REAL AND IMAGINED:
REGIONAL TOURING EXHIBITION  CURRICULUM AND ACTIVITIES GUIDE

WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH THIS EXHIBITION

In this guide you will find suggestions for curriculum ideas or ways to engage with this exhibition. Each suggestion follows the inquiry model or thinking pattern used at the University of Wyoming Art Museum: observe, question, explore, create, and reflect.

Engagement ideas are designed for elementary to adult learners and can be adapted for early childhood with assistance. You can also use ideas with family, friends, or on your own. Activities range in time from 30 minutes up to multiple class periods or sessions.

If you have questions or need more ideas please contact the University of Wyoming Artmobile Educator, Sarita Talusani Keller at artmobile@uwyo.edu

Guillermo Silva (Colombian, 1921-2007), Museo de Arte Moderno, 1977, color lithograph on paper, 12-1/2 x 24-1/4 inches, Friends of the UW Art Museum Purchase, 1979.84

Leticia Tarrago (Mexican, b. 1940), Arpa, not dated, color etching on paper, 6x 4 inches, gift of Mr. Frederick L. Williams, 1976.12.0
PROFILE PIC

(30 minute - 1 hour activity)

View all the portraits in the exhibition. Choose one to examine closely. Then create a profile pic that portrays who you are or how you would like to be seen.

OBSERVE:

- View portraits in the exhibition. Select one portrait for this activity.
- Spend 5 minutes carefully looking at the image.
- Sketch, jot down, or list what you see.

QUESTION:

- Make a list of words to describes this person.
- What is their story? How does body language and expression add to the story?
- What does their clothing and setting reveal about their life?
- Why would the artist choose to create an image of this person?

EXPLORE:

- Imagine you are posing for a portrait. What would you wear? How would you pose? What setting and objects would you choose to reflect your world? What objects and props would you include to reflect your personality?
- What style or medium would you prefer? Drawing, painting, sculpture, or photo?

CREATE:

- List your personality traits, including likes and dislikes. Then gather objects that reflect your personality.
- Choose props, clothing, and accessories that reflect your lifestyle or say something about you.
- Have a friend take a photo of you using a phone or tablet. Try out different poses and body language.
- On your own? Take a selfie or use a timer setting on your device to capture your portrait.
- Don't have a phone or tablet? Draw, paint, or use another medium you have on hand to craft your portrait.

REFLECT:

- How did it feel to create a portrait? How did it feel to be the subject of a portrait?
- Did you feel your portrait revealed who you truly are? Yes or no? Explain.
- What question would you like to ask the artist? What question would you ask the subject?
SURREALIST DREAM

(30 minute - 1 hour activity)

Choose a surreal, or dreamlike image for this activity. Then turn your own surrealistic dream into a work of art through collage.

OBSERVE:

- Look for surreal, or dreamlike images in the exhibition. Select one image by Guillermo Silva or Leticia Tarrago to examine closely.
- Spend 5 minutes carefully looking at the image.
- Sketch, jot down, or list what you see.

QUESTION:

- Does the image seem fantastic or familiar? How so?
- What feels real? What feels imagined? Why?
- What moods or emotions do you feel about this image? Happy? Sad? Scared? Calm? Playful?

EXPLORE:

- Imagine you are in this picture. What kind of dream would you be in--a pleasant dream or nightmare? Explain.
- Think of a dream you have had that you remember fairly well. Describe what you remember.
- Which parts felt real? Which parts felt strange, off, or unusual? List what you remember and write how you felt.

CREATE:

- Make a surreal collage based on your dream list. Use color papers or settings from magazines for a background.
- Find items from your list in magazines or make photocopies from albums. Clip out images for your collage.
- Can’t find what you are looking for? Draw these items yourself. Cut them out and include them in your collage.
- Arrange your clipped images and glue down when you are satisfied.

REFLECT:

- How did it feel to have your personal dream as the subject of an artwork?
- Did you feel successful in recreating your dream? Yes or no? Explain.
- What question would you like to ask the artist?

Guillermo Silva (Colombian, 1921-2007), Luna Llena, 1966, etching on paper, 16-1/4 x 17-1/2 inches, Friends of the UW Art Museum Purchase, 1968.6
LA LOTERIA
(30 minute - 1 hour activity)

View "La Lotería" by Jose Guadalupe Posada. Then design a "lotería" card that illuminates the power of an everyday object. Use cards to play loteria or invent a game of your own.

**OBSERVE:**
- Locate "La Lotería" by Jose Guadalupe Posada.
- Spend 5 minutes carefully looking at the image.
- Sketch, jot down, or describe what you see.
- Record any questions you have about the image.

**QUESTION:**
- What items (objects, animals, figures) do you notice?
- Why do you think the artist chose them?
- What do these images suggest about the time and place when this was made? What about daily life?

**EXPLORE:**
- Imagine you are the artist. What figures would you choose to illustrate from your daily life?
- What would your illustrations say about the present time, people, and culture of your town?
- What illustrations would be unique to the location, or place where you live?
- How do these items affect daily life? Imagine life without them.

**CREATE:**
- Show gratitude for an everyday item that makes your life better. Create a game card that celebrates the item.
- Think of an everyday item you want to celebrate [Ex. skis]. Draw it on an index card or small cardstock rectangle.
- Add special features to exaggerate its powers [Ex. wings spouting from skis].
- Color and decorate with great care to celebrate and emphasize how special this item is.
- Make cards with friends. Put images together to create loteria boards, or play bingo, or another game.

**REFLECT:**
- How does art capture daily life? How do artists help us see the special in the everyday?
- What special qualities does your loteria item possess? How does this item impact your daily life?