The chains around the border of our memorial are to memorialize and represent the enslaved African Americans that were chained together and brought onto the boat, to places like Luanda. If you examine the image closer, one would see that we designed our memorial similarly to the Holocaust Museum in Berlin. Their memorial site really inspired our group to create something similar in terms of our aesthetic aspect. We included multiple concrete slabs that contain interesting facts about the historical significance of Luanda in relation to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. Also located on the concrete slabs are Voyage ID numbers that belonged to the ships of enslaved African-Americans taken out of Luanda. We placed our memorial here specifically to memorialize the slaves in an area of Luanda that is very common to tourists as well as an area of attraction that many people residing in Luanda go to. Luanda is an area that isn’t a first thought when it comes to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, so placing the memorial in an area where even people residing in the area don’t know much about the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade could really educate and enhance their understanding of it. In the “Thinking of Age” exhibit, the “tourists” see how one’s initial thought of how age can be considered totally different from what it actually is.

For example, many young African children were taken upon ships, sometimes more young girls than boys, more than the adults. This makes one think about the works the enslaved Africans were forced into at different time periods in their lives.

Citations: Holocaust Museum Berlin, Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe