - written so all sides can agree
- **Notability** - significant independent sources -> importance
- **Verifiability** - Using reliable sources to reference information
- **No original research** - point to existing scholarship
- **Assume good faith** - start with congenial spirit
- **Conflicts of interest** - disclose and abide by terms of service

Neutral Point of View

Wikipedia articles should represent diverse views fairly, proportionately, and in non-judgmental language

Shortcut: WP:NPOV



Avoid conflict of interest (COI)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Conflict_of_interest

Can I edit the Wikipedia article about my workplace? Boss? Grandma?

Possibly, but ONLY under the right conditions.

“When advancing outside interests is more important to an editor than advancing the aims of Wikipedia, that editor stands in a conflict of interest (COI).”

Shortcut: WP:COI

- Cite authoritative sources
- Don't remove controversies from text
- No one person can “own” an article or control its content
- Disclose your affiliations

Sample COI statement for cultural institutions

I, User: [username here], am an employee of [your institution], and a cultural institution per Wikiproject:GLAM. I accept the editing conditions specified at that page. I will not make any edits that would not be beneficial to the goals of Wikipedia.

My main edits will tend to consist of the following activities:

- Example1 - Example2

I will modify my editing behavior based on problems cited by other editors or if my editing conflicts with other Wikipedia guidelines. I ask that other editors do not hesitate to contact me, via my user talk page, if I appear to be going against this declaration. [sign here]

Helpful information here:

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Cheatsheet>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Getting_started
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Five_pillars
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Core_content_policies
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Your_first_article
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Writing_about_women
- <https://dashboard.wikiedu.org/training/students>

Helpful people here:

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Teahouse>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Women_in_Red

Create A Username/Sign-in

Create account

Username

Enter your username



[\(help me choose\)](#)

Password

Enter a password



Confirm password

Enter password again



Email address (optional)

Enter your email address

To edit this page, please enter the words that appear below in the box ([more info](#)):

CAPTCHA Security check

[Refresh](#)

Enter the text you see on the image

Can't see the image? [Request an account](#)

1. Create account

<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:CreateAccount>

- Individuals only; no institutional, shared accounts
- Advantages
 - Signals membership in community
 - Facilitates discussion
 - Preferences and privacy

2. Sign in on wiki meetup page

WMDC-AUAD

3. Let's learn to edit!

Article anatomy

- Select to an article from our worklist and follow along
- The worklist can be found on our wiki event page.

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- Ensure that you are logged-in

Discussion

Edit buttons
Edit = Visual Editor, Edit Source = Code



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
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- Interaction
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- Tools
- What links here
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- Wikidata item
- Cite this page

Article **Talk**

Read **Edit** Edit source View history ☆ More ▾ Page ▾ TW ▾ Search Wikipedia 🔍



Wiki Loves Monuments: The world's largest photography competition is now open! Photograph a historic site, learn more about our history, and win prizes.



Charles Alston [edit | edit source]

A *B-class* article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For the Scottish botanist, see [Charles Alston \(botanist\)](#).

Charles Henry Alston (November 28, 1907 – April 27, 1977) was an [African-American painter, sculptor, illustrator, muralist](#) and teacher who lived and worked in the New York City neighborhood of [Harlem](#). Alston was active in the [Harlem Renaissance](#); Alston was the first African-American supervisor for the [Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project](#). Alston designed and painted murals at the [Harlem Hospital](#) and the [Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Building](#). In 1990 Alston's bust of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#) became the first image of an African American displayed at the [White House](#).

Contents [hide]

- 1 Personal life
 - Early life
 - Higher education
 - Later life
- 2 Professional career
 - 2.1 Painting a person and a culture
 - 2.1.1 Modernism
 - 2.1.2 Black and white

Wikidata

Lead paragraphs

Main photo or Infobox placement

Charles Alston



Charles Alston in 1939

Personal life [edit | edit source]

Early life [edit | edit source]

