

ON  
&  
OFF  
THE  
WALL

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

A MEMBER BENEFIT OF THE  
**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**



## ON THE COVER

Frida Kahlo developed a unique portraiture style based in part on the Spanish ex voto tradition of religious painting. The daughter of a German father and a Mexican mother, she embraced her mestiza heritage. Her selection of dress, makeup, hairstyle, and jewelry are an extension of her art. Drawing from traditional hairstyles, she often braided her hair with woven ribbons and flowers that added a sculptural element to her look.

*Self-Portrait with Braid*, painted in 1941, is one of seven of her self-portraits that you can see in *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection*, which opens October 25.

Photo by Gerardo Suter.

Frida Kahlo, *Self-Portrait with Braid*, 1941. Oil on canvas; 20 1/6 x 15 1/6 in. (51 x 38.5 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). © 2020 Banco de Mexico Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F./ Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Photo by Gerardo Suter.

### PLAN YOUR VISIT

#### HOURS

Every day 10 am–5 pm

Visit [denverartmuseum.org/damguide](https://denverartmuseum.org/damguide) for COVID-19 policies and visit tips.

#### TICKETS

General admission is free for museum members. Timed-entry tickets must be purchased online and in advance.

#### PARKING

The garage at 12th Avenue and Broadway is the most convenient place to park.

### CONTACT US

**Membership Office** 720-913-0130  
[membership@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:membership@denverartmuseum.org)  
[denverartmuseum.org/membership](https://denverartmuseum.org/membership)

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**Información en español** 720-913-0169  
**The Shop** 720-865-4488  
**School & Teacher Programs** 720-913-0088  
**Tickets & Reservations** 720-913-0130

**Access Programs**  
[access@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:access@denverartmuseum.org)  
**Volunteer Services**  
[jdodson@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:jdodson@denverartmuseum.org)

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 Denver, CO 80204-2788



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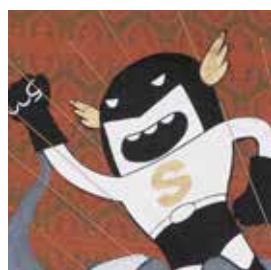
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# REFLECTIONS ON CHANGE

I'm very excited to share this issue of *On & Off the Wall* with you! One reason is because it's packed with great information and beautiful artwork from the exhibition *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection*, which opens at the museum on October 25. In addition, you'll find new activities and resources to share with your families, as many of us will be continuing virtual classrooms this fall and winter.

I'm also delighted to share this issue, because, as you can see, it has a fresh look. The redesign is part of the museum's efforts, years in the making, to update our brand, including a new logo. We planned to debut our new look with the reopening of the renovated Martin Building in May. While the reopening is on hold due to COVID-19, we decided to move forward with the redesign with the hope that these updates will improve your experiences with the museum.

Tasso Stathopoulos, senior manager, brand and design, who has been with the museum for about six years and has been a designer for over three decades, led this process with our talented in-house marketing and design team. Jenn Goodrich, senior graphic designer, developed its new look, in collaboration with editor Carleen Brice.

Tasso and his team worked closely with me and other members of the leadership team to develop this new logo. And, to be completely honest, they had some convincing to do. I just wasn't sure we needed a new logo. However, we conducted research with staff, board members, visitors, and potential visitors, which confirmed that we had an opportunity to create a logo that better reflects what a dynamic and welcoming place the museum is and will continue to be.

Seeing the final result, I'm glad they convinced me. When I asked Tasso what it was like to work on the new logo, he said: "I grew up in Denver and I fondly remember elementary school field trips to the museum. Having a chance to be a part of the museum's long legacy of art and creativity in this community is a dream come true. I'm also hopeful that the work we have done resonates with people and is a welcoming signal to come to the museum to experience the amazing galleries, engage in thoughtful programs, and fall in love with art!"

While we have continually been updating the magazine, *On & Off the Wall* has not received a complete redesign in almost 20 years. "I love how there is room to pause and breathe with the art," Jenn said. "I want the magazine to feel like a mini visit to the museum, a preview of what you will see when you are here."

Our website also is being revamped. It is being redesigned to be more user-friendly, with an eye toward more photos and video.

