

See and Do Introduction.

WELCOME TO PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM

Welcome to Palm Springs Art Museum!

We are excited to share with you works of art and architecture from our collection and hope you enjoy creating your own pieces inspired by what you learn.

Each Art Portfolio is divided into two lessons. In the first lesson, you will be introduced to an artwork from the collection and the artist who created it. This is followed by questions where you can share your ideas about what you have learned.

In the second lesson, you will create a work of art using similar processes and supplies as the artist.

We hope you have fun exploring the museum's collection and would like to encourage you to get creative! Then come visit us at the museum where you can see these works in person and share what you learned with friends and family.

Land Acknowledgement.

Every community in the United States owes its existence and vitality to people from around the world. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn here in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Recognition of the many layers of our history is critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and differences.

Palm Springs Art Museum respectfully acknowledges the ancestral homelands of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the other sovereign Indian Nations of Southern California. We recognize their ongoing cultural and spiritual connection to this land—past, present, and future.

Lesson 1: Art Materials.

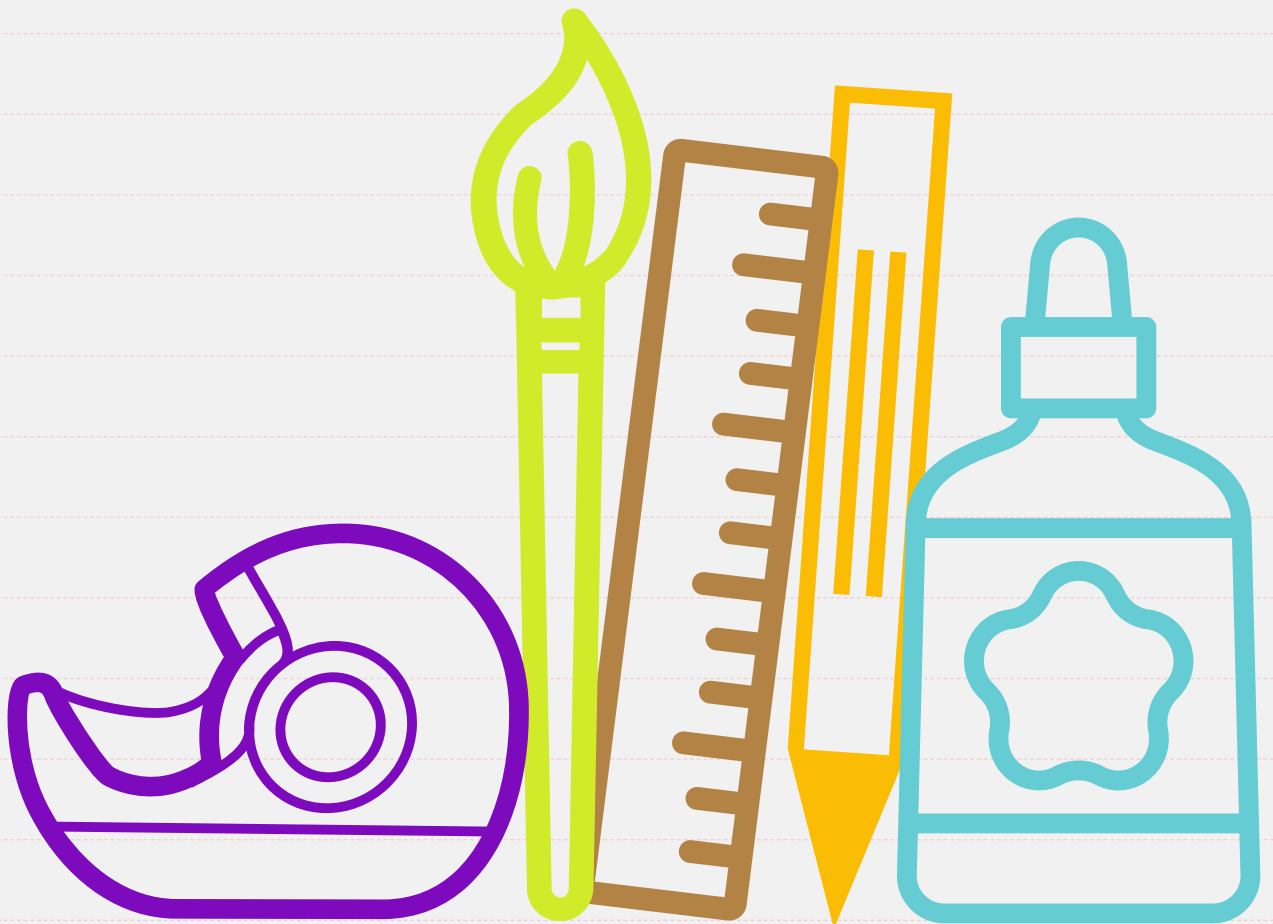
HOW IS ART MADE?

