



ART & HISTORY MUSEUMS  
MAITLAND

## Printmaking for All!

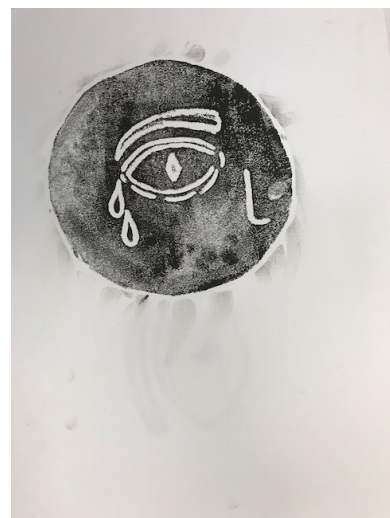
*Grades: 2-8 , 10-35 students (per class)*

*\$10 per student*

*1 class period*

This program is designed for one class period, so that all students can participate fully and complete a project to take home. We provide special equipment, materials and tools.

Students learn examples of well-known printmakers of the past and gain opportunities to create their own piece of artwork using a relief printing technique.



### Before our visit:

Please review *Printmaking Vocabulary* (pg.3), *What is Printmaking?* (pg.4), and *Printmaking: A (very) Brief History* (pg.4) to prepare your students a day or two before we arrive.

Upon arrival, our educators will need 10-15 minutes to set up. Please keep this in mind as you schedule our visit.

### During our visit:

Please provide the following items: Computer and smart screen, sink, water and extra tables for printmaking stations.

Teachers should remain in the classroom during our visit and are invited to participate in class discussions and art making. We are not responsible for classroom management.

### After our visit:

Please complete the UA evaluation form with all feedback about our program. Review our post-visit guide with your students to build upon the skills and inspiration that they have gained from our outreach.



## PRINTMAKING VOCABULARY

**BRAYER** A small, hand-held rubber roller used to spread printing ink evenly on a surface before printing.

**BAREN** A round, smooth pad, either flat or slightly convex, used to press paper against an inked wood or linoleum block to lift an impression from the block.

**RELIEF PRINT** A means of making prints by creating a raised design on a flat surface. The design is inked or covered with color and stamped on paper or another surface.

**BLOCK** In printing, a piece of thick, flat material, with a design on its surface, used to print repeated impressions of that design. Called a **PLATE** in etching and engraving (metal).

**PRINT** The actual picture the artist makes from a printmaking process.

**PRINTMAKING** The process of designing and producing prints using a printing block, woodcut, etching, lithographic, or screenprinting.

**EDITION** A set of identical prints, that are numbered and signed. This set of prints have been pulled by or under the supervision of the artist and are authorized for distribution.

**INK** Coloring material composed of pigment (color) , a binder, and a vehicle. Ink is usually thicker than most paints, and has a slower drying rate.

**RELIEF** Printmaking technique in which the image is printed from a raised surface, usually produced by cutting away non-image material.

**TRIAL PRINT** A proof pulled from a block, plate, or stone to check the appearance of the image to make sure it is all right before making the edition. After a critical or important change is made on a plate, it is necessary to see what has been done before going to the next step; checking to see if a change was successful. (PROOFING)

**REDUCTION BLOCK PRINT** When one block is printed several times, removing a portion and changing Color each time (working from lightest to darkest and registration is critical)

**PRINTING PRESS** A device used by a fine art printmaker to produce prints one copy at a time. It applies pressure between a sheet of paper and an inked printing plate. Presses for intaglio printing apply considerable pressure as they force the paper and plate between a roller and a flat bed, thus squeezing the paper into the inked grooves of the plate.

## Pre-Visit Discussion Topics

### 1. What is Printmaking?

Artists have used printmaking to create some of their most profound and compelling works of art, but the basic printmaking techniques remain unfamiliar to most people. A print is a work of art made up of ink on paper and can be easily reproduced. It is created not by drawing directly on paper, but through an indirect transfer process. The artist begins by creating a composition on another surface and the transfer occurs when a sheet of paper, or other absorbent surface, is placed in contact with this surface with pressure, typically of a printing press. Each transfer is considered an original artwork.

### 2. Printmaking: A (very) Brief History

It is believed that the Chinese invented printmaking as far back as the second century C.E. as a way to communicate, rather than as an art form. Europeans started to use printmaking techniques to decorate textiles (fabric) with patterns from the early fifteenth century, and some of the earliest woodcut prints were produced by the Germans--to make playing cards! The ability to create reproducible images made print accessible and affordable to many people.

Over the centuries, techniques and materials of printmaking have continuously evolved.

## Post-Visit Resources

You can further the discussion and exploration of printmaking with your students by helping them continue to make connections to printmaking in ways that are relatable to them. Here are some ideas to facilitate a deeper understanding and experience:

Have your students print their designs on note cards to make up sets. Have a “print exchange” in the classroom so that each student gets a varied set.

Create wearable art by introducing freezer paper printing as a screen printing alternative.

Resource:

<https://www.theartofed.com/2016/09/28/september-freezer-paper-concert-t-shirts/>



Create student government or advocacy fliers or posters again using the styrofoam printmaking technique. Share the work of Shepard Fairey and his Obey brand. If supplies are scarce, using foam picnic plates and cutting the raised edge off is an alternative to pre-made printing styrofoam.

Explore another type of printing such as Monoprints. Students can create a monoprint by inking on and printing directly on their work tables. Resource:

<https://www.theartofed.com/2017/10/10/5-different-ways-to-try-monoprinting-in-the-art-room/>

On behalf of the Education and Experiences team at the Art & History Museums: Maitland, thank you for inviting us into your classroom! We would love to be a resource to you as you continue to explore printmaking with your students. Please call us or email us anytime with questions!

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