Charles Henry Alston was born on November 28, 1907, in [Charlotte, North Carolina](#), to [Reverend Primus Priss Alston](#) and [Anna Elizabeth Miller Alston](#), and was the youngest of five children.^{[1][2][3]} Only three survived past infancy: Charles, his sister Rousmaniere and his brother [Wendell](#).^{[1][4]} His father was born into [slavery](#) in 1851 in [Pittsboro, North Carolina](#); after the [Civil War](#), he graduated from [St. Augustine's College](#) and became a prominent minister and founder of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. He was described as a "race man": an African American who dedicated his skills to the furtherance of the black race.^{[1][2][3]} Reverend Alston met his wife when she was a student at his school. Charles was nicknamed "Spinky" by his father, and kept the nickname as an adult. In 1910, when Charles was three, his father died suddenly of a [cerebral hemorrhage](#). Locals described him in admiration as the "[Booker T. Washington](#) of Charlotte".^{[1][3]}

In 1913 Anna Alston married Harry Bearden. Through the marriage, the future artist [Romare Bearden](#) became Charles' cousin. The two Bearden families lived across the street from each other; the friendship between Romare and Charles would last a lifetime.^{[1][3][4]} As a child Alston was inspired by his older brother Wendell's drawings of trains and cars, which the young artist copied.^{[1][5]} Charles also played with clay, creating a sculpture of a train. As an adult he reflected on his memories of sculpting with clay as a child: "I'd get buckets of it and put it through strainers and make tiny little things. I think that's the first art experience I remember, making things."^[1] His mother was a skilled [embroiderer](#) and took up painting at the age of 75. He also learned to paint and was also good at drawing,

Notes [edit | edit source]

- ↑ *abc defghijklmnopqrstuvwx yz aa ab ac ad ae af ag ah ai aj ak* Law, Alvia J. (2007). *Charles Alston*. Pomegranate. ISBN 978-0-7649-3760-8.
- ↑ *abc defghijklm* "Charles Henry Alston". *Artists*. Hollis Taggart Galleries. 2011. Retrieved 9 April 2010.
- ↑ *abc defghijklmnopqrstuvwx yz aa ab ac ad ae af ag ah ai aj ak* Pierce, Lemoine (2004). "Charles Alston – An Appreciation". *The International Review of African American Art* (4): 33–38.
- ↑ *ab* Schwartzman, Myron (1990). *Romare Bearden: His Life and Art*. Abrams Books. ISBN 978-0-8109-3108-4.
- ↑ *abcd* Murray, Al (interviewer) (19 October 1968). *Oral History Interview with*

References or notes (Inline citations)

- ↑ *Murals*. Columbia University.
- ↑ Eve M. Kahn (17 March 2011). "Smithsonian Plan to Remove Murals From Los Angeles Lobby Is Criticized". *The New York Times*. Retrieved 10 April 2011.
- ↑ Eve M. Kahn (28 March 2011). "Smithsonian Won't Buy Murals of Black Life in California". *The New York Times*. Retrieved 10 April 2011.
- ↑ Special Committee on the Martin Luther King Bust. Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Committee on the Martin Luther King Bust. 23 June 1970. *Archives of American Art*.
- ↑ Harrington, D. Martin Luther King Jr. Bust. Community Church of New York. 22 October 1970. *Archives of American Art*.

External links

External links [[edit](#) | [edit source](#)]

- [Charles Henry Alston Papers](#) from the Archives of American Art
- [Alston's work is used to teach children about family life and race](#)
- [Digitized Works Progress Administration prints at Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture](#)



Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Charles Alston***.

Categories (+⁺): [1907 births](#) (–) (±) | [1977 deaths](#) (–) (±) | [20th-century American painters](#) (–) (±) | [American male painters](#) (–) (±) | [American painters](#) (–) (±) | [20th-century American sculptors](#) (–) (±) | [American male sculptors](#) (–) (±) | [American sculptors](#) (–) (±) | [Abstract expressionist artists](#) (–) (±) | [African-American artists](#) (–) (±) | [American artists](#) (–) (±) | [Alpha Phi Alpha](#) (–) (±) | [American caricaturists](#) (–) (±) | [American magazine illustrators](#) (–) (±) | [American muralists](#) (–) (±) | [American portrait painters](#) (–) (±) | [Art Students League of New York alumni](#) (–) (±) | [Artists from New York City](#) (–) (±) | [Artists from North Carolina](#) (–) (±) | [Deaths from cancer in New York \(state\)](#) (–) (±) | [City University of New York faculty](#) (–) (±) | [Contemporary painters](#) (–) (±) | [DeWitt Clinton High School alumni](#) (–) (±) | [Harlem Renaissance](#) (–) (±) | [Modern painters](#) (–) (±) | [Modern sculptors](#) (–) (±) | [Artists from Charlotte, North Carolina](#) (–) (±) | [Teachers College, Columbia University alumni](#) (–) (±) | [The New Yorker cartoonists](#) (–) (±) | [United States Army artists](#) (–) (±) | [Federal Art Project artists](#) (–) (±) | (+)

