

Great Ideas of Humanity 2020

Chicago has a vibrant public art culture. While often dominated by well-known sculptures like *The Picasso* and Anish Kapoor's *Cloud Gate*, murals are also an important part of Chicago's public art identity. Popularized in 1893 by the World's Columbian Exposition, a 1960s revival cemented their continued presence in the city's public art scene.

Murals are perhaps the most egalitarian public artwork. They appear in every neighborhood in the city, a unifying factor in a city greatly divided by race and class. They are semi-permanent, and are everything from strikingly political to simply beautiful.

From 1950–1975, Chicago-based Container Corporation of America ran a campaign heralded as one of the best in advertising history, Great Ideas of Western Man. The world has changed since 1975, but great ideas are timeless. John Massey, former Container Corporation of America (CCA) head of design, encouraged the Design Museum of Chicago to reimagine the Great Ideas of Western Man campaign. We happily obliged. Our reprise, Great Ideas of Humanity, embraces the increasing globalization of our world and celebrates the resulting cross-pollination of ideas, philosophies, societies, and cultures. It highlights a broad spectrum of human thought and reminds us that, sometimes, looking to the past helps to comprehend the present.

The Great Ideas campaign and the murals have several similarities: Both are meant for broad public consumption, are collaborative, are meant to bring art to where people are, and are meant to inspire. This iteration of Great Ideas of Humanity will utilize the subjects of public art around Chicago to inspire Great Ideas of Humanity work generated by Chicago high school students.



Cooper Dual Language Academy's mosaics of Latinx leaders in Pilsen

Placemaking

The workshop will be primarily based around two iconic murals: Cooper Dual Language Academy's mosaics of Latinx leaders (1991) in Pilsen and Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More* (2017) in the Loop. Participants will work individually to choose a quote by one of the featured figures in one of the two murals and create a piece of design inspired by that quote. The goal is to create a piece that exists in conversation with the public art in students' communities in a format that functions as a symbol of marking place — a flag.



Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More* (2017) in the Loop

Educational Goals

- Ability to communicate complex ideas through simple, analogue processes
- Greater understanding of compositional hierarchy
- The value of constraints in a design process
- Knowledge/appreciation of the mural as an art form, particularly in the US; the 20th century Great Ideas of Humanity campaign; and Chicago's current commitment to public art

Design Challenge

Using collage and drawing techniques, students will create a "flag" that is inspired by a quote of their choosing and represents what they value most about their community.

Introduction to Great Ideas of Humanity

Print out the worksheets on the final three pages of this PDF and hand them out to your students. When everyone is finished, discuss their answers as a class. For more options of posters to analyze as a class, head to greatideasofhumanity.com to access the entire collection of posters from the history of this project. Show them to your students and have them each choose one they like. Ask them to answer the following questions:

- What do you like about it?
- What does the person who designed it want you to know?
- How does the design help you get that message?
- Talk with the other students in your group and explain why you chose your poster
- How are the topics and ideas of the poster important today?

Phase 1: Abstract collage

Have your students choose a quote by one of the influential figures featured in one of the two murals mentioned above. They'll be making a composition ("flag" or poster) that combines the quote they selected, a collage comprised of abstract shapes, and blind gestural drawings. Before they start, have them answer these questions:

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

Using deconstructed visual and graphic elements taken directly from the mural associated with each student's quote, they will create a collage that is inspired by the quote they chose. Students may include the quote in this step of the workshop by incorporating it into the collage, or they can add it later. Their composition does not need to look like original mural or the figures themselves, and, in fact, it is encouraged that it does not. There are no wrong answers or mistakes!

Phase 2: Gestural drawing

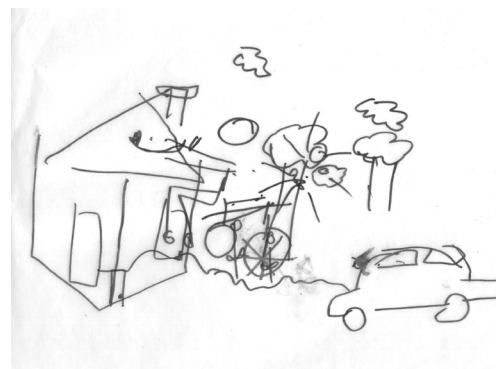
Next, on a separate piece of tracing paper, students are going to create a blind contour drawing that expresses or shows what they value most about their community, neighborhood, school, street, etc. A blind contour drawing is a drawing that is created with your eyes closed. See below for examples from other students who have completed this workshop.

Students should close their eyes and think about what they like most about their community, neighborhood, or street. Ask them what they see: Is it their favorite spot where they hang with friends after school? An interesting building or piece of signage they pass every day on their way home? Encourage them to draw whatever comes to mind — just don't peek while doing it! They may create one drawing or many.

Just like the collage, before students start drawing, they should answer these questions:

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

Once students create their drawing(s), they will layer it on top of your collage. If they created multiple drawings, they should cut and paste them onto a new piece of tracing paper. Have them pay close attention to how their drawings interact with the abstract shapes in their collage.



Phase 3: Artists' Statements

Using their answers from the previous three phases, it is encouraged that students write a 3–6 sentence artist's statement that explains the design decisions that they made. This helps support the message they'd like to communicate with their flag. If they 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?

