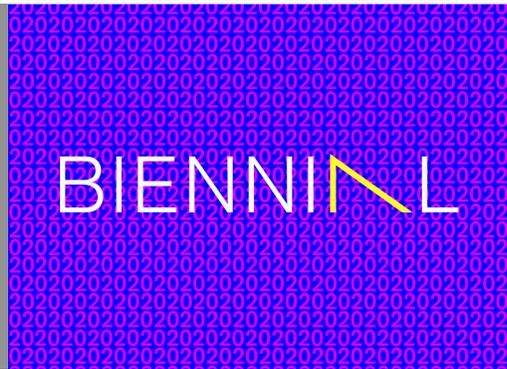


# Look Inside Painting



## GRADE LEVEL

Preschool - 2nd

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Look closely at Fanny Brodar's work in the 2020 Biennial. Using a whimsical and graffiti style of painting, create a portrait of your favorite character, one that comforts and brings joy to you.

## GOALS

Students will understand:

- How close observation is a tool for learning and discovery
- Experiment with new art making materials and techniques
- Create an unique portrait of a role model that captures the personality of the subject

## MAINE LEARNING RESULTS

A2 | Elements & Principals  
A3 | Media, Tools, Techniques  
B1 | Media Skills  
B2 | Composition Skills  
B3 | Making Meaning  
D1 | Aesthetics and Criticism  
E4 | Impact of Arts on Lifestyle

## INTRODUCTION

The 2020 edition of the CMCA Biennial features the work of 34 artists from 17 Maine communities. The selected artists were chosen from a pool of more than 500 individual submissions by jurors Nina Johnson-Milewski, owner, founder, and director of Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, FL, and Kate McNamara, an independent curator and educator based in Providence, RI.

In a statement by the jurors, Johnson-Milewski writes, "I hope this exhibition will reflect the importance of harnessing the creative spirit, particularly in times of disconnection, isolation, and confusion." McNamara adds, "With over 500 submissions the process of looking through the Biennial entries offered us an opportunity to view an incredibly diverse range of art practices reflected in the contemporary art field. I am thrilled with our final selection of work, which reflects some of the hopefulness and re-imagining this particular and historic moment in time calls for."

## LESSON

Experience the Center for Maine Contemporary Art's 2020 Biennial in person or through our virtual tour. Following from artist Fanny Brodar, paint a portrait of your favorite character; use a whimsical and graffiti style.

## CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Explain the importance of viewing: what is the job of the artist versus the job of the viewer? Engage in a conversation through observation of the work. Who is the focus in this work? What types of expressions are these characters making? What types of characters bring you joy? How does this artists show joy and happiness?

## CELEBRATE YOUR WORK

Share your artwork and process with family and friends, educate others about Maine artists, and share with us @cmcanow!

## ARTISTS

Fanny Brodar | Kennebunkport  
Identifies as a 'naive artist' who paints like her 8-year-old self, blending abstract expressionism and neo-pop.

## VOCABULARY

Portrait: visual of a person

Texture: representation of surface using a variety of lines and marks

Shape: flat enclosed are formed by lines

Pattern: marks that repeat over a select area

Outline: drawing/sketch restricted to 2D line construction

Pop-Art: art movement and style based on simple bold images of everyday items.

## MATERIALS

- 11 X 18 paper
- Oil pastels or crayons
- Water-based paint
- Paint brush
- Water cup
- Googly eyes & glue (optional)



## INSTRUCTIONS

### STEP 1

Begin to draw your character(s) using oil pastels or crayons, creating an **outline** of their form. Choose a variety of expressions and emotions for each **portrait**.

### STEP 2

Add to the background **patterns, shapes**, and doodles that describe your character's likes and dislikes. Fill the background with multiple **colors and textures** using a variety of line widths, directions, and shapes. Try mixing your own colors by blending the oil pastels together.

### STEP 3

Apply paint to your work, filling in the white spaces with color. If you're using watercolors you can paint right over the crayons and oil pastels. Let dry and add in googly eyes where needed.

## TEACHING TIPS:

- For younger artists, creating a stencil of a head may be helpful to trace when beginning to draw their character.
- Challenge older artists to outline their shapes and designs, creating a more **Pop-art** style to their figures and patterns.



Fanny Brodar

Left: *The Party*, 2020, acrylic, oil pastel, and oil stick on canvas, 36 x 36"

Bottom Left: *Many Monsters*, 2020, acrylic, oil pastel, and oil stick on canvas, 20 x 20"

Bottom Right: *Garden in the Middle of a City*, 2020, acrylic and oil pastel on canvas, 36 x 36"

