

# ART AROUND YOU

## Joyful Marker Printmaking

### About Art Around You

Every AAY usually starts with a guided tour of the current exhibition at University Galleries, which allows students to explore and interact with local artists in a new and profound way. It also provides inspiration for a special art making activity that happens after the tour at the Children’s Discovery Museum. The art making that occurs after the tour further expands on the media and ideas used by the artists students learned about. Each session of AAY focuses on a “spotlight artist(s)” to inspire our art making. This program is made possible by the MIRZA Arts & Culture grant funded by the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation and our continued collaboration with University Galleries of Illinois State University.

Unfortunately, this art making activity will not be accompanied by a guided tour. However, University Galleries is free and open to the public for exhibition tours. We strongly encourage you to visit the galleries before or after making the art work in this lesson to gain the full AAY experience. Please visit <https://galleries.illinoisstate.edu/> to schedule your visit online or call (309) 438-5487. You can also view images of the exhibition on the University Galleries website by scanning the first QR code below.

### Current Exhibition | Making Our Space: Members of the Peoria Guild of Black Artists



Exhibition images:



*Collective Subconscious:*



*Poets of the PGOBA:*



***Making Our Space: Members of the Peoria Guild of Black Artists*** is a group exhibition featuring fourteen members of the ever-expanding Peoria-based artists guild, often referred to as PGOBA. The artist collective was organized in June 2020 following the murder of George Floyd — and in response to nationwide uprisings and the Black Lives Matter movement — to focus on celebrating and uplifting the voices of Black artists in Peoria, Illinois. This exhibition explores Black identity, Black joy, and Black community through painting, drawing, graphic design, illustration, printmaking, photography, video, performance, and poetry. Our inspiration for artmaking comes from the works of ***Collective Subconscious*** and ***Poets of the Peoria Guild of Black Artists*** (scan QR codes above to view images of these works).

# Joyful Marker Printmaking



What brings you joy? This special artmaking activity will combine some of the ideas/concepts and media used by the PGOBA in this exhibition including printmaking, poetry, and joy. You will be creating a marker print with simple materials about something that brings you joy and then create a fun, Haiku style poem to go with it!

## Materials

- 2 pieces of paper the same size (thick paper works best)
- plastic food storage bag (same size or bigger than your papers)
- regular markers (just not permanent/dry erase)
- a spray bottle with water
- pencil

# Instructions

- 1 First take some time to think about something that brings you joy. This can be anything! An activity, an object, a person, a place, a quote- anything! Something that brings me joy is doing yoga outside!
- 2 Before you begin, here is some important information! Your marker print will print on your paper backwards. So anything you draw will be “mirrored” on your paper. If you write any words, they need to be written backwards. A trick to do this is to write out the word you want normally, flip the paper, and hold it up to a light or window. This should show the word backward on the other side. Just trace this with a pencil! Here are some examples of how your images will print:



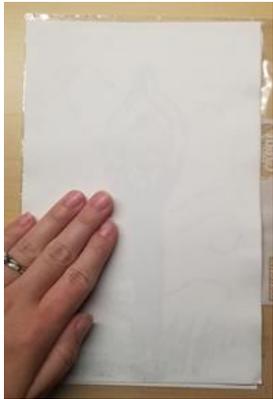
- 3 On one of your 2 pieces of same sized paper, draw out the thing that brings you joy using pencil. Remember that this will be mirrored so plan a bit before you draw! It also helps to keep the details of your drawing big and simple!



- 4 Place your drawing under or inside of your plastic bag. Trace your drawing onto the bag using your markers. It is fine to let the marker dry onto the bag- it will still work! Anything that is marker will print onto your paper later so think about adding marker to the background as well.



- 5 When you are done with your marker drawing, you will need your other piece of paper and your spray bottle with water. Spray both the front and back sides of your piece of paper until the whole paper feels damp- it should not be dripping. Allow the water to soak into the paper for a few minutes. It should be equally damp and not “shiny” anymore.
- 6 Press the damp side of the piece of paper onto the marker drawing on your bag then carefully and gently rub the back of the paper and lift your paper to reveal your beautiful print! Wipe off your bag and keep re-using it to make more prints! If your print didn't turn out as planned, you can always re-color your bag and try again.



- 7 Now on to the poem! You will be creating a simple Haiku style poem to go with your print you just created about what brings you joy- we challenge you to try to use the word “joy” in your poem as well! "Haiku" is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haiku poems consist of 3 lines. The first and last lines of a Haiku have 5 syllables and the middle line has 7 syllables- it will go 5, 7, 5. Syllables are kind of like the “beat” of a word. For example, TREE has 1 beat: Tree, APPLE has 2 beats: Ap-Ple, while BANANA has 3: Ba-Na-Na. It helps to break down each word by saying it out loud and counting out the syllables (beats) on your fingers! Here is my poem example to go with my print:

Yoga makes me calm.  
I practice among the grass.  
Each pose brings me joy!

You can write your poem on a piece of paper with pencil/pen/marker or even write it on your print once it dries! Display your wonderful artwork somewhere to remind yourself to fill your life with things that bring you joy!

