



600 NORTH CHARLES STREET | BALTIMORE, MD 21201 | THEWALTERS.ORG

## **Welcome to the Walters Art Museum Drop-in Community Garden Takeaway Kit!**

Inside, you will find a packet featuring works of art from the Walters' collection and art-making instructions, as well as supplies. These art lessons are designed to stimulate creative thinking and conversation, so let your imagination guide you. Collaboration encouraged!

The Walters hosts in-person Drop-in art making on most Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 1 pm on the Sculpture Court (Charles Street Building, level 2A).

We hope to see you at the Museum soon!

-The Walters Art Museum Drop-in Team ([publicprograms@thewalters.org](mailto:publicprograms@thewalters.org))

### ***Lesson background and preparation:***

In this lesson, we are exploring growth and change as it relates to gardens, community, and ourselves! Community gardens are places where people can work together to grow and harvest fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Often, community gardens provide access to fresh foods that neighborhoods might not otherwise have. At the Walters, we are building a collaborative community garden, but you can make a garden of your own, wherever you take this kit!

**Collaborate:** to work together

**Community:** a group of people who have something in common

**Community garden:** a plot of land shared by a group of people where they can work together to grow plants

**Harvest:** the gathering of fruits, vegetables, or plants, usually to eat

**Access:** the ability to get something

### ***Let's get started!***

1. Review the Collection Connection sheets and consider some of the ways that artists have incorporated the beauty of nature in their artworks.
2. Do some thinking and sketching before you start your project. Spend some time thinking about gardens and reflect on these questions:
  - a. Have you ever planted a seed in a garden, or taken care of a plant in your home? What did you grow?
  - b. Have you ever shared food with someone else? What is your favorite dish to share?
  - c. What are some ways that you can help people in your communities?
  - d. What resources and talents do you share?

Start drawing out some of your ideas.

3. Gather your materials!
  - a. Material ideas:
    - i. Construction paper
    - ii. Magazines
    - iii. Collage paper
    - iv. Felt
    - v. Fabric

- vi. Glue
- vii. Tape
- viii. Stickers
- ix. Pipe cleaners
- x. Tissue paper
- xi. Aluminum foil
- xii. Markers
- xiii. Crayons
- xiv. Scissors
- xv. Recycled materials

4. Start creating your plants to add to your garden!

***Looking for more?***

Work on life cycles of the plant you chose, or create more plants or animals to include in the garden.

You can also consider researching companion plants, or plants that grow well together, and make some companion plants for your garden.

Visit the Walters Art Museum with the below Collection Connection sheet to see how artists have explored and expressed what their communities need over time.

## Community Garden Collection Connection



*Cintli, Corn, Maíz, 37.2951*

**Find Me:** Charles Street Building, Level 2A: Latin American Art / Arte Latinoamericano

**Ask:** Artist Jessy Desantis shows corn transforming into the feathers of a quetzal bird, drawing a relationship between two natural symbols that are important to their culture. Think about your favorite plants, animals, or elements found in the natural world. What makes them important to you?

**Do:** Why is it important to protect the resources we care about and rely on? What happens when we don't consider the effects we have on the world around us? Think about a natural resource that you want to protect, write it down on a sticky note to place on the art board!