Categories

Article history



Wiki Loves Monuments: The world's largest photography competition is now open! Photograph a historic site, learn more about our history, and win prizes.



Charles Alston: Revision history

[?](#) Help

[View logs for this page](#)

Search for revisions

From year (and earlier): From month (and earlier): Tag filter:

For any version listed below, click on its date to view it. For more help, see [Help:Page history](#) and [Help:Edit summary](#).
External tools: [Revision history statistics](#) · [Revision history search](#) · [Edits by user](#) · [Number of watchers](#) · [Page history statistics](#) · [Fix dead links](#)

(cur) = difference from current version, (prev) = difference from previous version, **m** = minor edit, **→** = section edit, **←** = automatic edit summary



(newest | **oldest**) View (newest | oldest) (20 | 50 | 100) revisions

Date

Editor
username

Edit
summary

- [\(cur | prev\)](#) [19:07, 25 September 2017](#) [ThoughtIdRetired](#) (talk | contribs) .. (41,213 bytes) (-5) .. (→*Early life: See talk page - went ahead and made the change anyway.*) (undo | thank)
- [\(cur | prev\)](#) [06:12, 3 September 2017](#) [Koavf](#) (talk | contribs) .. (41,218 bytes) (+31) .. (*Cat-a-lot: Convina from Cateagov:American male painters to*

 **Wiki Loves Monuments: The world's largest photography competition is now open! Photograph a historic site, learn more about our history, and win prizes.** 

Talk:Charles Alston [\[edit source \]](#)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

 **Charles Alston** received a [peer review](#) by Wikipedia editors, which is now [archived](#). It may contain ideas you can use to improve this article.

Discussion

Is this a mathematical puzzle, or am I being dim? [\[edit source \]](#)

"...and was the youngest of five children. Only three survived past infancy: his sister Rousmaniere, and his brothers Wendell and Charles."

This is confusing. If Charles Alston was the youngest of 5 children, that means there are 4 others. If only 3 survived past infancy and they are his sister and his 2 brothers, then Charles Alston must clearly be one of the 2 who died in infancy. (Yes, the forename should be a clue, but some families had a habit of re-using a forename if an infant died before the birth of the second child to get that name.)

I think, really, we have a badly worded sentence. I would suggest that this is meant to say "...Only three survived past infancy: Charles, his sister Rousmaniere and his brother Wendell." I would amend this in the article, but I do not have access to any sources to verify my understanding. [ThoughtIdRetired](#) (talk) 5:35 pm, 20 September 2017, Wednesday (8 days ago) (UTC-4)

Went ahead and made this edit anyway. If my understanding of the situation is wrong, please revert/amend as appropriate. [ThoughtIdRetired](#) (talk) 3:09 pm, 25 September 2017, last Monday (3 days ago) (UTC-4)

 **Archives**
1

[Search](#)

Threads older than 7 days may be archived by [MiszaBot I](#).

- Categories (+): [Old requests for peer review](#) | [B-Class African diaspora articles](#) | [Top-importance African diaspora articles](#) | [B-Class Archives of American Art-related articles](#) | [Top-importance Archives of American Art-related articles](#) | [B-Class biography articles](#) | [B-Class biography \(arts and entertainment\) articles](#) | [Unknown-importance biography \(arts and entertainment\) articles](#)

Let's Practice...