We hope that these new changes contribute to making the museum's website and publications more useful and more engaging. While some things are changing at the museum, I am confident that you'll see that our commitment to offering world-class art to the community and our steadfast belief in the essential role it plays in our overall satisfaction and well-being remain.



**Christoph Heinrich**  
Frederick and Jan Mayer Director

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. The letters of "art" are filled with a photograph of the Denver Art Museum building, showing its modern architecture and a green lawn. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. The letters of "art" are filled with a colorful quilt pattern, featuring various geometric shapes and colors like red, blue, yellow, and white. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. The letters of "art" are filled with a painting of a landscape, showing a body of water, trees, and a sky with soft colors. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. The letters of "art" are filled with a portrait painting of a woman's face, showing her eyes, nose, and lips. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. The letters of "art" are filled with a rainbow color palette, with each letter having a different color. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

**DENVER**  
**art**  
**MUSEUM**

The logo features the word "DENVER" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "art" is written in a lowercase, rounded, black font. Below "art" is the word "MUSEUM" in the same bold, black, sans-serif font as "DENVER".

OCTOBER 25, 2020–JANUARY 24, 2021  
MEMBER PREVIEW: OCTOBER 23 & 24

FRIDA KAHLO, DIEGO RIVERA,  
AND MEXICAN MODERNISM  
FROM THE JACQUES AND NATASHA GELMAN COLLECTION

Just as many of today's artists use their practice to explore identity and call attention to social issues and political ideas, so too did the artists involved in the Mexican modernism movement. *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection* presents more than 150 artworks by Kahlo, Rivera, Lola Álvarez Bravo, Olga Costa, Gunther Gerzso, José Clemente Orozco, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and others.



Frida Kahlo, *Diego on my Mind*, 1943. Oil on Masonite; 29.9 x 24 in. (76 x 61 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). © 2020 Banco de México Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F./Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Photo by Gerardo Suter.



María Izquierdo, *Naturaleza viva*, 1946. Oil on canvas; 23.2 x 27.9 in. (125 x 100 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). © Estate of María Izquierdo. Photo by Gerardo Suter.

### WHAT IS MEXICAN MODERNISM?

Mexican modernism is an artistic movement that combined social realism and a fantastic vision of more than one reality, embracing contradictory histories unique to Mexico and Latin America. It involved poetry, photography, paintings, and murals that helped shape Mexico's national identity and heritage. The movement developed primarily in Mexico City, which became a vibrant cultural center after the Mexican Revolution ended in 1920. International artists, intellectuals, political activists, and arts patrons flocked to the city and Kahlo and Rivera were at the hub of the artistic activity.

### FRIDA AND DIEGO

The exhibition is a rare opportunity to see so many works by the famous couple. On view will be more than 20 paintings and drawings by Kahlo, with seven of her self-portraits including *Self-Portrait with Necklace* and *Diego on My Mind*. Rivera's works on view will include *Calla Lily Vendor* and *Sunflowers*. Kahlo and Rivera each painted Natasha Gelman, their friend and patron, and those portraits will be on view.

"We are thrilled to present this exhibition that highlights luminary artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera who were at the center of the Mexican modernist movement," said Rebecca Hart, Vicki and Kent Logan Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, who curated the local presentation of this exhibition at the DAM. We have created a fuller narrative that features women artists and the importance of pre-Hispanic and colonial history to modern Mexican identity

### MEXICAN MODERNIST CONTEMPORARIES

This exhibition also will focus on the topic of important women artists during this period. For example, visitors will see María Izquierdo's 1946 *Naturaleza viva*, which features a variety of still-life fruits, vegetables, and a conch shell, symbolic of Mexico's authentic beauty and fresh goods that are abundant across the country.

The shift in Mexico's post-war modernism movement also will be demonstrated through artworks such as Carlos Mérida's vibrant and bold 1959 painting titled *Festival of the Birds*, which uses figurative, surreal, and geometric styles to depict a flock of birds.



Carlos Mérida, *Festival of the Birds*, 1959. Polished board; 19.7 x 15.7 in. (50 x 40 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). © 2020 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York /SO-MAAP, Mexico City. Photo by Gerardo Suter.

### EXHIBITION SECTIONS

The exhibition is divided in five sections:

#### **MOTHER EARTH**

Explores the land as a place of sacred beauty and ancestral memory and the importance of family.

