Creating in the Galleries:  
Fostering a Memorable Experience  
October 25, 2019  
9:30-10:30

I. Introduction (Joy and Debbie, from CMA, docents)

II. In an age where high order thinking is a focused-on component for learning, it is not surprising that the key word “Creating” is a part of the Columbus Museum of Art goal for this docent led program. When Bloom’s taxonomy was revised in 2001, “creating” became the pinnacle of the hierarchy (replacing “evaluation” in the pyramid). Museum visitors’ end-result creations individually reflect thoughtful processing of information about the targeted work of art while experiencing the pure enjoyment of the activity. Docent prompts lead the visitors towards the creative freedom of demonstrating alternatives, changes, revisions, inventiveness, improvements, and elaborations towards the museum art.

Creating in the Galleries is a collaboration of four components. We will describe the program and how it can be adapted for your Museum.

- Component 1: Docent knowledge of the museum collection and preparation for the tour is important. The Docent chooses two or three museum works, develops a prompt for each work, and has a selection of art supplies necessary for visitors to fulfill the prompt.
• Component 2: The Columbus Museum of Art’s Observe, Describe, Interpret, Prove (ODIP) critical thinking strategy promotes a Docent/Participant conversation about the work of art and helps to build a basis for the visitor to then generate art work based upon his/her processing of the prompt. Whether participants are children or adults, the ODIP model serves to aid participants in externalizing ideas and tapping into their individual cognitive skills.

• Component 3: The prompt guides the participating visitor about what they will be creating. Prompts are docent created, specific to the museum artwork, but open ended for maximum participant freedom of creation. Some of our successful prompts will be discussed to elaborate on this component of Creating in the Galleries.

• Component 4: The Museum visitor experience is memorable. In addition to their original art creating, participants take away ideas from interaction with the docent, each other (if a group is involved,) and a museum work of art.
Bloom's Taxonomy
Creating in the Galleries
Possible Prompts

1. How do artists show the passage of time? (Can use clipart of empty glass, provide 3 xeroxes of this for museum visitors and have them draw how the glass might change).

2. Imagine that this artwork is placed in a blender and mixed up. What might it look like?

3. Look closely at the artwork. What favorite song does it remind you of? Using lines, shapes, colors, and gestures that evoke emotions, draw your song.

4. Draw the front/back of the person, animal, thing that you see in the work of art.

5. How do artists show feelings and ideas in their art?

6. Choose a still life. Look for vertical, horizontal, and diagonal lines and geometric shapes. Place your own objects within your own still life drawing.

7. Look at the title of the work of art: What would you create with this same title?

8. Tidy up this work of art (Using book Tidying Up Art by Ursus Wehrli).

9. What do you observe and interpret about this artwork? Create your own artwork that shares your same idea, but in a different way from this museum art.
10. Observe this landscape. Use only dots to draw the same landscape.

11. Draw this person’s emotions (using a portrait.)

12. Draw what this building looks like at night.

13. Draw this person’s ear as if it were its own portrait. (using a portrait.)

14. Do your own interpretation of this art piece.

15. Look at these two works of art. Can you create art that combines the two?
Roaming Docent

The role of the Roaming Docent at the Columbus Museum of Art (CMA) is multifaceted. The Roaming Docent initiates conversations with visitors, answers questions, and chats about a work or works of art. It is important to LISTEN more than talk. The Docent often surprises visitors with an inside story.

The role of the Roamer is not to give a tour.

Creating in the Galleries Tour (CIG)

Roaming with Purpose

AT CMA WE ALLOW 2 HOURS FOR THIS TOUR

ROAM IN THE GALLERY WHERE ONE HAS PREPARED A CREATIVE ACTIVITY

INVITE THE VISITORS TO PARTICIPATE IN A FUN CREATIVE PROJECT

EXPLAIN AND DISCUSS WHAT VISITORS WILL BE DOING AND ASK IF THERE ARE TIME RESTRAINTS

INITIATE A CONVERSATION ABOUT ARTWORK USING ODIP, COMPARE/CONTRAST, ETC.

OBTAIN STOOLS, DISTRIBUTE CREATIVE MATERIALS AND DISCUSS WHAT VISITORS WILL BE DOING

ANSWER QUESTIONS, AND LET THE FUN BEGIN!

IF DESIRED, INVITE VISITORS TO SHARE THEIR COMPLETED CREATIONS

ONCE VISITORS ARE CREATING, THE DOCENT MAY INTRODUCE OTHER VISITORS TO CIG WITH THIS TOUR, IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE FLEXIBLE!

THE SCENARIO OF THIS TOUR MAY BE DIFFERENT AT YOUR MUSEUM

HAVE FUN CREATING!
ODIP stands for observe, describe, interpret, prove.

**WHAT IS ODIP?**

ODIP is a critical thinking routine developed by the Columbus Museum of Art and creativity.

Disposition, make connections, and support ideas with evidence. ODIP builds assumptions, respect divergent views, and engage in careful noticing. ODIP is a critical thinking routine developed by the Columbus Museum of Art.

**4. PROVE**

Back up your ideas, or interpretation.

**3. INTERPRET**

Consider these observations, descriptions, connections you see. Add your imagination.

**2. DESCRIBE**

What information is there? What do you see? What might the artist want to say? What might be happening in this work of art?

**1. OBSERVE**

Look closely in silence for one minute.

Elaborate and describe your observations.

How might you explain this work of art to someone over the phone? What descriptive words come to mind? What emotions could you provide? What do you notice that you don't think anyone else noticed?

What makes you say that? What does this coming to your mind?

What clues did you use to come to that theory?
Museum of Art
Columbus

Quick Guide

Interpret

Describe

Observe

Remember – during the “Describe” phase, share only things you could point to in the work.

Describe, Interpret, Observe – you can use this sheet to record your own thoughts and those of others you are with.
Thank you to all who attended our National Docent Symposium 2019 session.

Should you wish to contact us with questions or comments, we would love to assist you!

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