

# WOODMERE

## ARTISTS IN BLOOM

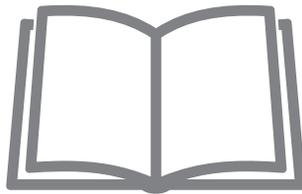
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CELEBRATE  
**MOTHER'S DAY**

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TELLING THE STORY OF  
**PHILADELPHIA'S**  
ART AND ARTISTS





This workbook is designed to be viewed as a booklet with facing pages. To view this document as intended, please download and open the pdf. Enjoy!

# WELCOME!

Mother's Day began in Philadelphia in 1908. The first celebration took place in Wanamaker's Department Store where 15,000 people attended and shopped for presents.

Images of mothers and the idea of motherhood run deep in the work of Philadelphia artists. Be inspired by the artists in this booklet and create your own artwork for Mother's Day.

Use markers, colored pencils, crayons, oil pastels, watercolor paints, and assorted papers for the activities in this book to make a:

- Mother's Day collage feast
- story portrait
- special shopping bag
- self-portrait
- three-dimensional bouquet of flowers



# PENELOPE HARRIS

American, born 1938

## Blue Beads

1994

Oil on canvas

Gift of Bill Scott, 2011

**Imagine this table as a special meal for a Mother's Day present.**

What foods do you see — a grapefruit with a spoon, ready to be eaten, watermelon, clusters of grapes, peaches, and a pear? What else do you see on the table?

Large pink flowers in the background wallpaper seem to float forward into the space of the table. Look carefully to find an image of a pink flower on the table.

The artist, Penelope Harris, creates lively **patterns** of **shapes** and **colors** that playfully repeat and move our eyes to look all over the picture.

What round shapes do you see, such as the pink flowers or the grapefruit? Notice how the pinks, blues, reds, and greens of the wallpaper repeat in the food and objects on the table.

Look at the table. Does anything seem unusual? The table is tilted upwards as if everything is coming forward. What fruits are on the edge? Notice the open drawer and strand of blue beads. Might this be a Mother's Day gift?

**On the next page:**

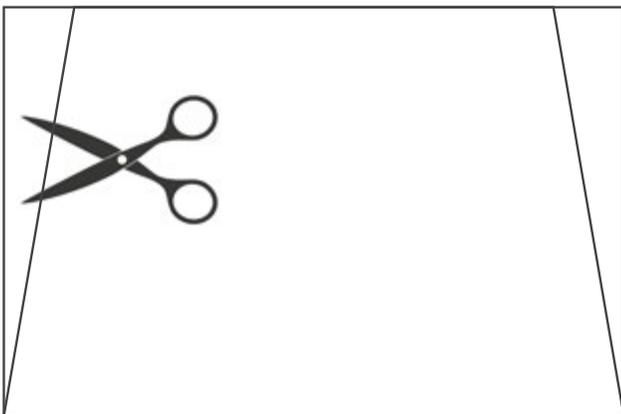
Create a Mother's Day feast collage!

A collage in art is created when different materials are glued down to a surface.

Gather a bunch of patterned papers and materials from around your home such as: wrapping paper, magazines, newspapers, napkins, construction paper, tissue paper, sand paper, paper or fabric scraps, stickers, cupcake holders....

Using a glue stick, glue down a background of patterned paper. Cover the entire sheet of paper.

**Table top:** Choose one color from the background pattern. Cut out a piece of paper in that color in the shape of a rectangle. Cut diagonal edges on two opposite sides of the rectangle.



Glue down your table top.