Teacher tips

- Any paper color can be used for the posters
- Darker background colors for the collage show the gestural drawings more clearly
- Any of these steps can be omitted from the project based on time or materials constraints
- For younger students, we recommend either pre-cutting shapes for them to use, or creating stencils
- While the shapes provided are drawn from the original murals, any shapes can be used for this project
- We encourage students to pick different quotes, but it is okay if duplicates are selected
- for more information about the original campaign, head to greatideasofhumanity.com.

Examples of final "flags"



Materials list

- Paper in multiple colors, or shades of a single color
- Stencil shapes (see pages 18–23 of this PDF for printable shapes)
- Highlighters/pencils
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Felt-tip pens (gestural drawing)
- Tracing paper
- Tape/paper clips

Cooper Dual Language Academy's mosaics of Latinx leaders (1991) in Pilsen.

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."

"Every place should have places where one can walk in and do art. Wouldn't that be a magnificent world?"

Frida Kahlo, Mexican painter

"I am not sick. I am broken. But I am happy to be alive as long as I can paint."

"There is nothing more precious than laughter."

"Pies, para qué los quiero / Si tengo alas para volar."

Translation: "Feet, what do I need them for / If I have wings to fly."

Diego Rivera, Mexican
painter

"An artist is above all a human being, profoundly human to the core. If the artist can't feel everything that humanity feels, if the artist isn't capable of loving until he forgets himself and sacrifices himself if necessary, if he won't put down his magic brush and head the fight against the oppressor, then he isn't a great artist."

"As an artist I have always tried to be faithful to my vision of life, and I have frequently been in conflict with those who wanted me to paint not what I saw but what they wished me to see."

Agustín Lara, Mexican
composer and interpreter
of songs and boleros

"We Jarochas [people from Veracruz] were born with a bell in our heart, a little sadness in our souls and very little money in our pockets. But we are very happy!"

"Yo conocí el amor, es muy hermoso, / Pero en mi fue fugaz y traicionero, / Volvió canalla lo que fue glorioso, / Pero fue un gran amor, y fue el primero.
Translation: "I have known love, it's something beautiful. / but, for me, it was fleeting and treacherous, / it turned despicable what used to be glorious / but it was a great love, and it was the first one."

Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla,
Mexican Roman Catholic
priest and a leader of
the Mexican War of
Independence

"We will not lay aside our arms until we have taken the jewel of liberty. ... Pardon is for criminals, not defenders of their country."

Carlos Cortez. Poet, graphic artist, photographer, muralist and political activist

"He grew up on the Plains / The Plains that his Fathers before him / Had defended against alien mauraunders / And from his Fathers he knew well / The pride and sorrow of his nation's history / So to him the white man's battles were / Of little concern."

"Who permits them their uncontested power? / Who grants them privilege to rule? / Upon whose shoulders to lay this guilt? / You, Fellow working man / Who must stand before a mirror / Each time you take a shave, / Ask YOURSELF that question!"

Cesar Chavez, American labor leader and Latino American civil rights activist

"This is the beginning of a social movement in fact and not in pronouncements. We seek our basic, God-given rights as human beings. Because we have suffered — and are not afraid to suffer — in order to survive, we are ready to give up everything, even our lives, in our fight for social justice."

"History will judge societies and governments — and their institutions — not by how big they are or how well they serve the rich and the powerful, but by how effectively they respond to the needs of the poor and the helpless."

"I've traveled through every part of this nation. I have met and spoken with thousands of Hispanics from every walk of life, from every social and economic class. And one thing I hear most often from Hispanics, regardless of age or position, and from many non-Hispanics as well, is that the farm workers gave them the hope that they could succeed and the inspiration to work for change."

Dolores Huerta, American labor leader and Latino American civil rights activist

"We can do it. I can do it. Sí se puede."

"I never felt overlooked because I didn't expect any kind of recognition. I think that's very typical of women. I had been acculturated to be supportive, to be accommodating, to support men in the work they do. We never think of getting credit or recognition or even taking the power. We didn't think it those terms. Of course I think that's changing now and there's a surge of women who are not only running for office, but getting elected. That could make an incredible amount of difference in our world. We will never have peace in the world until feminists take power."

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

"One is born with the arts of feeling, and that's what the public and people value. ... It's not something you create. You're born with it, touched by the hand of God."

"At times, people have asked me whether I have a trained voice. Well no: it was life, life experience, practice; that's what taught me the little bit I know, you see. Because no one ever told me, 'Do it this way' or 'That way.' 'Hit this note.' No, I generated my own ideas from my own intelligence. I just picked up my guitar."

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

Dr. Jorge Prieto, Doctor and
medical activist in Chicago's
immigrant communities

"There is no end of the creativity of a people who love beauty and the harmonies of life; who rejoice in vivid colors and rest serene in their religious faith."

"Faith without self-righteousness is as difficult to attain in medicine as it is in religion, and the balance can only be approximated by continual and honest self-appraisal (the old fashioned examination of conscience)."

"I saw, time and again in Chicago, the strong sense of family solidarity that our people generally have. I found the source of this to be their innate generosity — generosity even from those who have exceedingly little to give."