#### **CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE**

Delves into Kahlo's and Rivera's relationship, and their relationships with artists, patrons, and others.

#### **MODERNIST HEART**

Looks at how these artists explored Mexicanidad, an identity that merged Indigenous culture with national heritage.

#### **PERFORMATIVE CULTURE**

Presents photos and artworks from Mexico's Golden Age of Cinema and explores how Kahlo celebrated her Mexican heritage through her clothes, jewelry, and hairstyles.

#### **MARVELOUS REAL**

Describes the development of a fantastic vision that combined more than one reality, embracing contradiction, unique to Latin America and tied to the region's layered history.



**SPECIAL FOR DENVER**

As we do with traveling exhibitions, Rebecca Hart and her colleagues added special touches to make this exhibition unique for Denver. "We were delighted to collaborate with Esrawe + Cadena, based in Mexico City, led by esteemed international designers Hector Esrawe and Ignacio Cadena, to reflect and interpret the diversity of Mexico's vibrant cultures in the exhibition's design," said Ann Lambson, the interpretive specialist who worked on this exhibition. They also added objects from our collection. For example, alongside a portrait photograph taken by Nickolas Muray of Frida Kahlo holding an Olmec figure, there will be a similar jadeite Olmec object from the museum's collection.



**DEEPER DIVES**

Online videos, articles, talks, our fall course, and other programs will give visitors an opportunity to learn more. Visit [denverartmuseum.org](http://denverartmuseum.org) for stories and activities that supplement the exhibition.

*Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism* is a ticketed exhibition, which is discounted for members.

Unknown artist, *Olmec Figurine*, Veracruz, Mexico, around 1000 BC, jadeite. Denver Art Museum: Funds from the Exeter Drilling Company, 1977.85; Nickolas Muray, *Frida with Olmeca Figurine*, 1939. Carbon print; 10.7 x 15.7 in. (27.3 x 40 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). Photo by Nickolas Muray; © Nickolas Muray Photo Archives, courtesy of Throckmorton Fine Art, New York City.

**THE COLLECTORS**

After the Mexican Revolution ended in 1920, Mexico City became a vibrant cultural center that attracted international artists, intellectuals, political activists, and arts patrons. Among the foreigners flocking to Mexico at this time was film producer Jacques Gelman. He was a major influencer of the Golden Age of Mexican cinema, which took place from the 1930s until the mid-1900s. Jacques and Natasha assembled a strong collection of Mexican modernist artworks by collecting primarily from friends such as Kahlo and Rivera who were active during this movement.

Additional works included in the exhibition are from Denver-based collectors John and Sandy Fox.



Diego Rivera, *Portrait of Natasha Gelman*, 1943. Oil on canvas; 45.3 x 60.2 in. (115 x 153 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). © 2020 Banco de Mexico Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F./ Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Photo by Gerardo Suter.

*Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection* is organized by the Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). The Denver Art Museum exhibition is generously supported by John and Sandra Fox, the Birnbaum Social Discourse Project, and Craig Ponzio. Additional funding is provided by Lisé Gander and Andy Main, Lauren and Geoff Smart, Xcel Energy, the Kristin and Charles Lohmiller Exhibitions Fund, the donors to the Annual Fund Leadership Campaign, and the residents who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Promotional support is provided by *5280 Magazine* and CBS4.



GOBIERNO DE MÉXICO

CULTURA SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA

INBAL

MoMo Mondo Mostre

Xcel Energy



Acme Photo, *Diego And Frida in New York following destruction of Rivera's Mural Man At The Crossroads*, 1933. Gelatin silver print; 9 x 7 in. (22.9 x 17.8 cm). The Vergel Foundation and MondoMostre in collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura (INBAL). Courtesy of Throckmorton Fine Art, New York City.

## MEMBERS ENJOY MORE MEXICAN MODERNISM

### MEMBER PREVIEWS

Join us for previews of *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism*. We expect time slots to sell quickly\*, so reserve your timed-entry ticket during the member presale, which begins in October. Plus, you can enjoy 20% off in the Shop during the Member Previews.

Friday, October 23  
9 am–3 pm

Saturday, October 24  
9 am–5 pm

### MEMBER-ONLY HOURS

On select days, the exhibition will be open to members only.