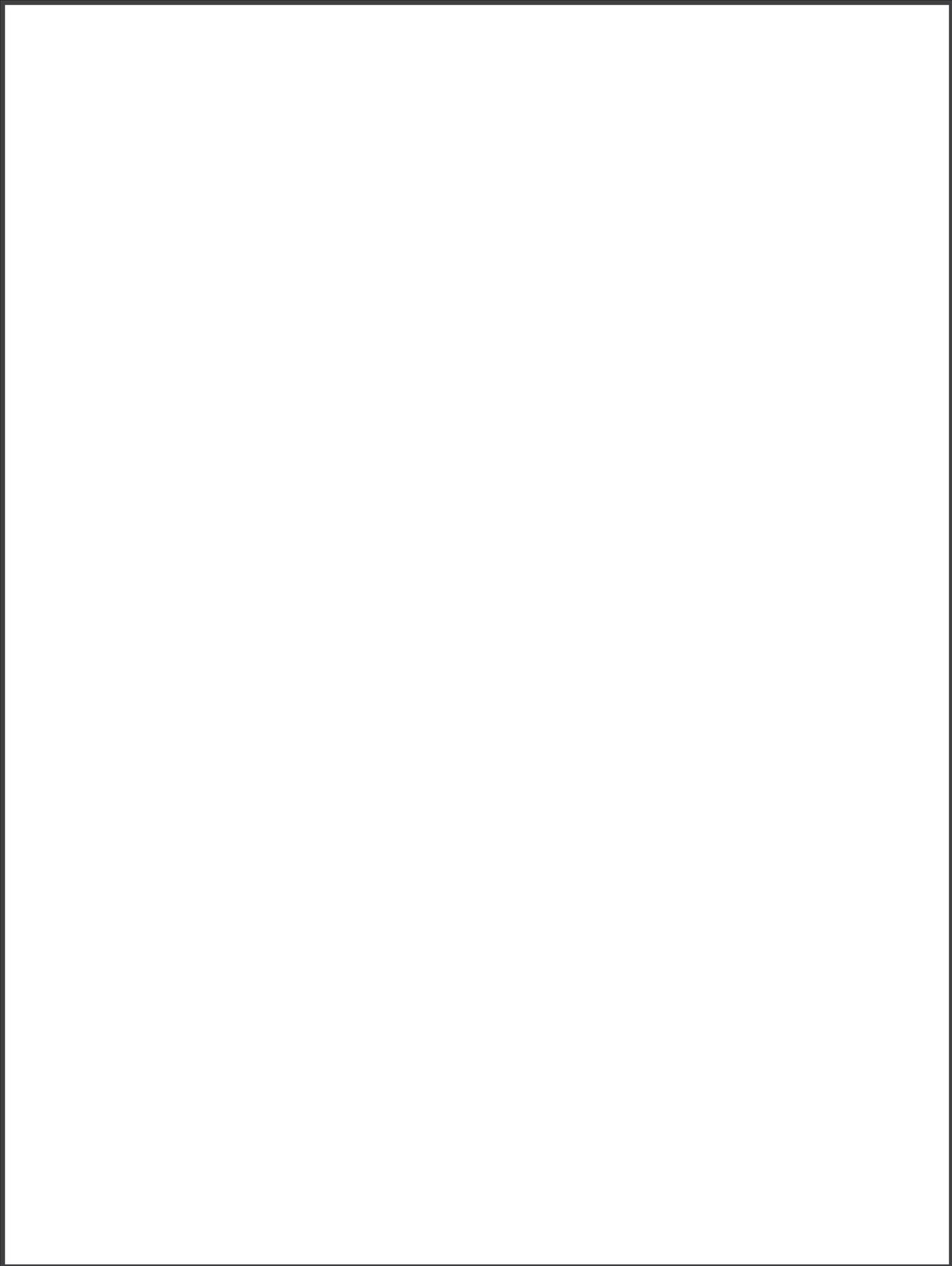
Cut out shapes for the legs of the table and glue them down.

Look at all your papers. **Cut out images** of food and serving plates. **Draw or paint colors and patterns** on your materials.

Glue down your food images on the table.

Place a present and/or a card somewhere in the collage.

Create lively **patterns of shapes and colors** like the artist, Penelope Harris, to create a beautiful feast for Mother's Day.





# EDITH NEFF

American, 1943-1995

## Triptych

1967

Oil on canvas

Woodmere Art Museum: Gift of Dr. Maria B. Smith, 2012

Have you ever wondered how to create a **portrait** that tells a story about a person's life? Edith Neff's painting, *Triptych*, is a triple portrait of her mother, Ruth Smith, at three different times in her life. **Colors** are used to link the three panels together. What colors do you see in all three? The color **orange** is used to identify her mother.

What do you see in the first image? This is Ruth Smith as a child living in Russia (an area that is now part of Ukraine). She stands by herself. What is she holding? Is she inside or outside? At sixteen years old, Ruth Smith emigrated to Philadelphia with her mother and older sister where she lived for the rest of her life.

Find Ruth Smith in the second image. Who do you think is with her? Here, Ruth is a mother standing with two of her daughters. The red-haired little girl is the artist herself, Edith Neff. A **pattern of light and shadow** connects all three figures.

How has Ruth Smith changed in the third panel? Ruth is now an older woman and stands next to her own mother, the artist's grandmother. Look at their **faces**. What might they be thinking or feeling? Notice how Ruth is standing arm in arm with her own mother. What does this convey about their relationship?

Edith Neff based these images on black and white family photos and created the colors while painting. How do the colors connect the three images? What story does the artist paint about her mother?

