



WOMEN IN THE ARTS ACTIVITIES IMAGES AND EXPRESSIONS

Following are ideas for students and educators for developing activities related to the Maryland Women in the Arts exhibit at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center. Many of the ideas focus primarily on Maryland women, while others relate to women artists in general.

Through women in the arts we create connections
With diversity and with our own reflections
Expanding our horizons and nurturing our soul
While appreciation of the arts our goal.

GENERAL

Bookmarks or Buttons

Make bookmarks or pin-on display buttons depicting an artist or art form

Bulletin Boards

Design and post classroom or school bulletin boards using drawings or photographs of women artists

Cards and Letters

Write and mail cards and letters thanking specific artists for their contributions, or write a letter of note of appreciation to artists of the past

Charts

Create charts comparing the lives of two of your favorite women in the arts

Diversity

Ensure that exhibits include women artists with diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, and experiences
Prepare questions to ask your family about their diversity.

Field Trips

Take field trips to Maryland state or local art galleries and exhibits or to the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Interview

Invite a Maryland artist or panel of artists to a classroom and have students develop interview questions before the visit.
Students conduct the interviews, focusing on the invited artist or artists.

Media

Plan and create a media production using television, slides, or groups of photos to present your media production about one of your favorite women in the arts.

Partners

Work with a partner student in your classroom to do a project on the same artist, or choose two different artists and compare your thoughts and ideas. Use illustrations of your artist or write a short essay or biography.

Portray

Write a short introduction about one of your favorite artists. Introduce or portray yourself as that artist in your classroom.

Program School-wide

Work with other teachers and students in your school to plan and present a school–side assembly related to women in the arts.

Research

Find out more on-line or in books and magazines about a woman or women in the arts you admire. Write down something you didn't know about the women you researched.

Tour

Bring friends or colleagues or family to the Heritage Center Women in the Arts exhibit and give them a tour.

Words, Wit, and Wisdom

Collect quotes written by or about women in the arts.

VARIETY - SPECIALTIES

Develop some activities that focus on specific areas of the arts:

***Visual Arts** (graphic design, painting, sculpture, crafts, photography)

***Performing Arts** (theater, film, television, acting, griots, storytellers, directors, producers, music, and dance)

***Literary Arts** (writers, authors of fiction and non-fiction, poets, children's and young adult authors, essayists)

***Arts Innovation and Education** (art educators, art collectors, museum directors)

Samples:

*What kinds of visual, performing, or literary arts have you actively participated in? What would you like to have more experience in or learn more about?

*In the Heritage Center Literary Arts exhibit, which authors do you admire most? For those authors not in the exhibit, select your favorite author or book and describe what you like about the story? What events or illustrations would you add?

*Plan a visit to a local art museum, art school or art gallery such as the National Visionary Arts Museum, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), and interview art collectors or art historians?

*List 3 ideas or suggestions of individuals or groups that you would like to have about women in any of the arts categories. What would you add to the Maryland Women in the Arts exhibit at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center?