Edit w/ Visual Editor = What you see is what you get (mostly)

1. Locate article
2. Select 'Edit'
3. Unsure if you are in Visual Editor?
Select the Pencil (red arrow), select 'Visual editing'
4. Edit as you would in a word processor

The screenshot shows the Wikipedia edit interface for the article "Charles Alston". The top navigation bar includes "Article" and "Talk" tabs. Below this is a toolbar with various editing options: "Paragraph", "Text" (A), "Link", "Quote", "List", "Insert", and "Omega". A yellow callout box labeled "Formatting buttons" points to the "Text" and "Link" buttons. Another yellow callout box labeled "Edit buttons" points to the "Edit" button, with a sub-note: "Edit = Visual Editor, Edit Source = Code". The "Edit" button is highlighted, and a red arrow points to the pencil icon in the top right corner. A red circle highlights the "Visual editing" option in the dropdown menu that appears when the pencil icon is clicked. The "Save changes" button is visible on the right side of the toolbar. The article title "Charles Alston" is displayed in green, with links for "[edit | edit source]". Below the title, it says "A B-class article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia".

Formatting buttons

Edit buttons
Edit = Visual Editor, Edit Source = Code

Article Talk

Read Edit Edit source View history ☆ More Page TW Search Wikipedia

Paragraph A Link Quote List Insert Ω ? ≡ Pencil Save changes

Charles Alston [edit | edit source]

A B-class article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Visual editing

Source editing

Cite your sources

1. Place cursor in desired location, select 'Cite'
2. Follow prompts

The screenshot shows a document editor interface. The top toolbar includes a 'Cite' button, which is circled in red. Below the toolbar, a paragraph of text is visible, with a cursor positioned at the end. A dialog box titled 'Add a citation' is open, also circled in red. The dialog box has a 'Cancel' button and three tabs: 'Automatic', 'Manual', and 'Re-use'. Under the 'Automatic' tab, there are four options: 'Website', 'News', 'Basic form', 'Book', and 'Journal'. The 'Book' and 'Journal' options are also circled in red. The background text is partially obscured by the dialog box.

Charles Henry Alston (November 28, 1907 – April 27, 1977) was an [African-American painter, sculptor, illustrator](#), [muralist](#) and teacher who lived and worked in the New York City neighborhood of [Harlem](#). Alston was active in the [Harlem Renaissance](#); Alston was the first African-American supervisor for the [Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project](#). Alston designed and painted murals at the [Harlem Hospital](#) and the [Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Building](#). In 1990 Alston's bust of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#) became the first image of an African American displayed at the [White House](#).

Add a citation

Cancel

Automatic Manual Re-use

Website News Basic form Book Journal

Create links between articles

1. Select text
2. Select link icon
3. Select article and 'Done'

Charles Henry Alston was born on November 28, 1907, in [Charlotte, North Carolina](#), to Reverend Primus Priss Alston and Anna Elizabeth Miller Alston, and was the youngest of five children [1][2][3] Only three survived past infancy: Charles, his sister Rousmaniere and his brother Wendell. [1][4] His father was born into slavery in [Pittsboro, North Carolina](#); after the Civil War, he graduated from [St. Augustine's College](#) and became a prominent minister and founder of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. He was an African American who dedicated his skills to the field of education. He was a student at his school. Charles was born in 1907, when Charles was three, his father died. He was the "Booker T. Washington of Charlotte." In 1913 Anna Alston married Harold Alston, Charles' cousin. The two Beardsley and Charles would last a lifetime together. He designed trains and cars, which the young Charles loved. [North Carolina](#). As an adult he reflected on his childhood through strainers and make things. His mother was a skilled embroiderer.

Link

Cancel Done








Search pages External link

Q St. Augustine's College (North Carolina)

- [St. Augustine's College \(North Carolina\)](#)
- [St. Augustine's University \(Raleigh, North Carolina\)](#)
- [St. Augustine's College \(North Carolina\)](#)


Born	Charles Henry Alston
Died	April 2, 1984 (aged 76)
Nationality	American
Education	College of Art and Architecture, North Carolina State University
Known for	Muralism, Sculpture
Movement	Abstract Expressionism

Don't forget to 'Save Changes'

→ Paragraph ▾ **A** ▾   Cite  ▾ Insert ▾     ▾ **Save changes**

Charles Henry Alston (November 28, 1907 – April 27, 1977) was an [African-American painter, sculptor, illustrator, muralist](#) and teacher who lived and worked in the New York City neighborhood of [Harlem](#). Alston was active in the [Harlem Renaissance](#); Alston was the first African-American supervisor for the [Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project](#). Alston designed and painted murals at the [Harlem Hospital](#) and the [Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Building](#). In 1990 Alston's bust of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#) became the first image of an African American placed at the [White House](#).