There are a number of ways to create a work of art. Artists use different *materials*, *media*, processes, and *tools* to produce works of art. Art can be made out of almost anything, although some materials are more common and some are more experimental and unexpected.

Repurposing everyday objects is a great way to find art supplies. Materials such as newspapers, magazines, shipping boxes, and old clothes can be used for projects. Before there were art supply stores, artists often had to make their own materials. They also learned to make their own paints, build their own canvases, and care for their equipment because supplies were not readily available.

Artworks in the collection of the Palm Springs Art Museum are made up of a surprising number of different elements and materials. While there are paintings and sculptures created from traditional art media like paint, canvas, clay, and bronze, there are also artworks made from *non-traditional* art media such as newspaper, posters, and even radiator parts.

The museum has different artworks that were created with *mixed media*—which means using a combination of materials in a single piece.



HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES

1 In this first piece, the artist used a range of materials to create his painting. What do you think some of the materials he used are?

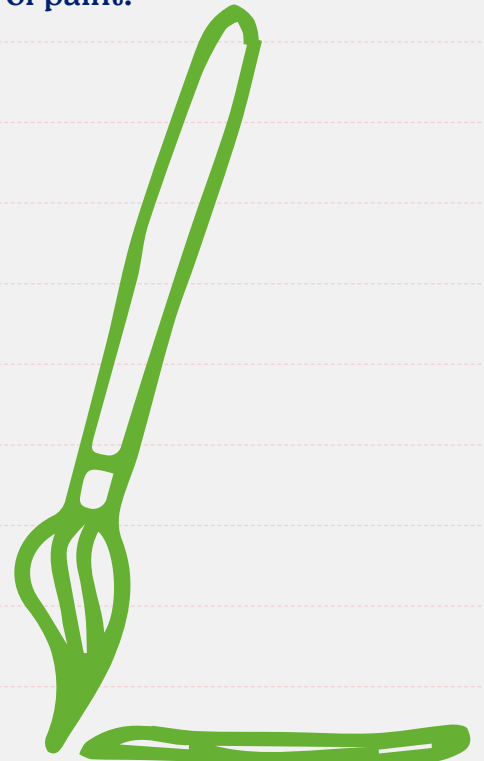


Above: Roy De Forest (American, 1930–2007), *Painters of the Forest*, 1991, Polymer paint on linen with wood and mixed media, 87 x 109 x 7 ½ in. Museum purchase with funds provided by the Contemporary Art Council, 1992; and Irma and Irvine Robbins, 3–1992.



Above: Tam Van Tran (American, born Vietnam, 1966), *Nonconceptual Space*, 2009, acrylic, spirulina and staples on paper and museum board, 87 x 106 x 16 inches. Museum purchase with funds provided by Gladys Rubinstein, Angie and Harvey Gerber, Helene Galen, David Kaplan and Glenn Ostergaard, Lynn and Robert Zimmer, and Myrna Kaplan, 2–2010.