Tuesday, October 27:  
9–9:45 am

Saturday, November 21:  
9–9:45 am

Saturday, December 12:  
9–9:45 am

Tuesday, December 29:  
9–9:45 am

Friday, January 8:  
5–8 pm

Tuesday, January 12:  
9–9:45 am

### MEMBER TICKETS

Members are guaranteed the best prices for ticketed exhibitions. Adult member tickets start at \$20. Family memberships include FREE admission to specially ticketed exhibitions for all children residing in the same household.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP

We are so grateful for your support! DAM members not only enjoy exclusive access, advance ticket purchase, and the best prices for *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism*, but also the satisfaction of knowing your support makes a difference in our community.

Please renew today and help us continue to be a beacon of creativity and a haven for those who seek inspiration, beauty, and solace. Your membership helps us continue to bring exhibitions that showcase art from cultures around the world, provide online programs and forums to engage thoughtful discussions, and preserve art for future generations.

Until we can safely meet in groups, the museum is hosting classes, lectures, and other events online, including our fall course: **Mexican Modernism in Context**. Please check our website for instructions on how to participate and to see a complete calendar of events.

## DROP-IN DRAWING

**SEPTEMBER 8 & OCTOBER 13 | 1 pm**

Join artist Anna Kaye in our fun and informal creative art sessions using supplies you already have at home. All ranges of drawing experience welcome.

## MINDFUL LOOKING

**SEPTEMBER 15 & OCTOBER 20 | 1 pm**

Slow down and spend time with a single work of art from the Denver Art Museum. Join us online the third Tuesday of each month to discover overlooked details, pose questions, and explore ideas as we linger, look, and connect from home...with art and with each other.

## DROP-IN WRITING

**SEPTEMBER 22 & OCTOBER 27 | 1 pm**

Explore your creativity through the written word in our informal writing sessions led by Theresa Rozul Knowles, an instructor with Lighthouse Writers Workshop. Open to all levels, from published authors to the occasional journaler.

## UNTITLED: CREATIVE FUSIONS AT HOME

**OCTOBER 30 | 7 pm**

"Manifest Now" is the theme for our next virtual Untitled program featuring performances, art talks, and more. With eyes on the future, Tya Alisa Anthony and Lares Feliciano seek to ignite individual empowerment to overcome adversity and plant the seeds for a new reality steeped in hope, inspired by *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism*.



Photo of Lares Feliciano and Tya Alisa Anthony by Jeremiah Corder.



## MEXICAN MODERNISM IN CONTEXT

In this online course, dig deeper into the themes and artists represented in *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism*. With local experts as your guides in this virtual program, look more closely at the artworks on view, discover the rich historical contexts that informed their production, and explore the exhibition armed with newfound knowledge and critical perspectives.

Course sessions run from November through January, and registration will open in late September. Check our website for details. Members enjoy discounted tickets to this course. Museum Friends receive free admission.

Adult and Access programs are supported by the William Randolph Hearst Endowment for Education Programs, Nancy Benson Education Endowment Fund, CenturyLink Endowment, and Jim Kelley and Amie Knox Education Endowment Fund. Funding is also provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NextFifty Initiative, Colorado Garden Foundation, Colorado Creative Industries, Denver Post Community Foundation, and the residents who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).



Untitled: Creative Fusions is presented by Your 6 Hometown Toyota Stores and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and The VF Foundation.





## NOW ON VIEW

Phantom Canyon: A Digital Circuit  
THROUGH OCTOBER 18

Eyes On: Anthony McCall  
THROUGH NOVEMBER 29

Treasures of British Art:  
The Berger Collection  
THROUGH DECEMBER 6



Shantell Martin: Words and Lines  
THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021

The Light Show  
THROUGH MARCH 7, 2021

## OPENING SOON

Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and  
Mexican Modernism from the Jacques  
and Natasha Gelman Collection  
OPENS OCTOBER 25

Senga Nengudi: Topologies  
OPENS DECEMBER 13



Images, this page, top to bottom: Installation view of *Shantell Martin: Words and Lines*. Shantell Martin © 2019; Stacy Steers, American, born 1954, still from *Phantom Canyon*, 2006, Single-channel video with sound, 9 minutes, 30 seconds. Gift of the artist, 2011.236 © Stacy Steers; Senga Nengudi, *Masked Taping* (detail), 1978/79. Contact sheet, silver gelatin prints. 3 panel: 41x34 in. Edition 3/5 + 1 AP. © Senga Nengudi. Photography by Adam Avila. Courtesy of Sprüth Magers, Thomas Erben Gallery, and Lévy Gorvy.



