

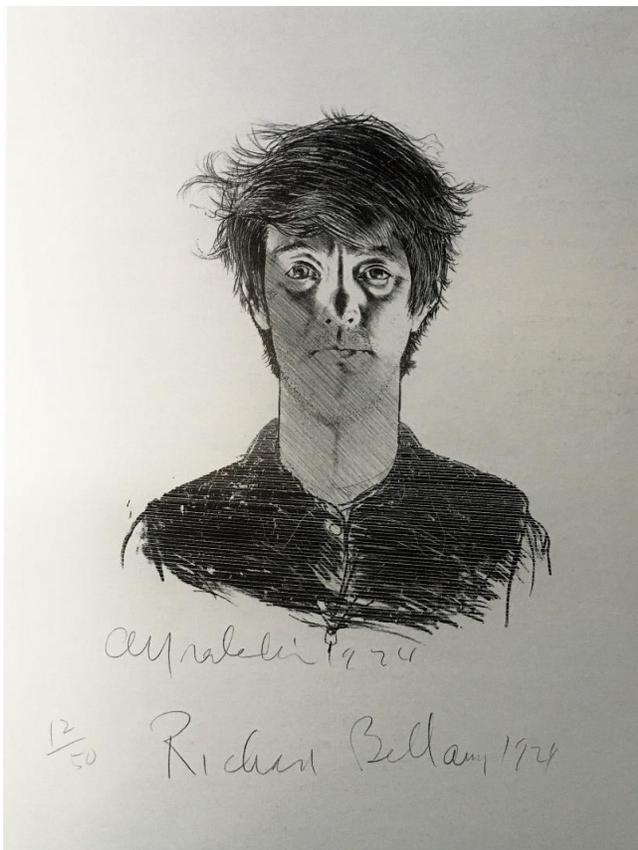
# Art A Day CHALLENGE: Influential Ideas and Powerful Portraits

## Who is your Greenwich Village?

### 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!**



#### Words you need to know:

**Representational** art is clearly identifiable as something which already exists in life.

**Abstract** art does not attempt to represent external reality, but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colors, and textures.

**LOOK** at this dramatic **representational** portrait of a man by an artist named Alfred Leslie. The portrait is of a friend of Alfred Leslie, a man named Richard Bellamy, who was an art dealer and art collector in the 1950's. Richard Bellamy was said to have launched many of the artists' careers by exhibiting and selling their art work in his art gallery, Green Gallery.

Alfred Leslie and Richard Bellamy were friends that connected through art. They were a part of a large group of artists and musicians that hung out together in a neighborhood of New York City called Greenwich Village. Together they would discuss and share art and many art movements were formed. This was known as an artist community where artists shared thoughts and ideas. They often influenced each other in many ways. Alfred Leslie influenced a

number of artists to abandon **abstraction** for **representation**. This means many artists were originally abstract artists and created work that was not concerned about making paintings that represented real life objects and used colors, lines, shapes, and forms but after Leslie's influence they became interested in making their art look like objects, places, people, and things from the real world.

Alfred Leslie

American, b. 1927

Richard Bellamy, 1974

Lithograph

**THINK** about people around you that inspire and motivate you. Do you have a family member or a friend that you share big ideas with? Who do you connect with and talk about movies, books, TV shows, music, or art?

**MAKE** a representational portrait. Celebrate your own mini artist community! Create a portrait of someone you connect with through the arts: who do you talk to about movies, TV, artwork, music, books. This can be a good friend, a family member, a teacher or anyone you connect with.

**Writing Prompt Extension:** How do you and the person in your portrait drawing influence each other's taste in music, art, books, TV, etc.?

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