

# Activity 11

## The Robert Gould Shaw Memorial

Across from the State House on Beacon Street sits the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial. This statue helps us remember Colonel Robert Gould Shaw and the brave men of the 54th Regiment. After the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln allowed for the recruitment of African American soldiers. The 54th Regiment was the first group of African American soldiers recruited in the North to fight in the Civil War. Because of their bravery in battle, the men of the 54th helped to pave the way for close to 200,000 African Americans to fight in the Union Army. President Lincoln credited these soldiers with helping to tip the balance in the North's favor and winning the war. Once the war was over, slavery was abolished throughout the country.



*This Memorial was created by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and dedicated in 1897.*

**Famous Quote:**

*"I know not,  
Mr. Commander,  
where in all human  
history, to any given  
thousand men in  
arms, there has been  
committed a work at  
once so proud, so  
precious, so full of  
hope and glory, as  
the work committed to  
you."*

*~ Governor John  
Andrew speaking to  
Colonel Shaw*

**Did You Know?**

*Sgt. William Carney of the 54th  
saved the flag from touching  
the ground at the Battle of Fort  
Wagner in July, 1863. For this  
act of bravery, he became the  
first African American to be  
awarded the Congressional  
Medal of Honor.*



**Draw your favorite part of the Memorial**