Personal life



Explore linked articles

- Search linked articles for relevant information
- ‘Copy and Paste’ is acceptable between WP articles as long as content is relevant
 - Also a good way to find new sources

Other Ways to Edit...

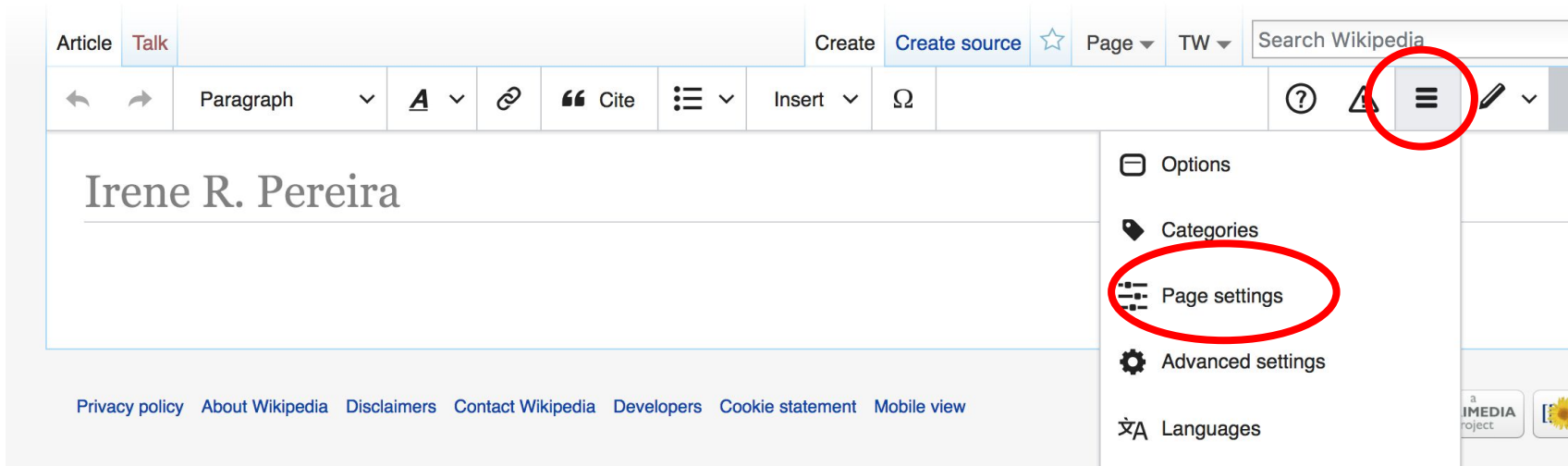
Adding Categories

Categories (+⁺): 1907 births (-) (±) | 1977 deaths (-) (±) | 20th-century American painters (-) (±) | American male painters (-) (±)
American painters (-) (±) | 20th-century American sculptors (-) (±) | American male sculptors (-) (±) | American sculptors (-) (±)
Abstract expressionist artists (-) (±) | African-American artists (-) (±) | American artists (-) (±) | Alpha Phi Alpha (-) (±) | American caricaturists (-) (±)
American magazine illustrators (-) (±) | American muralists (-) (±) | American portrait painters (-) (±) | Art Students League of New York alumni (-) (±)
Artists from New York City (-) (±) | Artists from North Carolina (-) (±) | Deaths from cancer in New York (state) (-) (±)
City University of New York faculty (-) (±) | Contemporary painters (-) (±) | DeWitt Clinton High School alumni (-) (±) | Harlem Renaissance (-) (±)
Modern painters (-) (±) | Modern sculptors (-) (±) | Artists from Charlotte, North Carolina (-) (±) | Teachers College, Columbia University alumni (-) (±)
The New Yorker cartoonists (-) (±) | United States Army artists (-) (±) | Federal Art Project artists (-) (±) | (+)

1. **Select +**
2. **Type the category name into the field, i.e. **Artists....** Only existing categories will appear in the list of options. You may create new categories.**
3. **Select ‘**Apply Changes**’**

Redirects

1. Identify the target article (Ex. [I. Rice Pereira](#))
2. Create a new article. Name it the alias.
3. To Redirect, select icon w/ three lines. 2. Select Page settings.



