

TEACHER GUIDE

Thank you for choosing to visit Harbourfront Centre! Harbourfront Centre is Canada's community waterfront, home of arts, culture and education, and a registered, charitable not-for-profit cultural organization operating a 10-acre campus on Toronto's central waterfront. School Visits offers hands-on, inquiry-based programs that are designed to foster creativity and personal growth while connecting to the Ontario Curriculum.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR DAY

When you arrive on site, you will be greeted by one of our staff. Payment will be taken care of by our Registrar during the morning of your visit. Your class will then receive a brief introduction to Harbourfront Centre and your program(s) will begin shortly thereafter.

Grade: 4 – 12

Key Inquiry Question: *How can you create a composition with the themes of risk-taking and exploration in mind?*
CURRICULUM LINKS
The Arts, 2009; 2010:
Creating and Presenting

- Applying the creative process to produce a two-dimensional piece; using elements, principles and techniques of visual arts to communicate feelings, ideas and understanding

Reflecting, Responding and Analysing:

- Apply the critical analysis process

Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts (1-8):

- Demonstrate an understanding of past and present styles of drawing and painting

ACTIVATION (PRE-VISIT IDEAS)

- Introduce students to **basic watercolour techniques** found in the resource below.
- Introduce the topic of mixed media through the use of a **mind map**. Place the word "mixed media" in the centre of a page, and have students generate as many ideas, connections, examples or images that come to mind.
- **Have students complete a KWL chart about mixed media.** Ask students to complete the K (what they know) and W (what they wish to learn) section of the chart.
- **Have students prepare an artist card** featuring a well-known mixed media artist. Include key information on the artist card such as name, date of birth, education, place of birth and a visual example of one or more of their work.
 - In groups, **have students research one of the following artists:** Helen Frankenthaler, Marlon Kroll, Derek Liddington, Patrick Cruz
 - Prepare an observation sheet or short oral presentation to the class. Suggested criteria include:
 - Brief history of the artist
 - Technique best known for
 - Subject matter
 - Unique stylistic quality of the artist's work

EXTENSION (POST-VISIT IDEAS)

1. Host a **student art exhibition**. Work with your students to consider where to exhibit within your school. Write an artist statement for each piece and work collaboratively to write a curatorial theme for your didactic.
2. Have your students complete a **procedural writing piece**. This piece should describe the process for completing their mixed media art piece.
3. Have the students **write a reflective piece** about how we can learn from accidents and use them in our art making process.
4. Have students take the watercolour and drawing techniques they learned in the classroom and use them to create an art piece focused on a specific subject matter.

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO LEARNING

(Harbourfront Centre School Visits does not assume responsibility for content on the resources listed below. Please confirm the content is appropriate for your class and school community before using these suggested resources in your classroom)

- [Basic Watercolour Techniques](#)

VISUAL ART ASSESSMENT TOOL

Name: _____

Date: _____

CRITERIA	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
INTERACTION IN GROUP DISCUSSION	never able to respond to direct questions; never volunteers point of view	rarely able to respond to direct questions; rarely volunteers point of view	responds occasionally to questions; occasionally volunteers point of view	responds frequently to questions; routinely volunteers point of view
LISTENING SKILLS	student does not listen when others talk and follows few of the instructor's directions.	student does not listen when others talk and sometimes follows the instructor's directions	student listens when others talk and often follows the instructor's directions	student listens when others talk and always follows instructor's directions
USE OF TECHNIQUES	applies few of the skills, concepts and techniques taught.	applies some of the skills, concepts and techniques taught.	applies most of the skills, concepts and techniques taught.	applies all (or almost all) of the skills, concepts and techniques taught.
PARTICIPATION	student never participates willingly and acts inappropriately	student rarely participates and occasionally acts inappropriately	student willingly participates and acts appropriately	student participates enthusiastically and always acts appropriately

COMMENTS