2 This next artist used the organic substance of algae mixed with acrylic, which is a type of paint.



3

This is a chair that is made from stuffed animals.

Right: Fernando and Humberto Campana (Brazilian, born 1961, born 1953), *Banquete Chair*, ca. 2002, stuffed toy animals and brushed tubular steel, edition 32/150, 38 x 43 x 37 inches. Museum purchase with funds provided by Donna J. MacMillan, 1-2013.



4

And this sculpture is an *assemblage*, or a collection of three-dimensional materials. It is made from radiator parts found in junkyards.

Left: Noah Purifoy, *Untitled*, 1995, Mixed media assemblage mounted on canvas-backed plywood, 66 x 46 x 3 in., Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Dale and Isabel Camacho Diamond.



It can be fun to make art from different materials. However, the artists who created these art works in the museum's collection purposely chose a variety of materials to communicate particular ideas and messages. Often their materials connect to their own personal stories, interests, and communities.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mark Bradford

Mark Bradford repurposes materials as inspiration and content for his large-scale painted collages. He often collects these materials near his studio in Los Angeles. He also produces photography, video, and installations, but his primary interest is collage and painting.

Growing up in a family of hairdressers in Los Angeles, Mark Bradford first began using materials from the salon to make his art, such as the small papers used for permanents and hair dyes. He then began to reclaim and repurpose paper products from the street—including newspaper, advertising flyers, street posters, and other printed materials.



Above: Mark Bradford in front of Pickett's Charge. Photo: Cathy Carver

Most of his works are horizontal (angled like the horizon or sunrise) and shaped like a billboard or outdoor sign. His images often look like the lines of a map or network. When the artist applies the materials to the surface, he often tears and sands them—changing the way they feel (texture) and look (appearance), much the way paper fades and ages over time.



Above: Mark Bradford (American, born 1961), *Rat Catcher of Hamelin IV*, 2011, mixed media collage on canvas, 120 × 126 inches. Museum purchase with funds provided by Donna MacMillan, the Contemporary Art Council, the Annette Bloch Acquisition Fund, the Collectors Forum, the Dorothy and Harold Meyerman Honorary Fund, Myrna Kaplan, and funds derived from a previous gift from Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Maslon, 14–2012.

What Tools and Materials Do You Use?

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW

1

What kinds of activities do you like to do in your free time? Do you like to draw, cook, read, write, or play sports?

2

What tools and materials do you use in these activities? List or draw them.

3

What materials from your interests or community could be inspirational for your own art?

4

How do you think the materials Mark Bradford used in this collage connect to his own personal story or that of his community?

Glossary

COLLAGE A work of art made from pieces of existing materials, including photographs and prints, arranged to create a new image. “Collage” comes from the French word “coller” meaning “to glue or stick together.”

MATERIAL / MEDIUM (OR MEDIA, PLURAL) – Can refer to a type of art, such as painting or collage, as well as to the materials an artwork is made from.

MIXED MEDIA The combination of different materials and/or found materials, such as scraps, advertisements, or rags to create a work of art.

NON-TRADITIONAL MEDIA Includes digital media, household items, commercial products, food, repurposed materials, and so on.

RECLAIMED AND REPURPOSED MATERIALS Materials that previously had a different purpose, function, or use but have been transformed into another use entirely.

TOOLS Instruments used to create a work of art such as pencils, erasers, and glue. This might even include a camera, paintbrush, or screwdriver.

TRADITIONAL MEDIA Includes paint, pencil, pen, pastel, charcoal, clay, porcelain, bronze, and so on.



Lesson 2: Get Inspired by Mark Bradford and Collage

This activity is inspired by the collages of Mark Bradford who uses *reclaimed* and *repurposed* paper products in his works—including newspaper, advertising flyers, street posters, and other printed materials. You can use found materials like magazines, newspapers, maps, postcards, photos, or wrapping paper to create your own *collage*.