Photos courtesy of Instagram users, clockwise from top: @zine13, @alittleaspen, @aby\_cada6by, @polishedhtml

[denverartmuseum.org/damguide](https://denverartmuseum.org/damguide)



For tips on visiting during COVID-19.



Suchitra Mattai (Born in Georgetown, Guyana, 1973; lives in Denver), *Innocence and Everything After (an ode to my children)*, 2020. Clothing once worn by artist's children, embroidery floss, and acrylic on vintage fabric. 58 x 60 x 2.25 inches. Collection of the Denver Art Museum, purchased with departmental funds. © Suchitra Mattai, photo by Wes Magyar, courtesy of K Contemporary.

In every issue, we highlight recent acquisitions or gifts to the Denver Art Museum. This artwork will be on view in the Martin Building when it reopens.

## DAM

# UNCRATED

Suchitra Mattai was born in the South American country of Guyana, and has lived in Nova Scotia, several cities in the United States, and India. This lived experience allowed her to expand her studio practice by incorporating a multitude of cultural references from the peoples and places she has come to know. Her Indo-Caribbean heritage and immigrant experience inform a rich visual language that merges colonial history and traditional painting techniques with a distinctive use of fiber. With these references, her artwork demonstrates her interest in giving a voice to people who historically were silenced.

*Innocence and Everything After (an ode to my children)* is the titular artwork presented in her July 2020 solo exhibition at K Contemporary, an art gallery in LoDo. The mixed-media work features a silhouette of two young boys surrounded by an explosive array of children's superheroes surmounted on vintage brocade. The artist cut patchwork from her children's old clothing, which have treasured, found imagery including superheroes, imaginary scenes, and suggestions of travel. "I use a lot of commercial patterns. The patterns themselves bring meaning, and reference historic or cultural periods, in this case childhood in America," Mattai said. Here, the imagery links seemingly boundless optimism with place, as signified by the brocade textile that is reminiscent of the fabrics used to make kurta jackets popular throughout northern India—a reference to Mattai's ancestral origins. The silhouetted figures, intended to represent the artist's once-innocent children, who are now teenagers, metaphorically create a void, which she says, "Opens a space for dialogue."

With the series she showed this summer, Mattai addresses recent events from the murder of George Floyd to the burning of the Amazon to the global pandemic. She considers the contrast between societal loss of innocence and the collective gain of knowledge.

Mattai said in a gallery statement that appeared in the K Contemporary exhibition: "While some might hope for a speedy return to 'normalcy,' these events have unmasked uncomfortable truths about the racial, social, and environmental injustices that have been embedded in the status quo. Over the past few months we have witnessed a collective loss of innocence, and this loss is a precondition for our coming to terms with the problems (and indeed the evils) of the past—the dark legacy of slavery, colonialism, globalization, and greed. While innocence has been lost, powerful knowledge has been gained. And new ways of acknowledging our common humanity have emerged from the ashes, new ways of building meaningful connections between us, of rectifying wrongs, of forging a better future together."

Florence Müller, Avenir Foundation Curator of Textile Art and Fashion, and I have been interested in Mattai's work for some time. We were thrilled to have a preview opportunity at K Contemporary and selected *Innocence and Everything After (an ode to my children)*. As a transnational artist, Mattai's practice engages her identities using materials in experimental ways.

- Rebecca Hart, Vicki and Kent Logan Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art

# AT-HOME LEARNING

## VIRTUAL SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

Teachers and kids will be able to experience the transformative power of art and the excitement of the museum journey virtually, even though there aren't any in-person field trips in the coming school year. We will be launching three fun-filled digital experiences in upcoming months. These can complement a family visit or be included in your online classroom. Virtual activities will include close-looking exercises with high-resolution artwork images from the *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism* exhibition and the DAM's permanent collections. Videos and art-inspired prompts will challenge students to connect with the artworks and explore their creativity through reflection and artmaking. The resource websites will also include video features with local artists, creatives, and nontraditional experts such as engineers, horticulture experts, and political analysts, who make connections between art and other interests of the kids in your life. Printable idea catchers, created by local artists, will help teachers and parents guide kids through the experience or allow them to work independently.

