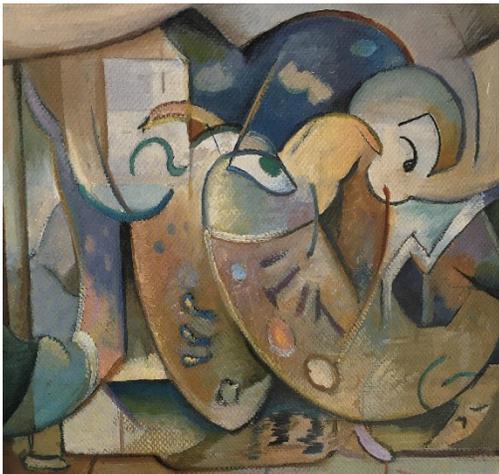


Art A Day CHALLENGE: Abstract Ideas Explosion

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

We challenge you to an art activity each day during school closures! If you decide to complete this challenge, share it with us in the comments and on Instagram @WCMFA and use the hashtag #ARTaDayCHALLENGE. The order you complete the challenges is up to you!

Stuff you'll need: Materials are up to you! You may want colorful materials (but not necessary) like paints, crayons, markers, colored pencils, pastels, or digital mediums. Scissors, glue, and a second sheet of paper are optional as well. All mediums welcome. Whatever you have and would like to work with. Read the challenge before you decide on your materials!



Words you need to know:

Cubism Cubism is a style of art which aims to show all of the possible viewpoints of a person or an object all at once. It is called Cubism because the items represented in the artworks look like they are made out of cubes and other geometrical shapes (<https://kids.kiddle.co/Cubism>).

Abstract art is art that uses lines, shapes, colors, space, and forms but do not always represent something recognizable.

Non Representational Art that does not depict anything from the real world (figures, landscapes, animals, etc.). Nonrepresentational art may simply depict shapes, colors, lines, etc., but may also express things that are not visible – emotions or feelings for example (SaylorAcademy.org).

Charles Walther
American
"Untitled" Abstract (#121), 1915
Oil on burlap, 13x16 in.

LOOK: Look at this painting by Charles Walther. When you first look this oil painting, what do you notice? The title is "Untitled" Abstract (#121). Sometimes artists that describe themselves as **Cubists** (artists that create **cubism** art) give their artwork titles that are numbers. **Cubists** did this so the viewer understood that their paintings did not represent, or show, anything that could be named using words. It also helped the artists keep their work in a certain order or a series. Sometimes we call this type of abstract art **non-representational** because the painting used only lines, shapes colors, space forms to express things that cannot be seen instead of representing people, places, animals, or things.

THINK to yourself: If the artist did NOT want this art to be representational of a person, place, animal, or thing, what, if anything, DID he want to represent? What do you think he wanted us to see, feel, or think? What parts of the painting give you this idea?

MAKE: Create **non-representational, abstract art!** Get a piece of paper or canvas. When selecting the size, keep in mind, you must fill the entire area. Use lines, shapes, colors, space, and forms to create. Your challenge is to try to keep it from looking like anything the viewer can recognize! Try to capture only what can be unseen-for example: a feeling, a memory, an emotion, a mood, weather, a dream, etc.. Completely fill the space that is provided to you. Optional: For a cubism twist, take your creation and cut it into shapes! Now rearrange your shapes onto a new sheet of paper. Don't be afraid to overlap shapes and even add new shapes!

Writing Prompt Extension: Try to write a short, **abstract** poem. Think about using the same ideas you used to create your **non-representational** art and use them for a short story or poem. How is it different from a "normal" poem or story that you have written? Reflect on how you felt while creating nonrepresentational art. Were you comfortable with this? Why or why not?

SHARE: POST your creation in the comments on FACEBOOK and Tag @WCMFA on Instagram and use the hashtag # ARTaDayCHALLENGE