

### Great Ideas Poster Design Project



Using collage and drawing techniques, create a poster that is inspired by a quote and represents what you value most about your community. Communicate your quote *without* words.

#### Educational Goals

- Build visual communication skills
- Explain art and design work verbally to others
- Grow understanding of composition
- Apply limitations in a design project

#### Materials list

- Paper (multiple colors or single color will also work)
- Stencil shapes (see last page of this PDF for printable shapes)
- Highlighters/pencils/markers/crayons/pens
- Scissors
- Glue

— **Phase 1: Collage**

Choose a quote. We've provided a few below, or choose your own favorite quote. You'll be making a poster that communicates your quote with shapes and lines only.

Making a poster is like writing a story or speech. Before you start, answer these questions:

- What is the message I want people to understand about the quote I selected when they look at my poster?
- What will I show so they see what I mean?
- How can I communicate without words?

Keeping the answers to these questions in mind, create a collage that is inspired by the quote you chose. We've provided some shapes to get started, or you can make your own. Make as many versions of this as you please — there are no wrong answers or mistakes!

— **Phase 2: Drawing**

Next, you're going to create a continuous line drawing. Close your eyes and think about what you like most about your community, neighborhood, or street — what do you see? Is it your favorite spot where you hang with friends after school? An interesting building or piece of signage you pass every day on your way home?

Just like the collage, before you start drawing answer these questions:

- What is the message I want people to understand about what I value in my community when they look at my poster?
- What will I show so they see what I mean?
- How can I communicate without necessarily using words?

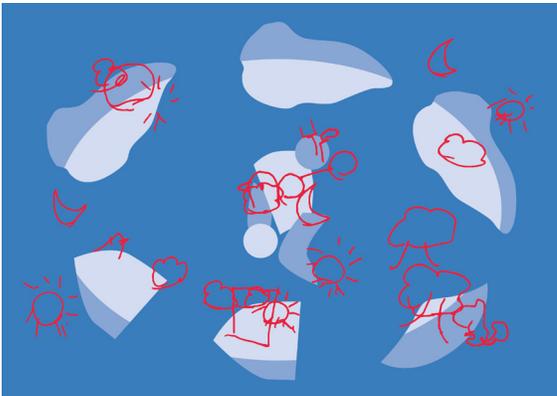
Draw whatever comes to mind on top of your collage. Once you set your pen or marker down to draw, try not to pick it up again or open your eyes until your drawing is done. You can create one drawing or many, it's up to you. Look at how your drawings interact with the abstract shapes in your collage!

— **Phase 3: Artists' Statements**

Using your answers from the previous three phases, write a 3–6 sentence artist's statement that explains the design decisions that you made. This helps support the message you'd like to communicate with your flag. If you need help getting started, try answering these questions:

- Why did you select this quote?
- What is most important to you in your community and why?
- How does your design express these ideas?

**Examples of posters**



When you're done with your project, take a picture and share it with us! You can tag us on social media (@designmuseumchi on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter) or email us at [info@designchicago.org](mailto:info@designchicago.org). We're looking forward to seeing your work!

**Need some quotation inspiration? Here are some ideas to get you started!**

**Carlos Tortolero Founder and President of the National Museum of Mexican Art**

**"One thing that is so special about the arts is that you have to believe in yourself. ... As long as you believe in yourself, there's always hope."**

**Lydia Mendoza, Guitarist and singer of Tejano, conjunto, and traditional Mexican-American music**

**"As long as it's music, I like it a lot, even if I don't understand it."**

**Sandra Cisneros, Author**

**"You can never have too much sky. You can fall asleep and wake up drunk on sky, and the sky can keep you safe when you are sad."**

**Rosario Castellanos, Mexican poet and author.**

**"We have to laugh. Because laughter, we already know, is the first evidence of freedom."**

**Jackie Taylor, Founder/CEO, Black Ensemble Theater**

**"Life is about living, it's about joy, it's about excitement."**

**Monica Haslip, Founder/Executive Director, Little Black Pearl**

**"Art is really at the core of everything. It's just the way in which we view it. When you think about it, everything from advertising to furniture starts with some creativity or some art."**

**Margaret Burroughs, Founder, DuSable Museum of African American History**

**"You are here. You are still here, alive and quick and you have time. You have time on your side. You have time to begin even now so get busy and do something to help somebody. ... What will your legacy be?"**

**Gwendolyn Brooks, Literary icon**

**"It is brave to be involved. / To be not fearful to be unresolved."**



Printable shapes for collaging