Guadalupe Reyes, activist
and community leader

"Get people to help people who cannot help themselves"

Josefa Ortiz de Domínguez,
insurgent and supporter
of the Mexican War of
Independence

"Tantos soldados para custodiar una pobre mujer, pero yo con mi sangre les formare un patrimonio a mis hijos."

Benito Juárez, Lawyer and
Mexican president

"May the people and the government respect the rights of all. Between individuals, as between nations, peace means respect for the rights of others."

"Entre los Individuos, como entre Las Naciones, El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz."

Translation: "Among individuals, as among nations, respect for the rights of others is peace."

Emiliano Zapata, Leading figure in the Mexican Revolution, the main leader of the peasant revolution in the state of Morelos, and the inspiration behind Zapatismo

"La tierra es de quien la trabaja con sus manos."

Translation: "The land belongs to those who work it with their hands."

"Ignorance and obscurantism have never produced anything other than flocks of slaves for tyranny."

José María Morelos y Pavón, Mexican Roman Catholic priest and revolutionary rebel leader who led the Mexican War of Independence

"Que la esclavitud se proscriba para siempre y lo mismo la distinción de castas, quedando todos iguales, y solo distinguirá a un americano de otro el vicio y la virtud."

Translation: "That prohibit slavery forever, as the distinction of caste, being all equal and only vice and virtue distinguish an American from the other."

Cuauhtémoc, Aztec ruler of Tenochtitlan from 1520 to 1521, making him the last Aztec Emperor

"Most honorable fathers and most honorable mothers, may you never forget to guide your young ones teach your children, while you live how good it has been and will be."

Sandra Cisneros, Author

"Because the one constant, faithful, inviolable, holy love of loves—the love of your life—is not your wife or your lover; it's your mother."

"It is serving a need, it is doing its healing, it is transmitting light, but I was just the conduit for that light, not the source. I am grateful that the timing was right for my labor to be recognized, and that the readers were ready to hear this story at this time. I am fortunate and blessed to be the flute, but I recognize and acknowledge I am not the music."

"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."

"Human beings pass me on the street, and I want to reach out and strum them as if they were guitars. Sometimes all humanity strikes me as lovely. I just want to reach out and stroke someone and say There, there, it's all right, honey. There, there, there."

Mario Moreno "Cantinflas" comedian and movie star

" Why has the cost of living risen? Becasue everything to be living has to live, that is, the principle of gravitation that comes to be the most grave thing... Now then, comrades, compañeros, friends I implore you to explain to me what I just said."

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Carlos Santana, Musician

"You can understand everything's to share / Let your spirits dance brother everywhere / Let your head be free / Turn the wisdom key"

"I can feel it in my bones / No man stands alone. / Sister, Brother, / From all the same seed"

Selena, American singer, songwriter, spokesperson, model, actress, and fashion designer

" We never thought we'd get this far, but we're here."

"If you have a dream, don't let anybody take it away."

"Always believe that the impossible is always possible."

"Me siento muy orgulloso de ser Mexicana. No tuve la oportunidad de aprender Español cuando era niña, pero ... nunca es demasiado tarde para ponerme en contacto con tus raíces."

Translation: "I feel very proud to be Mexican. I didn't have the opportunity to learn Spanish when I was a girl, but ... it's never too late to get in touch with your roots."

María Félix, Mexican film actress and singer

"Leave the dead in peace, the ones inside can't get out and the ones that are out don't want to go in."

Elena Ochoa, engineer, former astronaut and former Director of the Johnson Space Center.

"Going forward, there should be a rich variety of stories and materials about all of the ways women have contributed to—and made—history."

"Education is what allows you to stand out."

Lola Beltrán, Mexican singer, actress, and television presenter

"Any good singer is already an actress. If you're doing things properly, you are projecting, and as you project, people are feeling the drama and emotion that pours out of you."

"When I hear a song, I want it to tell me something. I want it to be well structured and well proportioned. It can tell the story of a great love or of a tremendous sadness, but it has to have emotion and truth. The song has to make it worth my while to sing it."

Mario Molina, Mexican chemist known for his pivotal role in the discovery of the Antarctic ozone hole

"It's extremely exciting to discover something in sciences that has not been discovered before. It's that creativity that is very, very motivating."

Alfonso García Robles,
Mexican diplomat and
politician who received the
Nobel Peace Prize in 1982
with Sweden's Alva Myrdal

"The increase in weapons, especially nuclear weapons, far from helping to strengthen international security, on the contrary, weakens it."

Octavio Paz, Mexican poet
and diplomat, awarded the
1981 Miguel de Cervantes
Prize, the 1982 Neustadt
International Prize for
Literature, and the 1990
Nobel Prize in Literature

"o vida por vivir y ya vivida, / tiempo que vuelve en una marejada / y se retira sin volver el rostro, / lo que pasó no fue pero está siendo y silenciosamente desemboca / en otro instante que se desvanece:"
Translation: "oh life to live, life already lived, / time that comes back in a swell of sea, / time that recedes without turning its head, / the past is not past, it is still passing by, / flowing silently into the next vanishing moment:"

- ? la vida, cuándo fue de veras nuestra?, / ? cuándo somos de veras lo que somos?,"

Translation: "-when was life ever truly ours? / when are we ever what we are?"