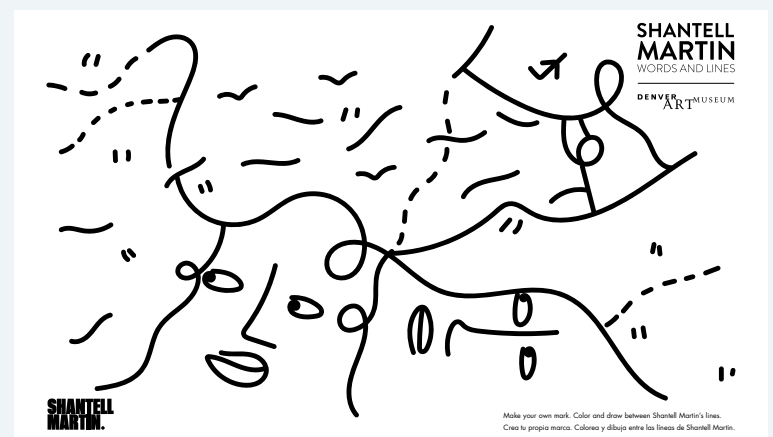
The DAM established Creativity Resource thanks to a generous grant from the Morgridge Family Foundation. Featured activities are supported by funding from the Tuchman Family Foundation, Connie Burwell White & William W. White Foundation, Harry L. Willett Foundation, The Virginia W. Hill Foundation, PNC Bank, Colorado Creative Industries, Margulf Foundation, Riverfront Park Community Foundation, Lorraine and Harley Higbie, an anonymous donor, and the residents who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Special thanks to our colleagues at the University of Denver Morgridge College of Education.

The Free for Kids program at the Denver Art Museum is made possible by Scott Reiman and is presented by Bellco Credit Union.

## DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES

Is your family looking for ways to be creative at home? Explore Creativity Resource to watch artist videos, create projects at home, and get book recommendations. There are hundreds of creative ideas to try in our activity library.

Whatever your school year might look like, we encourage you to dive into these digital resources for brain-building, joyful play, and learning with art from the Denver Art Museum's collection and exhibitions. Visit Creativity Resource on our website and sign up for our e-newsletter to get updates on new activities and programs for in-school and at-home learning.



For lesson plans and art activities to do at home. ———→ [denverartmuseum.org/creativity-resource](https://denverartmuseum.org/creativity-resource)



# FALL FAMILY FUN



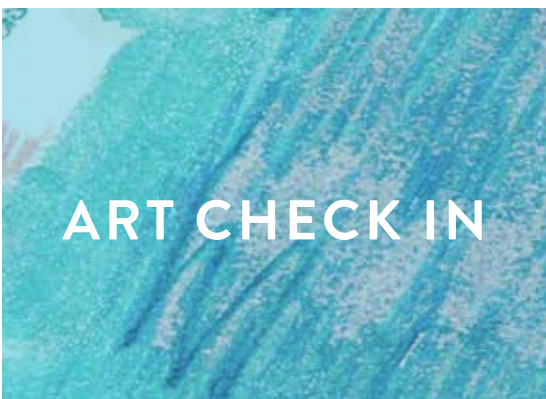
Illustration by Jena Siedler.

## MEXICAN MODERNISM

As part of *Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism*, we have developed a pop-up activity. Find the images of artworks on the guide in the exhibition and respond to the prompts as you explore the galleries. When you get home, color in some of the animals that belonged to Frida and pop them up to make a small landscape sculpture.

## ART LETTER CHALLENGE

Pick up a card with a prompt to think about as you explore the galleries. As you exit, be sure to pick up a pre-paid envelope stuffed with artmaking supplies that allow you to design your own creation on a postcard and send it to whomever you choose. We hope to see you at the museum soon!



