Make connections with art and each other

East Building, Upper Level, Gallery 407C

Find Pansies in Washington by Alma Thomas

- Alma Thomas drew inspiration for her paintings from the colorful garden views from her window. What do you see in the painting that reminds you of flowers?
- While she was painting, Thomas would envision herself in an airplane. What could these dabs of color represent as seen from above? What is in the center?

Did youThomas was an art teacher for over thirty-five
years in Washington, DC, and began her painting
career after her retirement in her late sixties.

At home Many of Thomas's paintings were inspired by views of her garden through her window. Look out of your window and sketch a scene that inspires you.

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Alma Thomas, *Pansies in Washington* (detail), 1969, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Corcoran Collection (Gift of Vincent Melzac)

Make connections with art and each other

For visitors of all ages

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West Building, Main Floor, Gallery 66

Fing Shaw Memorial by Augustus Saint-Gaudens

This sculpture honors Colonel Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, one of the first African American regiments to fight in the Civil War. Each soldier is a unique portrait.

Do you see a drummer boy? A soldier carrying a flag? Canteens? Bedrolls? What else?

Imagine

You are a figure in the scene. How are you unique or similar compared to the others? What might you be thinking or feeling?

Did you know? The original plan for the *Shaw Memorial* was Colonel Shaw alone on a horse, but his family thought it important to include the regiment. How does that change its impact as a war memorial?

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Augustus Saint-Gaudens, *Shaw Memorial* (detail), 1900, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire, on long-term loan to the National Gallery of Art, Washington

Make connections with art and each other



East Building, Upper Level, Gallery 404A

Number 1, 1950 (Lavender Mist) by Jackson Pollock

Observe

Look closely at the painting. What colors do you see? What lines and shapes can you find? Step back and look again. What do you notice now?

In action

Imagine you are artist Jackson Pollock, who invented a style of painting where he poured, flung, and dripped paint onto canvases spread on the floor. To make this painting, where did you start? What color did you use first? How did you decide when to stop?



Jackson Pollock did not actually use any lavender paint in this work. Where the pink, black, gray, and blue colors meet, some say it looks like lavender. Do you agree? What other title would you give this painting?

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Jackson Pollock, *Number 1, 1950 (Lavender Mist)* (detail), 1950, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Ailsa Mellon Bruce Fund

Make connections with art and each other

Photo Challenge



East Building / West Building / Sculpture Garden

- **Explore** Discover the National Gallery of Art with your camera. You can share on social media with *#myngadc*.
 - **Laugh** Find a work of art that makes you laugh and take a selfie with it (make sure to laugh out loud for the picture!). #museumselfie
 - **POSE** Find an artwork with an interesting pose or shape. Strike your own pose and take a photo. #musepose
 - **Detail** Zoom in on one part of a painting or sculpture. Snap a picture. **#partsofpaintings**
- Angles Observe a work of art from multiple points of view. Stand up close. Stand at a distance. Tilt your head and see if it makes a difference. Snap pictures from the angles you find interesting! #artdetail

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Katharina Fritsch, *Hahn/Cock* (detail), 2013, on long-term loan from Glenstone Museum, Potomac, Maryland. © Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn

Make connections with art and each other

West Building, Main Floor, Gallery 85

Find Move and Look

The Japanese Footbridge by Claude Monet

Carefully take five big steps back from the painting. Now approach it slowly. As you move closer, how does it change? What new details do you notice?

Did you know?

Monet loved his garden bridge so much, he painted it more than 250 times. He painted it at many times of the day and year to capture how it looked in different light and weather conditions.

Make an impression

Find a space that inspires you in your home, yard, or neighborhood. Sketch, paint, or photograph it at least three times. How does this influence what you see?

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Claude Monet, *The Japanese Footbridge* (detail), 1899, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of Victoria Nebeker Coberly, in memory of her son John W. Mudd, and Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg

Make connections with art and each other

West Building, Main Floor, Gallery 67

Find

Niagara by Frederic Edwin Church

Imagine you are painting this picture. Where are you standing? What do you see? What do you hear? Don't miss the rainbow!

Greate Make a six-word story about how you feel when you look at this view. Work together or craft your own.

Compare

Look at the paintings in this room. Can you find calm water? Moving water? Which landscape in the room best matches your mood? Why?

Did you know?

This exact view of Niagara Falls doesn't exist. The artist combined several views for dramatic visual impact.