"Entre lo que veo y digo, / entre lo que digo y callo, / entre lo que callo y sueño, / entre lo que sueño y olvido, / la poesía. "

Translation: "Between what I see and what I say, / between what I say and what I keep silent, / between what I keep silent and what I dream, / between what I dream and what I forget: / poetry."

Amado Nervo, Mexican poet,
journalist and educator

"Very near to my sunset now, I bless you, life, / because you never gave me any false hope / or unjust labor or unwarranted punishment; // because at the end of my rough road, I see / that I was the architect of my own fate, // that if I extracted honey or gall from things / it was because I instilled them with a gall or honey flavor: / when I planted rosebushes, I always harvested roses. // True, after all my blossoms, winter must come— / but you never said that May would last forever! // Certainly I had my long nights with the blues, / but you never promised only good nights, / and to make up for it, I had some that were holy and serene. // I loved, I was loved, the sun caressed my face. / Life, you owe me nothing! Life, we are at peace!"

Rosario Castellanos,
Mexican poet and author.

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

"Nothing, nothing am I but a small, loving watercourse."

Lalo Guerrero, Mexican-American guitarist, singer and farm labor activist

"In the United States I was discriminated against for being a Mexican, and in Mexico I was discriminated against for being an American."

"Now sometimes I think life is like one of those old Mexican masks that remind us that death is always close by — the skull is not far beneath the skin."

"I tell the truth, but sometimes I present the problem in a humorous way. We call it 'dorando la pildora' (sugarcoating the pill). When I write something like that, I hope that people will listen and laugh, and then maybe they'll think, 'There's a lot of truth in what he's saying.'"

José Vasconcelos Calderón, "cultural caudillo" of the Mexican Revolution, Mexican writer, philosopher and politician.

"Precisely in our differences, we find the way. If we simply imitate, we lose. If we discover and create, we shall overcome."

"I never went in for political leadership because I have always reserved my participation for mental work which investigates the whole length and breadth of the world. The politician has to limit himself to a reduced area. But I have always thought it was a man's patriotic duty, and more than that, the duty of man as man, to do his part to make the environment in which his life is spent cease to be that of a cannibal tribe and to convert it to the purposes of civilization, of at least a lowly civilization."

"The truth is that even under the series of barbarous administrations from which we habitually suffer, there had always been in every State a self-sacrificing group of lovers of knowledge who, considering the miserable resources they had at their disposal, accomplished real miracles."

Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More* (2017) in the Loop

Susanne Ghez, Director/
Chief Curator of the
Renaissance Society

“Art is where I go for the information I trust. It’s not what I read or hear—it’s what I see...”

“I just jump. You know, if there are opportunities presented, you leap, right? Or you don't, and what I've learned in life is that it's good to jump, or to leap.”

“You learn in the doing.”

Barbara Gaines, Founder/
Artistic Director,
Shakespeare Theatre

“Make one person smile when you feel like hell, and you will feel better.”

“I am embarrassed to tell you... I had no idea, I never gave it a thought that women couldn’t do something. Because I was... brought up saying, ‘No matter how difficult the road is, you can all make your own luck.’ That was just what we thought, and we believed it.”

“Love is love... and as long as there are people on this planet we will tap into that universality.”

Jacqueline Russell,
Founder/Artistic Director,
Chicago Children’s Theatre

“We are in the empathy business so I think nothing is more important than bringing a young person to hear a story of someone else that perhaps they will learn how to relate better to others as well as to their own feelings and their own experiences. We’re making better citizens every time we bring them in to the theater.”

Ruth Page, Dancer/
Choreographer/Founder,
Ruth Page Center for the Arts

“Each time I come away with a broken heart and the only way I can live my life now is to do a million things as feverishly as possible...”

Lois Weisberg, Longest-
serving Commissioner of
the Chicago Department
of Cultural Affairs

“I don’t really think I know how to surround myself with the right people... I just surround myself with people and then I found out who they are and what they can do. And I believe that everybody can do something. And I believe every person is talented.”

“Government has to understand what people want. And you can’t understand unless you take a risk and do it. People really have a need to reach out to one another. Dance and music are probably the best way to do that.”

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Jackie Taylor, Founder/CEO,
Black Ensemble Theater

"I have no idea what a world without racism would even look like. I have no concept, but somebody will, and somebody will take this [seed] and water it."

"[The plays I choose] all have at the heart of them who we are as human beings. Everybody has gone through good times and bad times. Everybody has made dumb choices and smart choices. We all have. And we can all relate to that. And once we related to that, we start communicating with one another."

"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."

"Some of the stuff now that we're going through in the city, violence and youth violence — a lot of our kids really didn't feel like they had a voice in these issues. Because those things are impacting our community, we really are using art as a vehicle for our youth to have a voice."

Abena Joan Brown,
Founder, eta Creative
Arts Foundation

"When I get up, I say what I have to do today. How do I want to appear? What is the presentation? Theater, and the dynamics of theater, and the training, and the discipline of dance, and the discipline of the education that I've had prepares you for what I'm doing... What is my brand? Who am I playing today?"