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia interface for the article 'Irene R. Pereira'. The top navigation bar includes 'Article' and 'Talk' tabs, and a search box. The main content area displays the article title 'Irene R. Pereira'. A red circle highlights the 'Page settings' option in the menu that appears when the three-line icon is clicked. The footer contains links for 'Privacy policy', 'About Wikipedia', 'Disclaimers', 'Contact Wikipedia', 'Developers', 'Cookie statement', and 'Mobile view'. There is also a logo for 'a IMEDIA project' in the bottom right corner.

Redirects cont.

4. Select 'Redirect page to'
5. Enter name of the target article (Ex. [I. Rice Pereira](#))
3. Select Apply changes
4. Select 'Save changes (upper right)

Cancel Options **Apply changes**

Categories

Page settings

Advanced settings

Languages

Templates used

Page settings

Redirect this page to ⓘ

Target page for redirection

Prevent this redirect from being updated when target page is moved. ⓘ

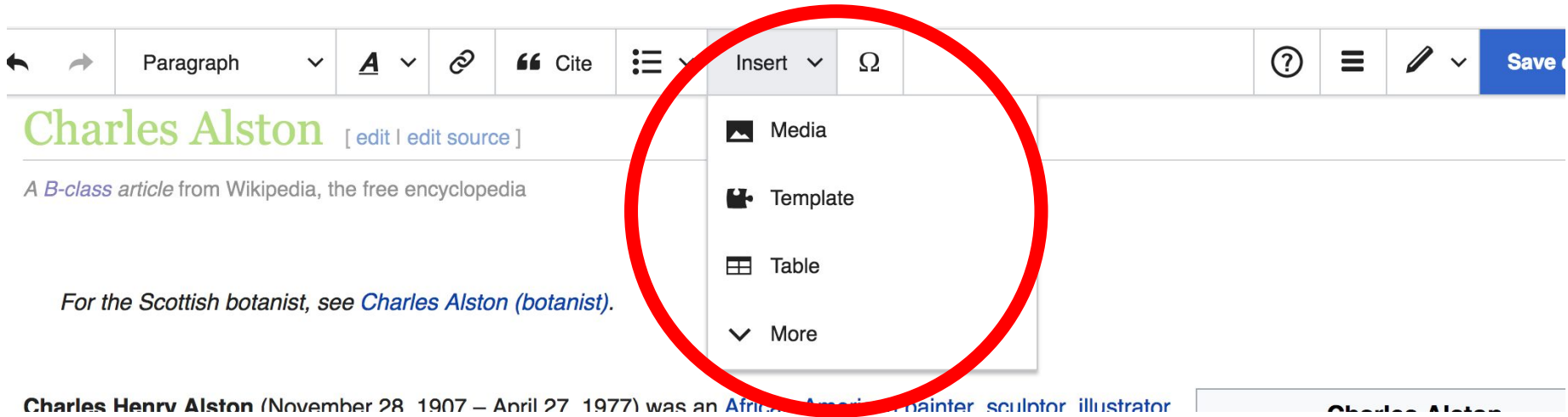
Show the Table of Contents ⓘ

Always **If needed** Never

Disable the edit links next to each heading on this page. ⓘ

This is a disambiguation page

Adding Photos with Wikimedia Commons



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article editor interface for the article "Charles Alston". The "Insert" menu is open, and the "Media" option is highlighted with a red circle. The article content includes the title "Charles Alston", a class label "A B-class article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia", a disambiguation note "For the Scottish botanist, see Charles Alston (botanist).", and the start of a biographical paragraph: "Charles Henry Alston (November 28 1907 – April 27 1977) was an African American painter sculptor illustrator".

A selection of relevant photos will appear.
Search all photos at commons.wikimedia.org

Let's edit!