

# Guide to “Explore Art in Our Community Activity Book”

## Resources

- 1) Our website, [www.nnpaf.org](http://www.nnpaf.org), which has photos and audio segments about the sculptures, and suggestions for how to view art.
- 2) PDF files
  - Photos of the process of fabrication, installation, and the finished work.
  - Photos to find the artist’s hands hidden on the sculpture *Handshake*.
  - Photos with different perspectives of *Spring Breeze*.

## Additional activities

### • ***Build a Dream* by Richard Hunt**

Hunt talks about abstraction in his audio segment, about how the stairs at the bottom turn into dreams as you move upwards. Here are two activities to prompt thinking about abstract art.

#### 1) **Rorschach ink blots**

**Materials:** 8 ½ x 11 white paper

Paint

Water

Squeeze bottles or brushes

Optional – objects to glue onto the dried blot

#### **Directions:**

Fold a sheet of paper in half. Thin paint with a little water if needed, so it flows easily. Squeeze or drip the paint onto the paper. Refold the sheet of paper along the crease, and rub hands over the top of the paper. Unfold the paper and let it dry. Add paint and/or glue other objects (buttons, pom poms) to the dried blot to turn the shape into something else.

#### 2) **Use cut-out shapes to create**

**Materials:** Pre-cut shapes or construction paper

Scissors

Glue

#### **Directions:**

Cut simple shapes out of construction paper. Or using pre-cut shapes, glue shapes onto construction paper. Glue shapes onto construction paper. How can you make a picture of something using shapes? What shapes did you use?

OR

How would you describe shapes such as circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles? How can you use shapes to make a picture of something? Arrange pre-cut shapes onto construction paper, and glue them down when you have a composition you like.

- ***Carambola* by Emanuele De Reggi**

This sculpture features a sphere with a figure balanced on top. This project focuses on the principle of balance, a concept highlighted in the audio segment.

**1) Figure on a sphere**

**Materials:** Styrofoam balls

Construction paper

White paper

Stapler or tape

Glue

Popsicle sticks

Optional – paint, squeeze bottles or paintbrushes

**Directions:** Make a holder for the Styrofoam ball by cutting a rectangular strip of construction paper. Bring the short sides of the rectangle together, and tape, glue or staple them together to form a ring/cylinder. Set the ring down and rest the Styrofoam ball in the holder. Optional – paint the ball by dripping or squeezing paint over it.

Cut a 3x1” rectangle from white paper. Draw a figure or a face on the paper. Glue the rectangle onto the popsicle stick, lining up one short edge with the end of the popsicle stick. Insert the other end of the popsicle stick into the Styrofoam ball. Remove the ball from the holder, and see how the figure balances on the ball, and which way it rolls.

- ***Handshake* by Gunther Stilling**

Stilling made a cast of his hand and incorporated it onto the sculpture.

**Materials:** Paper and pencils, crayons or markers

Photos showing the small hands on *Handshake*

**Directions:** Look at photos of *Handshake*, and how Gunther Stilling, the artist, put his own hand onto the giant hand. Create your own hand-inspired artwork by tracing your hand or hands and adding designs in and/or around it or them.

- ***Il Segreto* by Emanuele De Reggi**

This figure is holding a fish, and for De Reggi, the always-moving fish represents the truth.

**1) Making fish prints**

**Materials:** Plastic fish

Tempera paint

Soft brushes or sponges to apply paint

Paper to paint fish replica on, paper to place painted fish on, paper to press over painted fish to make a print

**Directions:** Apply paint evenly to fish replica using brushes or sponges, move painted fish to clean paper, place print paper over painted fish. Use flat fingers to press paper over the entire fish, keeping the paper still. Lift paper off fish and set aside to dry.

- ***Izar by Bruce White***

White likes to make shapes out of paper before he makes them in metal. The *Izar* template is a wider, shorter version of the original template used to make *Izar*.

- 1) **Cut *Izar***

**Materials:** *Izar* templates printed double-sided on cardstock, template found on last two pages of this guide

Crayons or markers

Scissors

Stapler

**Directions:** Decorate the surfaces of *Izar*, making sure the black lines and two dots (one on either side of the paper) are still visible. Cut all the black lines on the template. Roll it into a cylinder, matching the dots. Staple at the dots and stand *Izar* on one end. Compare the shape with the photo of the finished sculpture.

- ***Lenape Gate by Harry Gordon***

Here are three gate-creating activities.