"I've never met a performer, a visual artist, one who has that talent and skills to be stupid. They don't seem to go together."

"We came to understand that culture, that vehicle that drives all people, undergirds the other questions and work that we need to do because culture defines us. It tells us who we are, where we've been, where we are, and where we should be going. Culture and the definition, is expressed through art. Particularly, it tells us how to educate our children."

"How come we're still here? The only answer, and it make sound simplistic, but you know simplicity is very complex. It is because of our inherent strength. Our ability to go past what appears to be the reality."

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Margaret Burroughs,
Founder, DuSable Museum
of African American History

"I wish my art to speak not only for my people but for all humanity ... my subject matter is social commentary and seeks to improve the condition of life for all people"

"I will lift up their heads in proud blackness / With the story of their fathers and their fathers / Fathers. ... / I must find the truth of heritage for myself / And pass it on to them. In years to come I believe / Because I have armed them with the truth, my children / And their children's children will venerate me. / For it is the truth that will make us free!"

"For you I give of mind, of body, of self, of thought, of life, / To create for you a better world. / So, my little one and all children, when I am away from you, / Believe me, I've been busy, not playing bridge."

"We are flesh of your flesh, and bone of your bone / Your blood flows in our veins and ours in yours / Though you deny its presence, it is there. / Yes, you are bound to us, tight bound to us / And we to you not only through blood, but through a common culture."

"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?"

Harriet Monroe, Founder,
Poetry Magazine

"Poetry, perhaps the finest of fine arts, certainly the shyest and most elusive, poetry which must have listeners, which cannot sing into a void."

"The arts especially have need of each an entrenched place, a voice of power, if they are to do their work and be heard."

"The mystery is not the greatness of life, but its littleness. That we, so grandly born, so mightily endowed, should grope with blind eyes and bound limbs in the dust and mire of petty desires and grievances; until we can hardly calsp our neighbor's hand or hear his voice – this is the inexplicable mystery, the blasting unreality, the bitter falsehood that underlies all the dark evils of the world."

Cheryl Lynn Bruce,
Co-founder, Goodman
Theatre/Dearborn Homes
Youth Drama Workshop

"How do we live together? How do we treat others, particularly the others, those who do not look like us. The creation of an "Other" forces a kind of dichotomy, a schism, a social schism that is pernicious. And it metastasizes."

"Poetry is, of course, language intensified. And sometimes complicated. But there's always a reward cracking the code of a great poem."

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Sandra Delgado, Founding
Ensemble Member,
Collaboraction

“Being Latino is the whitest white, the blackest black and everything in between. It really is a tapestry of beautiful faces.”

“We need to be producers, writers, and directors if we want to change the way we see the world.”

Jane Saks, Founding
Director of the Ellen Stone
Belic Institute and Project&

“Art can really challenge us, art can take risks, it can show us our humanity when we don’t see it ourselves. It can help us hear our own voices — and other peoples’ voices — sometimes for the first time. And it can teach us, it can help us experience beauty, it can push us, it can make trouble. That’s why I say art is dangerous in all the best possible ways.”

Barbara Jones-Hogu,
Founding Member,
AFRICOBRA

“We wanted to make positive images in making statements, in directing and motivating them with particular thoughts, attitudes, and postures that we wanted to portray to the viewers. We were working on a kind of manifesto, and coming together not only in terms of making an indictment, but also in terms of giving some kind of direction, by citing practices and experiences that we thought was happening and should be addressed along with possible positive solutions where there were problems.”

Gwendolyn Brooks,
Literary icon

“It is brave to be involved. / To be not fearful to be unresolved.”

“Art hurts. Art urges voyages— / and it is easier to stay at home.”

“Truth-tellers are not always palatable. / There is a preference for candy bars.”

“Say to them / say to the down-keepers, / the sun-slappers, / the self-soilers, / the harmony-hushers, / 'even if you are not ready for day it cannot always be night.' / You will be right.”

Oprah Winfrey, Cultural icon

“What I learned at a very early age was that I was responsible for my life. And as I became more spiritually conscious, I learned that we all are responsible for ourselves, that you create your own reality by the way you think and therefore act. You cannot blame apartheid, your parents, your circumstances, because you are not your circumstances. You are your possibilities. If you know that, you can do anything.”

“You are responsible for your life and when you get that, everything changes, my friends. So don’t wait for somebody else to fix you, to save you or complete you...”

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“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.”

“Human beings pass me on the street, and I want to reach out and strum them as if they were guitars. Sometimes all humanity strikes me as lovely. I just want to reach out and stroke someone and say There, there, it’s all right, honey. There, there, there.”

“I guess life presents you / choices and you choose. Smarter / over the years. Oh smarter. / The sensible thing smarting /over the years, the sensible / thing to excess, I guess.”

“I would like to baptize myself under a new name, a name more like the real me, the one nobody sees. Esperanza as Lesandra or Maritza or Zeze the X. Yes. Something like Zeze the X will do.”

