Art A Day CHALLENGE: Capture the Movement

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

We challenge you to an art activity each day of 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.

Stuff you'll Need: Paper/or canvas; scrap paper, glue, paint (optional), crayons, markers, anything else you want to use! Tip: If available, a black pen or marker (skinny sharpies are great), watercolor.

Words you need to know:

Gesture: lines that express and capture movement.

Contour lines: Lines that are defines the edges of a form.

LOOK: Look at this painting to the left called Kentucky Spring, 1956 by Ann Cole Phillips. Notice the contour lines that are darker than the rest of the painting. Also, notice the movement of the horses created by gesture lines. What part of the horses stands out the most to you? What did the artist do to make it stand out?

Look at the Animal and Figure Studies in the drawing above to the right. Notice that some lines are darker than others. How do we know the figures are moving? Look at where the bodies bend or turn, look at the thickness of lines. How can you use this technique in your own creation?

MAKE: What you need to do: Find a spot where you can watch a family member or an animal move around. Keep your distance you aren’t in their way. Try to capture their movements with gesture and contour lines that have lots of variation in thicknesses. Pick the areas of the body that you find to be the most important part of the movement and make them the strongest, darkest lines in your drawing. Add color that matches the energy of your subject. Remember, this drawing can be as abstracted as you want it to be (it doesn’t have to look extremely realistic to be successful, you are capturing energy and movement!).

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