- 1) **Building a gate, blocks**

**Materials:** Wooden or foam blocks, camera

**Directions:** Discuss gates—What are gates? Where do you find gates? Why are gates there? Talk about the elements of a gate, and where a gate appears and what it is used for. Have child create his/her own gate and enclosure out of blocks. Take photos of their gates.

- 2) **Building a gate, index cards**

**Materials:** 3x5 index cards, both flat and pre-folded, camera

**Directions:** Use the cards to build different kinds of gates. Take photos of gates.

- 3) **Draw the view from your gate**

**Materials:** Paper and drawing materials

**Directions:** Talk about the elements of a gate, and where a gate appears and what it is used for. Draw what you would see through your gate. What is the view from the gate?

- ***Reinvented* by Rob Lorenson and *Time* by Lee Tribe**

Lorenson and Tribe have created two circles that look very different. Here are three different activities to explore these works.

**Discussion:** Compare and contrast the two circles, looking at photos of the two from the website.

### **1) Mobius strip**

**Materials:** Construction paper

Scissors

Markers or crayons

Tape or stapler

**Directions:** Cut a strip from construction paper. Decorate the two sides differently. Grasp the ends of the strip and twist one hand to make a twist in the paper. Bring the ends together and tape or staple them together. Notice how your circle has changed.

### **2) Use cut-out shapes to create**

**Materials:** Pre-cut circles and ovals or construction paper

Scissors

Glue

**Directions:**

Cut circles of different sizes out of construction paper. How can you use a curved line to make a shape? (circle, oval) Glue shapes onto construction paper. What things can you see/think of that are round or oval? What will you make with your circles?

### **3) 3D Circles**

**Materials:** paper plates, scrap (pom-poms, buttons, other 3D objects)

**Directions:** Using the paper plate as the base circle, make the circle three dimensional by arranging and gluing objects to it.

- **Spirit of Life by Helaine Blumenfeld**

Blumenfeld thinks about life always finding a way, like a flower growing through the cracks of a sidewalk.

- 1) **Sidewalk chalk flowers**

Using sidewalk chalk, create a garden on the sidewalk, driveway, or playground for passersby to enjoy.

- 2) **Springtime flowers**

**Materials:** Black construction paper

Elmer's glue

Construction paper crayons

**Note:** You can use white paper and regular crayons or markers.

Draw a large flower: using a light-colored crayon, start with a large circle at the center, and add petals around it, keeping them wide so that the glue doesn't pool together. Use Elmer's glue to "draw" over the crayon lines with the glue. Let the drawing dry flat. Use construction paper crayons to color in the flowers.

- **Spring Breeze by Rodney Carroll**

Carroll's sculpture is shown from two different perspectives in the activity book. Compare and contrast the two different views.

- 1) **Pipe cleaner sculptures**

**Materials:** Pipe cleaners

Floral foam or clay squares

Clay

Bend and coil pipe cleaners and insert them into a base made of either clay or floral foam. Turn the sculpture around, viewing it from all sides.

- 1) **Two-sided drawings**

**Materials:** 8 ½ x 11" white paper and drawing materials

**Directions:** Fold a piece of paper in half. Open the paper, and draw on each side of the paper, showing a different perspective on each side, for example, a happy face on one side, and a sad face on the other. Fold the paper *back* along the same fold line, and stand it up on the table.

- **Whitetail Crossing by Wendy Klemperer**

Klemperer creates animal sculptures out of scrap metal. Create your own sculpture animal out of paper.

- 1) **Paper tiger/animal sculpture**

**Materials:** Construction paper (9x12") or cardstock (8 ½ x 11")

Scissors

Crayons

Paper tiger template for reference, on next page

**Directions:**

- Bring short sides of paper together.
  - Fold in half.
- Open paper.
  - Place fingers of one hand on edge of short side.
  - Use a crayon to draw a curved line around fingers.
- Fold paper.
  - On drawn line use scissors to cut both sides of paper.
- Use crayons to draw stripes on sides and legs of tiger.
- Make feet by folding up bottom edges of short side.
- Make a short cut on the fold near each end of the paper.
- Use one of the pieces that was cut out above.
- Use a crayon to draw the tiger's:
  - ears (triangles at each corner),
  - eyes (circles/ovals),
  - nose (triangle),
  - mouth (straight vertical line, one curved line on each side),
  - whiskers (3 straight lines on each side of face).
  - stripes on the back of the head.
- To shape ears, cut along the inner side of each ear and across top of the head.
- Insert head in one slit on the back of the tiger.
- Use the remaining piece of paper that was cut out above.
- Use scissors to cut out a tail.
- Use crayons to draw stripes on tail.
- Insert tail in the remaining slit on the back of the tiger.









