

## Educators Guide

# COMMUNITY CREATED

2024-2025 School Year

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### Lesson

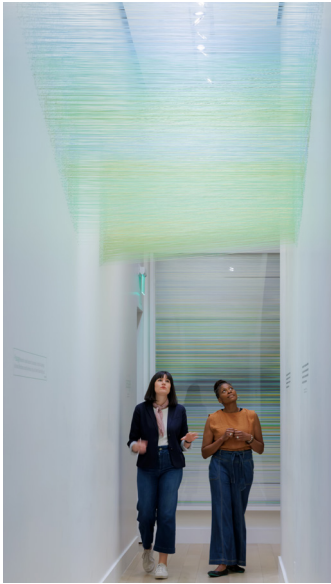
- Color Theory Activity
- Artist/Artwork Introduction
- Artwork Planning
- Art Making
- Project Reflection

### Extension Activities



# OVERVIEW

The Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts' *Community Created* is an annual project built for schools, educational partners, and community groups, that offers a collaborative studio activity. The program focuses on one lesson per year and includes materials and educators' resources to support art and creativity that connects to the Museum's collection, temporary exhibitions, and site-specific installations.



For the 2024-2025 school year, *Community Created* will invite schools and community groups to create colorful works of string art inspired by Anne Lindberg's site-specific installation [passage](#).

- Please note, this installation's title is not capitalized.

Participating schools and programs are encouraged to visit the Museum and experience *passage* in person. School Tour details are provided in the Lesson Extensions section.

Anne Lindberg (Iowa City, Iowa, 1962 - ), *passage*, 2023, cotton thread and staples, 49 1/2 x 312 x 53 1/4 in., Commissioned by the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, 2023.

*Anne Lindberg: passage* is presented by Terri and Chuck Erwin with additional support from the Lenore G. Tawney Foundation.

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## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How do artists plan and prepare to create their artwork?
- What can color express in an artwork?
- How can we use art as a form of communication?

## STUDENT FRIENDLY LEARNING TARGETS

- I can identify how artists plan and prepare to make various types of art.
- I can relate different feelings and meanings to colors on the color wheel.
- I can take a basic process and apply it in increasingly complex ways.
- I can create an artwork based on a preliminary sketch.

## STANDARDS

Aligned to Arkansas Department of Education's K-8 and Visual Arts Foundations I-IV [Fine Arts Academic Standards](#).

- RE.8 - Students will interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- CN.11 - Students will relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.
- CR.2 - Students will organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- CR.3 - Students will refine and complete artistic work.
- PR.6 - Students will convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

# MATERIALS

## PRESENTATIONS

- [Community Created Slides Presentation](#)
- Anne Lindberg Interviews - [Drawing Video](#), [Color Video](#)

## HANDOUTS

- [Color Theory Handout](#)
- [Line Design Practice Handouts \(Radial Design, Parabolic Curve Design, and Spiral Design\)](#)
- [Shape Templates \(Circle, Square, Triangle, and Grid\)](#)

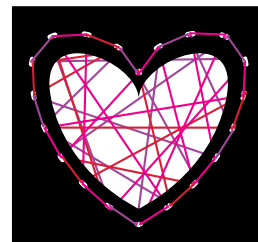
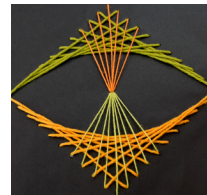
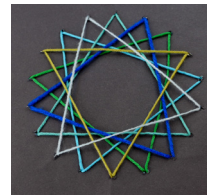
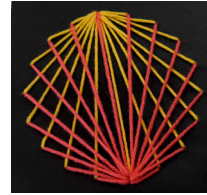
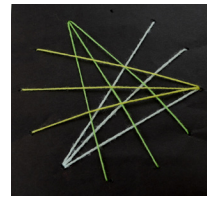
## ART SUPPLIES

- Cardstock or cardboard
- Variety of colorful embroidery floss, yarn, string, etc.
- Needles to fit the thread being used
- Rulers
- Tape
- Glue Stick
- Pens, pencils, or markers
- *Optional: push pins, colorful paper, paint*

## LESSON SCAFFOLDING

This lesson works best for upper elementary through high school. Below are some suggested lesson modifications to accommodate younger students.

- Color Theory Activity - While one color theory activity is provided, please select a color theory activity that best suits your students' needs.
- Artwork Planning - 3 different graphing/line art techniques are provided to accommodate different skill levels. They are listed in order of increasing complexity: radial, parabolic curve, and spiral.
- Art Making - For the project, students can focus on the act of sewing and color theory without the line design. Use the shape template handouts or cut a shape out of the middle of a piece of cardstock or paper plate. Then punch holes around the shape for the students to weave through.



# LESSON

## INTRODUCTION - COLOR THEORY ACTIVITY

Use the Slides Presentation to discuss color theory. Students will need the Color Theory Handout and crayons, colored pencils, or markers for this activity.

