Make in L.A.
2020

A sketchbook for all ages
HAMMER MUSEUM
Welcome to the Hammer Museum

Here at the Hammer, we believe in the power of art to help us think about the world around us.

Artists use sketchbooks, phones, and pads of all kinds to collect their ideas and drawings. Some artists carry these everywhere to make sure they always have a place to capture their experiences. Why? Because inspiration can come from anywhere. At any time.

Use this sketchbook to engage with the art in Made in L.A. 2020 on your own or with the help of friends or family.

You can start anywhere in the museum, and you can start anywhere in this sketchbook.

Los Angeles

In Made in L.A. 2020, you will explore vibrant works by 30 artists who call Los Angeles home. We like to think of it as a giant celebration of the many creative people who make up this city.

What comes to mind when you think of Los Angeles? Let’s start with a quick brainstorm about the city of angels.

Fill in the bubbles below with whatever comes to mind about Los Angeles...places, images, people, feelings, movies, weather, food... We added a few to help you get started!
What is Abstract Art All About?

When looking at art, many people ask themselves, “What is this about?” But it’s not always easy to answer.

Abstract art is artwork that doesn’t clearly illustrate anything from reality. Sometimes abstract art can be created with a mix of shapes, lines, and colors. Sometimes it’s more about the artist’s process of making an artwork.

Discover
Now, find a work that is abstract. What is the first thing it makes you think of? How does the work make you feel? What area of the work is your eye drawn to first? Now, what do you think this work is about?

Make
Choose something meaningful to you. Draw what it looks like in real life, and then make it abstract using only shapes and lines.
Ode to Color

Can you imagine the world in just black and white? How would we know the sky is blue or that a banana is going bad? Color is such a big part of life. Each color can describe feelings or personal memories.

Discover
Find an artwork with a color that stands out.

Describe the color with one adjective: ____________________________

What is the first verb that comes to mind? ____________________________

What would that color smell like? ____________________________

Whom in your life does the color make you recall? ____________________________

Make
Thinking of color in a new way? Try using some of your responses below to write an ode to color.

Ode
A poem of praise about something you think is amazing

Ode to Color

You verb

You're adjective

You verb as a related noun

Oh, color!
#family

Whether you’re born into it or you create it, family is what you make of it. The definition of family can be completely different for each person.

Your parents?  
Your friends?  
Your band?  
Your pets?  
Your team?

Name someone you consider to be part of your family.

What feelings do you associate with this person?

Discover

Find something in the galleries that conveys similar feelings. What did the artist do to communicate this feeling?

Make

Take a picture of someone you care about. What do you want people to know about this person by looking at your photograph?

Think about how you want this person to look. Take the picture from up close or far away. Snap a shot of just the top of their head or their whole body... maybe their shoe or fingernail?

If you’re on Instagram, tag it #MadeinLA2020 and #family to add it to our Hammer family album.
Normal Stuff
That Looks Weird

What kind of stuff can art be made from? If you ask an artist today: anything. As you walk around the galleries, you might see art made from familiar materials like paint, paper, or ink. But some artists experiment with materials and invent new ways to use them.

By using materials in new ways, artists reimagine the world around us, helping us to look at things from a new perspective.

Discover
Look at a few artworks in the galleries. What were they made from?
Find a familiar material used in a way that surprised you.
What did the artist do to reinvent the material?

Make
Think of the most unexpected material possible, one that you haven’t seen in a museum.
What unexpected material would you use? ________________________________
Turn it into a work of art and sketch it in the gallery below:
3, 2, 1... Activate!

When you visit a museum, you might expect to see paintings or sculptures, but what about performance? Performance art is anything that is acted out or performed for an audience. Sometimes it’s a dance or skit, and sometimes it’s rehearsed or improvised.

There are videos of performances all throughout the museum. What do you notice that the performances have in common? How are they different from one another?

Discover
Find a space in the courtyard that can be used for a performance. What kind of performance do you imagine in this space?

Make
Let’s activate the space by turning something in our everyday lives into a performance. Think of a boring, everyday task like brushing your teeth, buckling your seatbelt, ordering pizza...

What physical actions do you make when completing the task? How can you turn these movements into performance art?

Direct it! Fill out the form below to help you produce your performance:

Who’ll be in your performance?

Describe lighting, props, etc.

Performer:
Costumes needed:
Soundtrack or sounds:
Set:
Notes:
Art About Big Important Things

Many artists are interested in what’s going on in the world around us such as events in their cities, actions of politicians, or changes to the environment. They create art as a way to communicate messages or explore issues.

Discover
Find an artwork relevant to society today.
What topic is the artwork exploring?
What do you think the artist is saying about this subject?
What material is the artwork made from?
How does its material affect its subject or message?

Make
Now, think about something important to you. World hunger? Climate change?
What is your opinion of the issue?

What kind of artwork would you create to spread your message?
What material would your work be made from?
Sketch or write about your idea below:
You in L.A.

It’s now your turn to make art in L.A.

After looking at all the artwork made in L.A., what work of art would you want to contribute?

Dedicate the space below to your idea...you can create a drawing, write an ode, or anything else you can think of.
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