

Museum of Craft and Design

SHADOW BOX WINDOW



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

After so many months of SIP, many of us might be longing for a different view out of our windows! Craft the change you want to see, with this meditative assemblage based on the artwork of **MCD volunteer Melissa Carpio**.

This prompt asks you to imagine a space or feeling you'd like to convey, and create a window onto that space, using material, color, and images to symbolize that meaning. Whether you think of past gatherings, reflect on the present, or envision a new future, consider using symbols and objects that have abstract or direct personal significance to you.

RECOMMENDED AGE/SKILL LEVEL:

Recommended for 6+ with adult supervision as needed.

MATERIALS

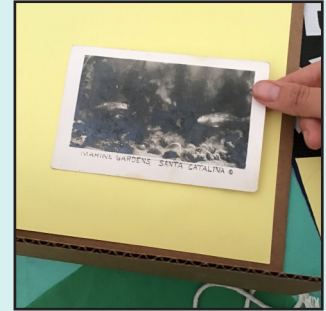
- Shoe box lid or similarly shaped cardboard
- Glue or hot glue, tape
- String, pipe cleaner, or yarn
- Image from photo or magazine
- Paint, marker, or pen
- Paper, cardstock, thin fabric or felt, or tissue paper
- Scissors, X-acto knife optional
- Suggested: pom poms, cotton balls, glitter, found objects, sticks, souvenirs, stickers, buttons, and rhinestones



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INSTRUCTIONS

- Sketch or envision the type of space you'd like to see. What symbols might you add? What feeling do you want it to convey? Consider how design choices like color, texture, and shape contribute to this.
- Choose your background. This might mean painting the entire inside/backdrop of your cardboard, making a cutout shape in that backdrop, or gluing in paper or tissue paper. Let dry if needed, while moving on to next steps.
- Once you have a selected image, cut or prepare your photo(s) or image(s) and try them out against your backdrop. Will you create a detailed perimeter around the images, layer them on other materials, or leave them as portraits? Glue down when you're ready or wait for other layers.
- Begin working with any further layers or 3D images. Tissue paper or lace can be used to separate part of the background; string can hang pom poms or other objects from the top or spanning the sides of the cardboard. Practice and change your composition as needed. When you're ready, glue in any strings and cardboard as needed.
- Will anything else add to the mood and feeling of your window? If you have tea lights, consider putting these in. Glue in any further details you wish to add. View your space from a distance and consider the space you're envisioning.



Melissa Carpio's artwork

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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