- Discuss color theory, the color wheel, and color schemes.
- Discuss color meaning or symbolism.
- As a group, brainstorm connections and possible meanings to the color green. Then fill in the green section of the chart on the back of the paper.
- Assign or have students pick another color. Individually or in small groups, use the mind map section of the handout to brainstorm/research different possible meanings that could be associated with that color.
  - Students with the same color should discuss their answers. Have each color group share two or three possible associations and provide reasoning.
  - Collect meaning associations for each color in the handout chart.

## ARTIST AND ARTWORK

Artist Anne Lindberg focuses on color theory and creates artwork emphasizing the elements of line and color. Use the Slides Presentation and Interview Videos to introduce the artist and her installation *passage*.

### Anne Lindberg

- Artist from upstate New York.
- Has exhibited work nationally and internationally.
- Creates works with an emphasis on color theory and color's psychological impact.
- She considers her 3-D work to be “drawings” as they create lines in space.

### passage

- A site-specific installation, this artwork was created specifically for the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts. A “cloud of color” made of taut colorful thread hangs high in the corridor gallery.
- After visiting the location and space, Lindberg chooses a theme that helps determine the colors of the installation. Then she creates a preliminary guide, dividing the installation space into sections and planning the number of strings and the colors in each grid section.
- To build the installation, Lindberg meditatively staples the threads back and forth between the two walls. Repeating the process with different color thread, shifting the string to different locations along the wall to create movement and the mixing of colors.

### Discussion Questions

- What colors do you see in the installation?
  - The installation is mainly created using a variety of green and yellow threads. The cloud also includes various blues, orange, and purple threads that blend and mix when viewed from different angles.
- What meanings might the artist be trying to express with the colors in *passage*?
  - Color palette reflects landscape surrounding AMFA, and brings the outside in.

- “Green is a color that symbolizes nature, good health, growth, renewal, and a call to action – all positive associations that hopefully give the work an uplifting character,” says the artist.
- How does knowing more about the process and color choices change how you think about the installation?

## ARTWORK PLANNING

Like Lindberg’s *passage*, students will create their own string artwork with a focus on the elements of line and color.

### Line Design Techniques

- Use the Slides Presentation, Line Design Practice Handouts, and Shape Templates to demonstrate how to create designs using straight lines.
- Students will also need rulers and colored pencils, pens, or markers.
- Practice the basic technique handouts before students create 2 – 3 unique line designs.
- Challenge them to make each design more complex than the next. See the Slides Presentation for design examples.

### Color Choice

- Option 1: Pose a thematic question that will prompt students to choose a topic for their artwork. Using their Color Theory Handout, students should pick colors that tie to their theme.
- Option 2: Students determine a color scheme to incorporate into their final artwork.

### Final Line Design Plan

Students choose one of their practice designs or create a final line design, incorporating the color choices.

- *Please note, teachers will need to scale print the handouts to match the size determined for the final artwork as this handout will be used as a guide for the string art.*

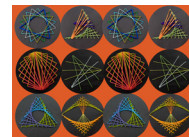
## ART MAKING

Once students have their final line design plan, they are ready to create their string art inspired by Lindberg’s process and installation *passage*.

Step-by-step directions are provided in the Slides Presentation.

### Advanced Artwork Ideas

Have students develop a collaborative display of individual artworks.



Take the string art into 3-D, by combining two or more cardboard shapes onto which students could string their designs.

Go big! Scale this project and use your physical school environment as the canvas, just like artist Anne Lindberg. Consider creating a collaborative string art installation in a hallway or use a chain-link fence to display a gridded design.



## LESSON REFLECTION

- Ask students to create a title for their string art that helps explain their answer to the topic chosen.
- Students could present their artworks to the class, sharing their artwork title, explaining their interpretation of the topic question posed, and how it relates to their color choices and design.

## LESSON EXTENSIONS

The following are suggestions for how you can incorporate interdisciplinary activities, support community engagements, and connect back to AMFA through your *Community Created* lesson.

- Get inspired! As an introduction or extension of the project, plan a visit to the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts and schedule a docent-led School Tour to see Anne Lindberg's *passage* installation and all the incredible artworks on view! Admission to the Museum and School Tours are always free. To inquire about a docent-led School Tour, use the [AMFA School Tour Request Form](#).
- Art educators are encouraged to collaborate with math educators on how to integrate the project into a variety of math units of study, including but not limited to:
  - Number Recognition and Patterns
  - Shapes / Geometry
  - Graphing
  - Angles, Radii, and Circles
  - Parabolic Curves
  - Explore [Arkansas Mathematics Standards](#) for additional connections.
- [Sign up for Educator Emails](#) to learn about additional *Community Created* activities, including a *Community Created* themed Creative Saturday during the Spring 2025. All participating schools/programs are invited to attend this free program. Stay tuned!
- Show off your *Community Created* project! Share project photos, videos, and reflections with [pgraves@arkmfa.org](mailto:pgraves@arkmfa.org) for a chance to be highlighted at the *Community Created* Creative Saturday and via AMFA marketing. Or post using the #myamfa hashtag.