Achy Obejas, Pulitzer
Prize-winning journalist

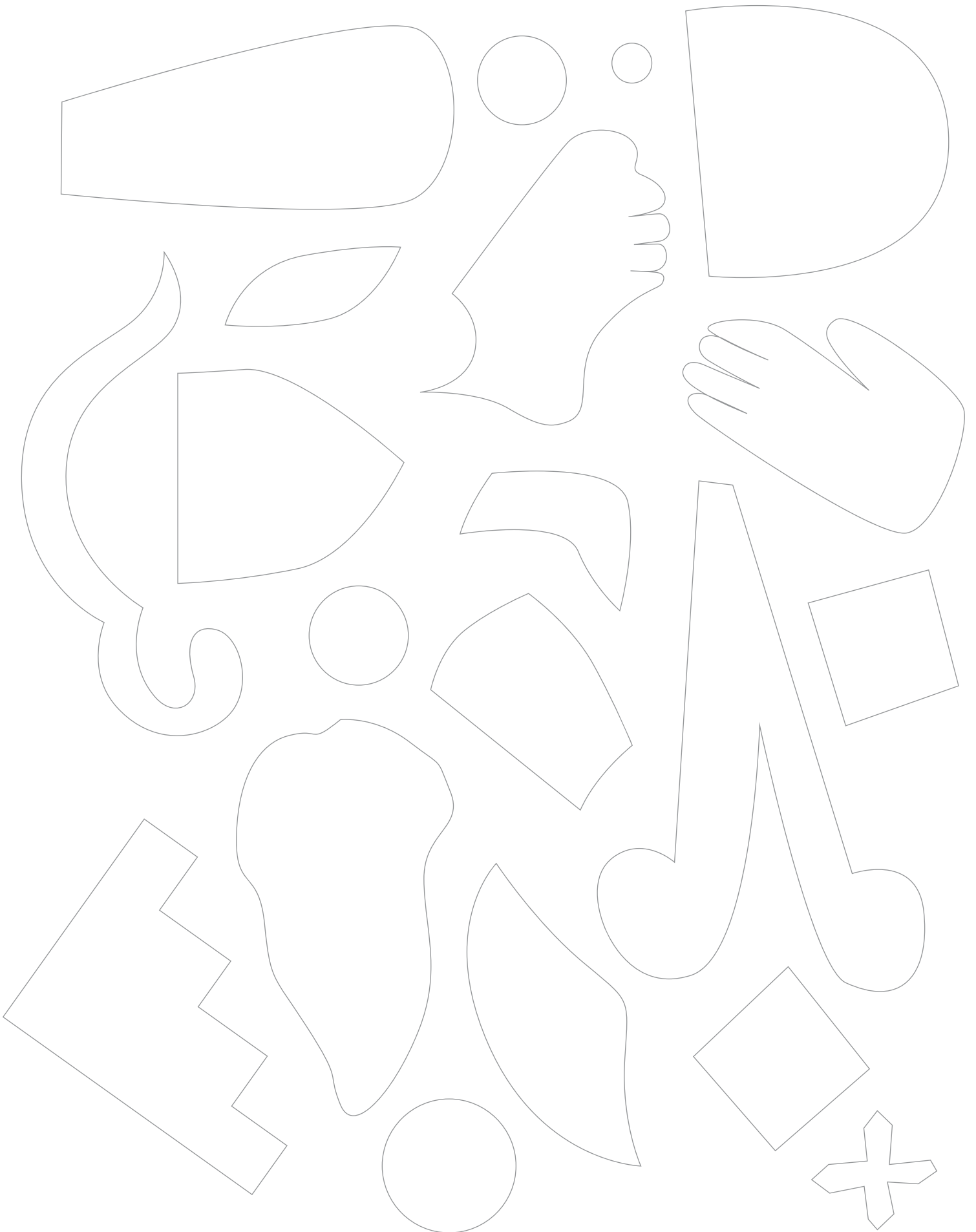
“The poet’s true language is the one in which he thinks,” my host announced abruptly. “And you? In what language do you think?” ... “Yes, yes, but what language do you dream in?” he demanded. “Well,” I said, “it depends. I don’t always recognize the language in my dreams.”

Joan Gray, Dancer/
President of Muntu Dance
Theatre of Chicago

“...that’s how the company was building up its loyal following — by doing all of these grass roots neighborhood events and it was really an honor — I didn’t realize it as much then but what a statement that was, making that people thought it was appropriate to have African dancing and drumming to commemorate an important event in their life...”