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Frederic Edwin Church, *Niagara* (detail), 1857, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Corcoran Collection (Museum Purchase, Gallery Fund)

Make connections with art and each other

For visitors of all ages

Maquettes are

small-scale models or rough drafts of sculptures. There are several maquettes in this room. Can you find them? Do you see the model for the big mobile in our Atrium?

East Building, Tower 2, Tower Level, Gallery 606

Find Alexander Calder Tower Gallery

This gallery has the largest display of works by Alexander Calder on view in the world. Calder was the first to create the hanging, moving sculptures you see, called mobiles.

- Explore this gallery. Find the biggest and smallest sculptures. Compare them. Which mobile is moving the most?
- Using your finger, make an outline of your favorite sculpture in the air. What did you notice about its shape?

Did you know?

Calder was an inventive artist who never went anywhere without a pair of pliers in his pocket. Although most of his work is abstract, he was known to explore subjects such as animals and the circus. Can you find examples in this room?

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Make connections with art and each other

East Building, Upper Level, Gallery 404C

Lick and Lather by Janine Antoni

Without looking at the label, can you guess what these busts are made of? Do the materials look or smell familiar to you?

Compare All fourteen busts were made from the same mold of the artist's head and shoulders, but the licking and lathering process changed them. Which bust seems the most complete? Which is the most erased?

Imagine and share

What common household item from your bathroom or kitchen would you use to make a portrait of yourself? Why?

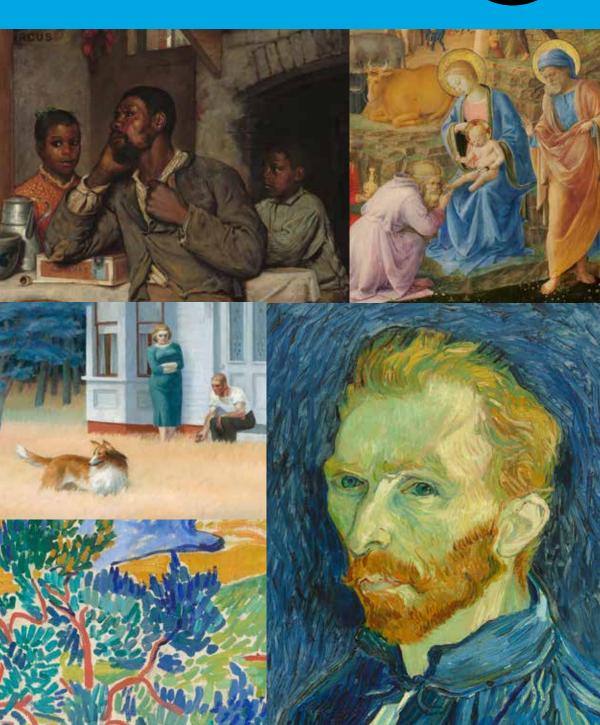
Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



Janine Antoni, *Lick and Lather*, 1993, seven licked chocolate self-portrait busts and seven washed soap self-portrait busts on fourteen pedestals. Photographed by Lee Stalsworth at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC, 1999. © Janine Antoni; Courtesy of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York

Make connections with art and each other

Try with any work of art!



East Building / West Building / Sculpture Garden

Where to start

The National Gallery of Art is made up of two large buildings and a sculpture garden. In the West Building you'll find paintings and sculptures from the medieval period through the late nineteenth century, while the East Building contains works from the twentieth century through today. Use the prompts below to create your own personal journey!

Choose

Find a work of art that catches your eye. Look at it for sixty seconds.

Share

Discuss three details you notice. If you could, what would you ask the artist?

Compare Look at an artwork nearby. What is similar or different? Why do you think they are in the same room?

Share with #myngadc to keep the conversation going!



left to right Richard Norris Brooke, *A Pastoral Visit*, 1881, Corcoran Collection (Museum Purchase, Gallery Fund); Fra Angelico and Fra Filippo Lippi, *The Adoration of the Magi*, c. 1440/1460, Samuel H. Kress Collection; Edward Hopper, *Cape Cod Evening*, 1939, John Hay Whitney Collection; Vincent van Gogh, *Self-Portrait*, 1889, Collection of Mr. and Mrs. John Hay Whitney; André Derain, *Mountains at Collioure*, 1905, John Hay Whitney Collection. All images are details from the National Gallery of Art collection.