## ART CHECK IN

Get prompts to spark conversation as you explore the museum. Aim the camera on your phone at the QR code on a museum sign when you arrive or download it on our website. Once you have the activity on your phone, use the prompts to engage with the art and get your whole family thinking. For example, one of the prompts is "Which artwork from that gallery do you wish you could put in your home? Why? Where would you put it?" Art Check In has a whole list of questions like this to help enhance your visit.

Kids and Family programs are supported by the William Randolph Hearst Endowment for Education Programs, Nancy Benson Education Endowment Fund, CenturyLink Endowment, and Jim Kelley and Amie Knox Education Endowment Fund. Funding is also provided by Tuchman Family Foundation, Connie Burwell White & William W. White Foundation, Harry L. Willett Foundation, The Virginia W. Hill Foundation, PNC Bank, Colorado Creative Industries, Margulf Foundation, Riverfront Park Community Foundation, Lorraine and Harley Higbie, an anonymous donor, and the residents who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).



[denverartmuseum.org/damguide](https://denverartmuseum.org/damguide) ← For more tips on visiting with the family.

**CONNECT WITH**

CREATIVITY &  
COMMUNITY

**IN ONLINE CLASSES**



Theresa Rozul Knowles and Anna Kaye



Meet the local creatives who teach our monthly online writing and drawing classes. Theresa Rozul Knowles, an instructor with Lighthouse Writers Workshop, facilitates our monthly Virtual Drop-In Writing Class. Artist and teacher Anna Kaye leads our monthly Virtual Drop-In Drawing Class.

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**What should people expect during your online class?**

**Theresa Rozul Knowles:** In any creative process, people should expect inspiration, understanding, and healing.

I hope people surprise themselves [during these online classes]. Often, before someone shares, you'll hear something like this: "So, I'm not a writer." "Warning: it took me a while to get settled, so I only got four minutes to write this." I tell creative spirits that if you write; you're a writer. If you're human; you can inspire. I tell them that I am not the only teacher here. We all take turns, through our art, as teachers and students. So what's the writing like? you might wonder. Well, we laugh. We learn. We admire.

**Anna Kaye:** Art has the power to engage, inspire, and bring you into the present moment. Online classes help us to stay connected to our ourselves,

communities, and the world. We can draw, paint, sculpt, doodle, collage, and more. We visit local artists' studios to paint a picture of their creative processes while learning a variety of new techniques through artist demonstrations. We get to explore incredible artwork from the DAM and engage in meaningful discussions. All abilities are welcome—if you are just beginning or continuing in your creative journey; we are excited to make and explore art with you!

**How do you think art contributes to wellbeing during such a stressful, uncertain time?**

**Theresa:** I am a first-generation Filipina-Memphian. I know we need to do something [about racial justice], as I am tired of seeing the same themes and problems in America as in the Philippines. I know our capacity to change. I feel a better world is on its way. I hope each time we get to combine art and creative writing that we leave feeling the power within ourselves and our world to create peace.

**Anna:** When we are feeling anxious or stressed, our imaginations can help us escape, meditate, express, and get in touch with our inner wisdom. The act of creating is invigorating, allowing us to safely experience our concerns and work through them. There are many ways that we can use art to ease tensions, such as visualizing a safe place as you paint with your favorite colors. Art makes our lives more colorful, musical, and poetic. In creatively expressing our worries and wishes, we can also use art to raise awareness and empower our communities.

**Any advice for people who may not have taken an art class before?**

**Theresa:** You only need the willingness to try. If you are not sure, try at least a couple of sessions before you think you've made up your mind.

**Anna:** We all have the gift of creativity and this quality allows us to appreciate how exquisite life is—its amazing colors, shapes, textures, sounds, and more. Each individual has a unique way of viewing and creating art; there are no mistakes.

**What should we know about taking an online class?**

**Theresa:** The three most significant issues with our online class are time, lack of comfortability with the virtual stage masked as art avoidance, and time. So, here are at least two solutions. In Zoomland, one can have their camera off, use an alias, communicate through the chat box, and take her or his time easing into this realm. Two, I am restructuring Drop-In, so the people that can only squeeze in an hour of creativity on their lunch break can do so.

**Anna:** All you need to do is click the Zoom link and you will instantly be a part of our free online classes, adding more creativity and connection to your day. Classes are flexible, you can select your own materials and experiment from the comfort of your home. It's a fabulous way to safely experiment, explore, and flex your creative muscles.

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