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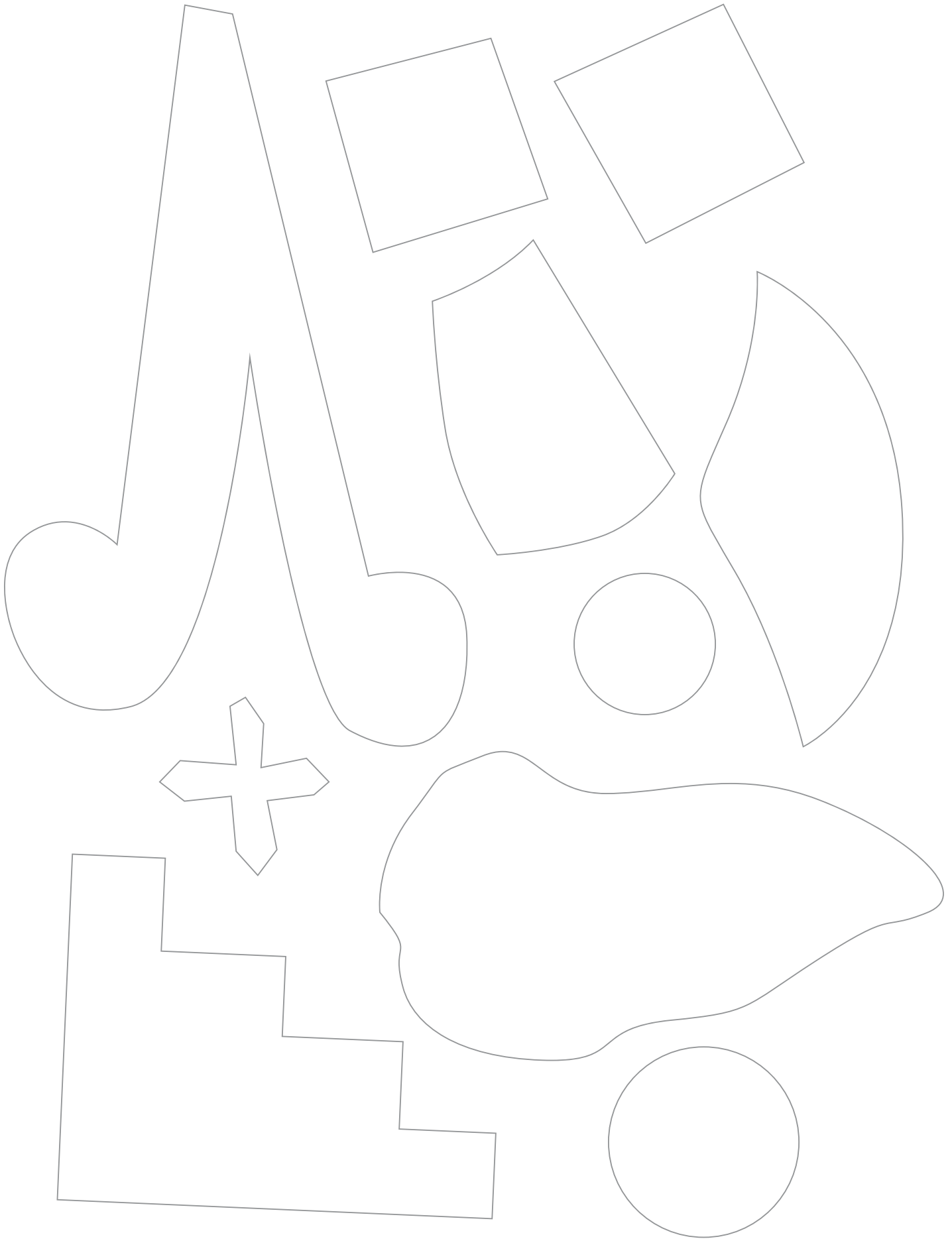
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Cooper Dual Language Academy's mosaics



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Printable stencils
Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More*