Supplies

- Recycled paper
- Glue or tape
- Pencil
- Cardboard or thick paper

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1

- Take a close look at the work of Mark Bradford. Pay attention to how he uses collaged pieces to create large areas of color.
- Now, think about an image you would like to create for your collage. It could be a landscape or a self-portrait using images and materials that have a personal meaning to you.
- Identify and gather materials for your collage. Look for photographs and recycled paper, such as junk mail, old greeting cards, envelopes, gift wrapping paper, newspapers, maps, advertisements, food packaging, expired coupons, and magazines.



Step 2

- Tear or cut the collage pieces and sort them by color, pattern, or size to create your palette. Look for large areas of color and patterns in advertisements and interesting textures in photographs. (Tip: The more pieces you have to work with, the better. Leftover pieces can be stored in envelopes or bags for later use on other art projects!)



Step 3

- Sketch a rough outline for the scene you would like to create on a piece of cardboard. If you do not have cardboard available, you can use a paper bag, a piece of thick paper (such as a cereal box or case of soda), a file folder, or any non-glossy surface.



Step 4

- Determine the colors and pieces you need for your image and arrange the collage materials on top of your backing. (Tip: Photograph your progress in case the pieces get moved.)



Step 5

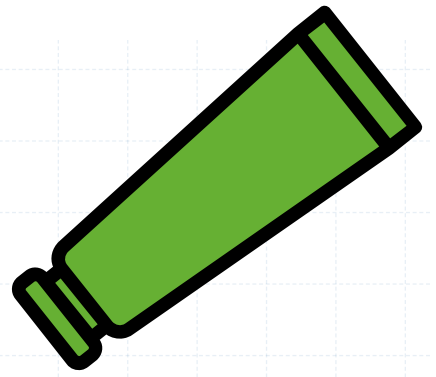
- Glue or tape your collage materials into place using glue or tape.



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- ➔ What tools did you use for your collage?
- ➔ Why did you choose your materials?
- ➔ Does your collage tell a story?

Bonus Tips On How to Care for Your Art Supplies:



Proper care and handling of materials and tools is very important. Just like doctors, athletes, and chefs, artists need to take care of their equipment so they can work safely and easily and so their tools last a long time.

1

Paint and glue should be covered when not in use, and brushes should be rinsed in cold or warm water and then dried with a cloth or paper towel. When painting with different colors, always rinse off your brush before starting to work with another color so you do not dirty the colors. Keep in mind a little bit of paint and glue goes a long way!



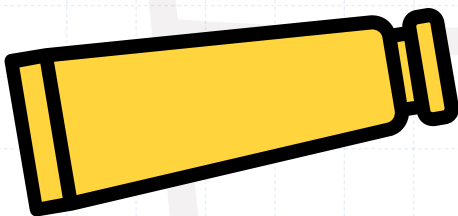
2

When handling scissors, be careful to hold them firmly, and do not use them to cut hard surfaces that will bend them out of shape. When you are not using your scissors, be sure to close them and place your scissors in a safe place on your desk or table. Always carry your scissors with the point facing away from yourself or anyone else or with the blade gripped in your hand.



3

When you work with crayons, you can tear off the paper and sharpen the end to get a pointed tip. Be sure to store like materials together in one place so you can easily find the supplies you need. Scraps of paper, printed material, and fabric can also be stored and used again for other projects.



See and Do. Lesson 3, Art Materials & Collage.



**Palm Springs
Art Museum**

California Arts Standards for Visual Arts
(Lessons also integrate the
Common Core State Standards)

3.VA:Cr1.2, 4.VA:Cr1.2, 5.VA:Cr1.2

3.VA:Cr2.1, 4.VA:Cr2.1, 5.VA:Cr2.1

3.VA:Cr2.2, 4.VA:Cr2.2, 5.VA:Cr2.2

3.VA:Re7.1, 4.VA:Re7.1, 5.VA:Re7.1

3.VA:Cn10, 4.VA:Cn10, 5.VA:Cn10

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