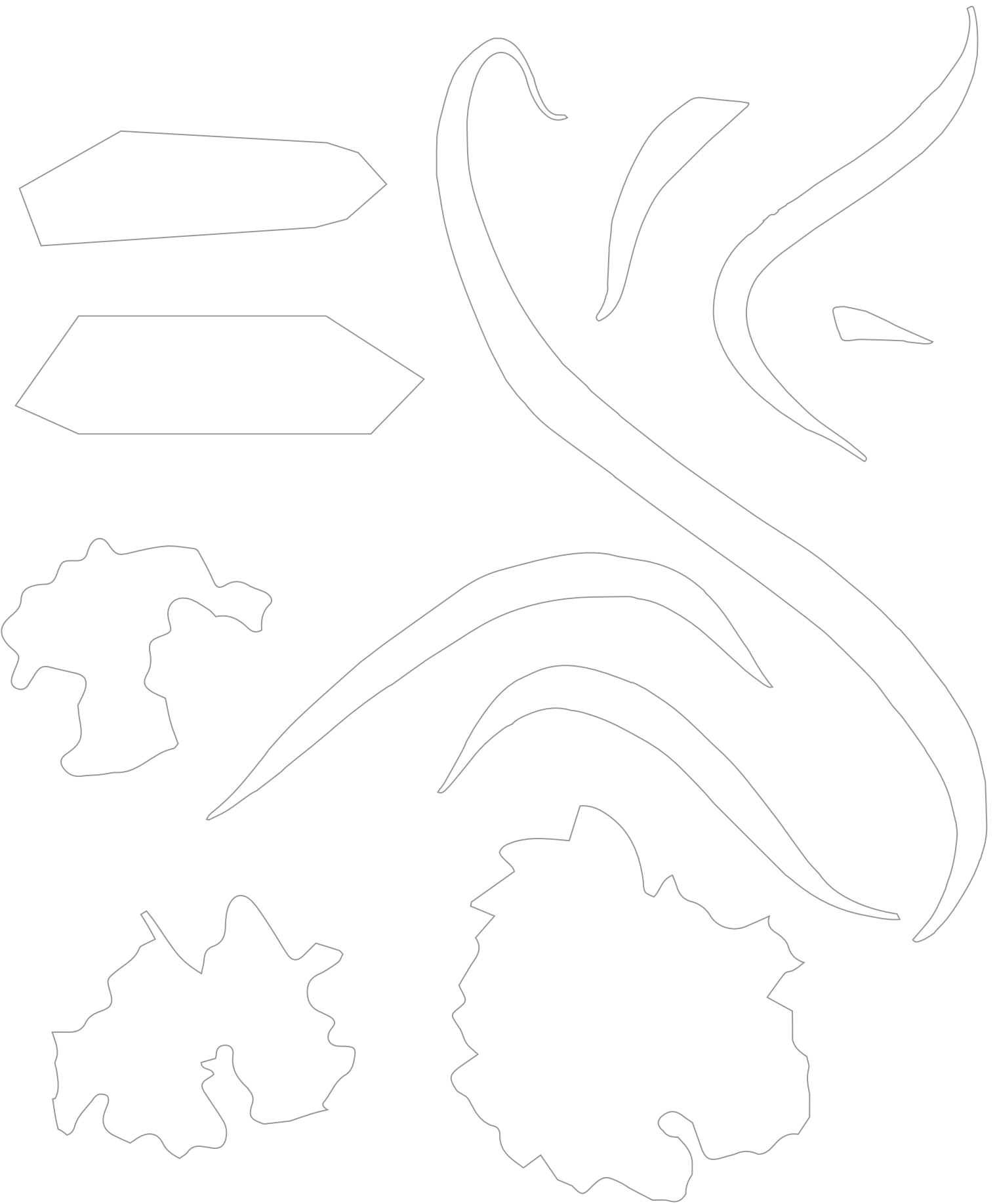


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Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More*



Printable stencils
Kerry James Marshall's *Rush More*





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What does the person who designed it want you to know?

How does the design help you get that message?

How are the topics and ideas of the poster important today?

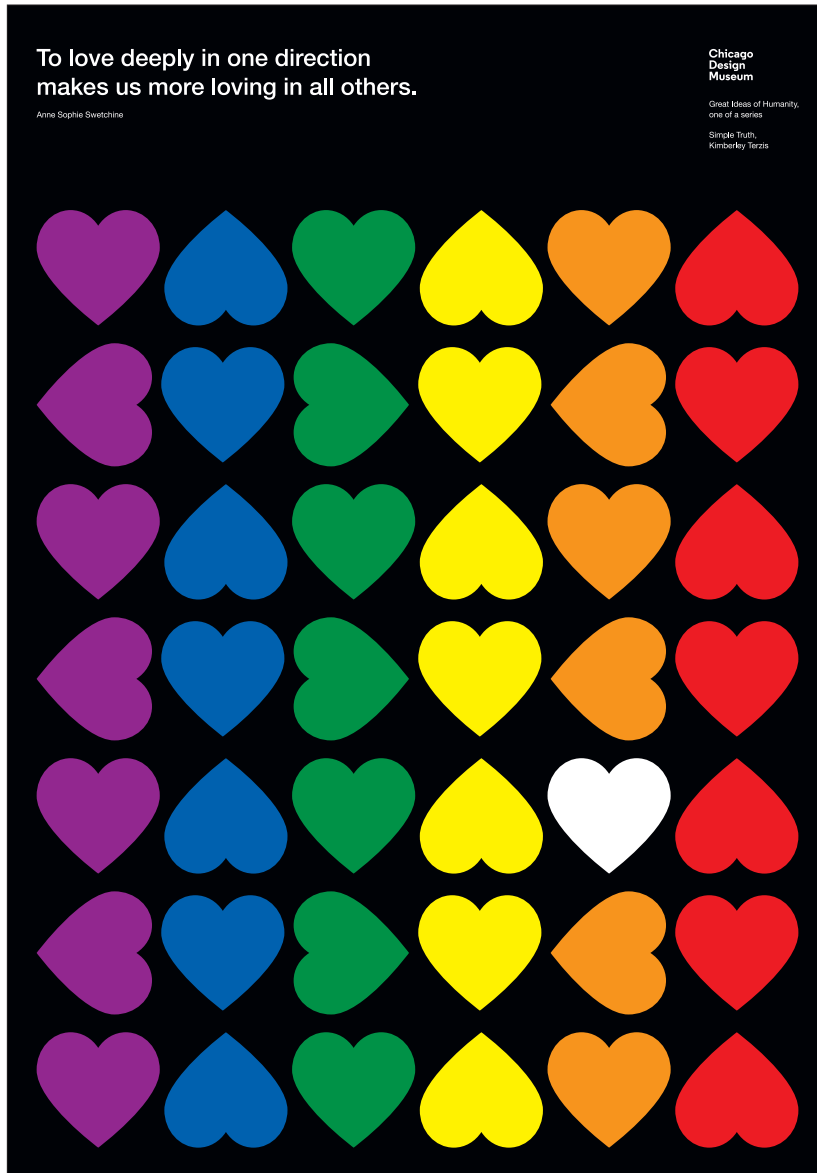


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