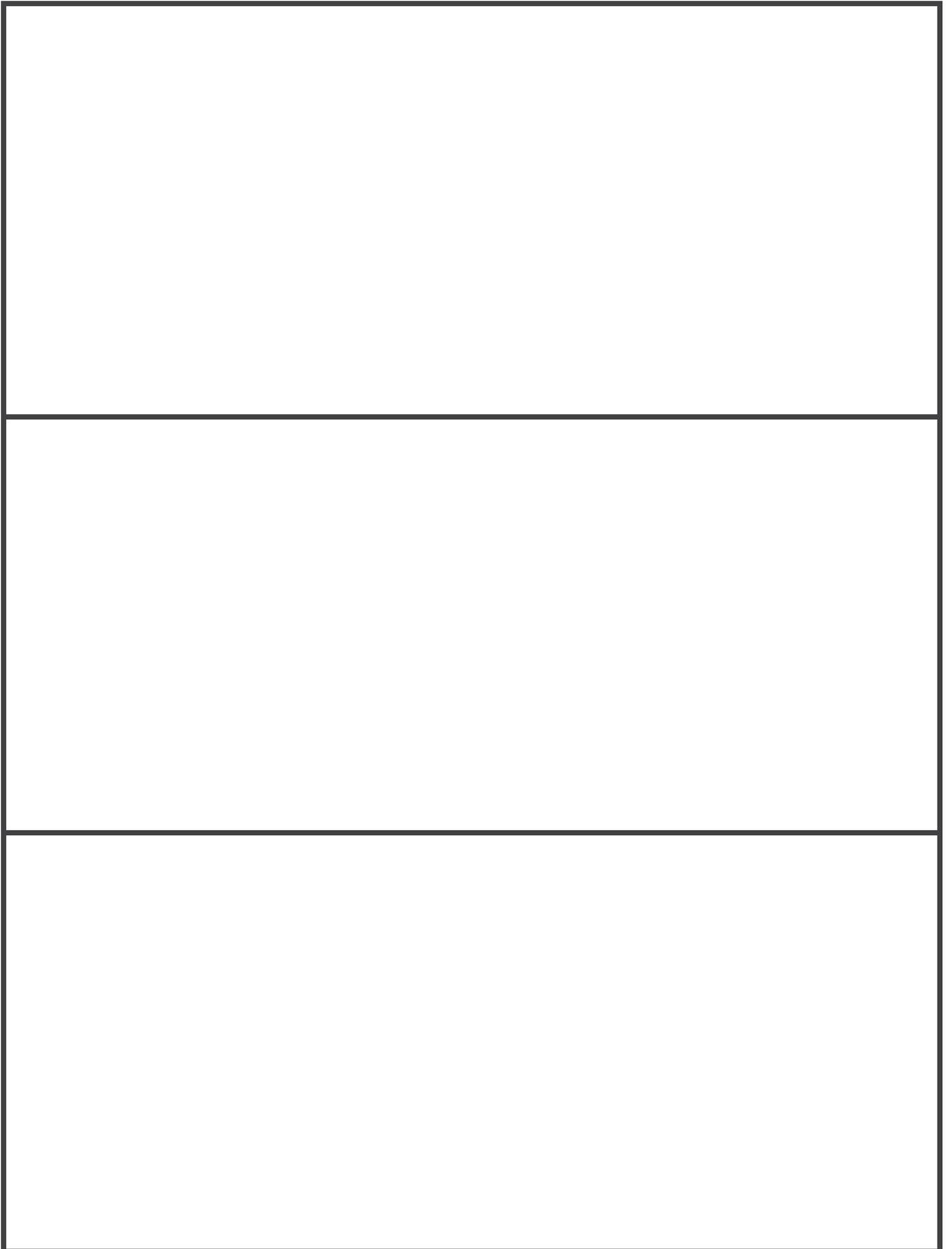
**On the next page:**

Create a **triptych** portrait of your mother that tells a story in **three** parts. Decide if you want to hold your paper horizontally or vertically.

Your story could be about your mother at three different ages, like Edith Neff. It could be a story about your mother's three favorite things to do; or three different things you do together; or how you see your mom from the front, the back, and **profile** (side).

Draw the figures in your story large and up close like Edith Neff. Add objects, clothing, and details to convey information about the figures.

Use colors to connect the images.





# TWINS SEVEN-SEVEN

Nigerian (active Philadelphia), 1944-2011

## Shopping Bag

Date unknown

Paint and marker on brown paper bag

Courtesy of Material Culture

Twins Seven-Seven was an artist-in-residence at a Philadelphia store, Material Culture. The store owner and the artist's good friend, George Jevremović, asked Twins to make art that he could sell in his store. He also asked Twins to decorate shopping bags. Here Twins used magic markers to draw the **shape** of a bag on a bag.

Twins Seven-Seven was from Nigeria, a country in western Africa, and lived part-time in Philadelphia. His art was inspired by the traditions of the Yoruba people whose art is filled with **patterns** of **shapes**, **colors**, and **lines**.

Twins began by drawing the shape of a bag with a dark line. He then filled in the shape with patterns of more shapes and colors. What shapes create a pattern on this bag? What colors create a pattern on this bag? Notice how the size of shapes change.

**On the next page:**

Create a special shopping bag as a Mother's Day present.

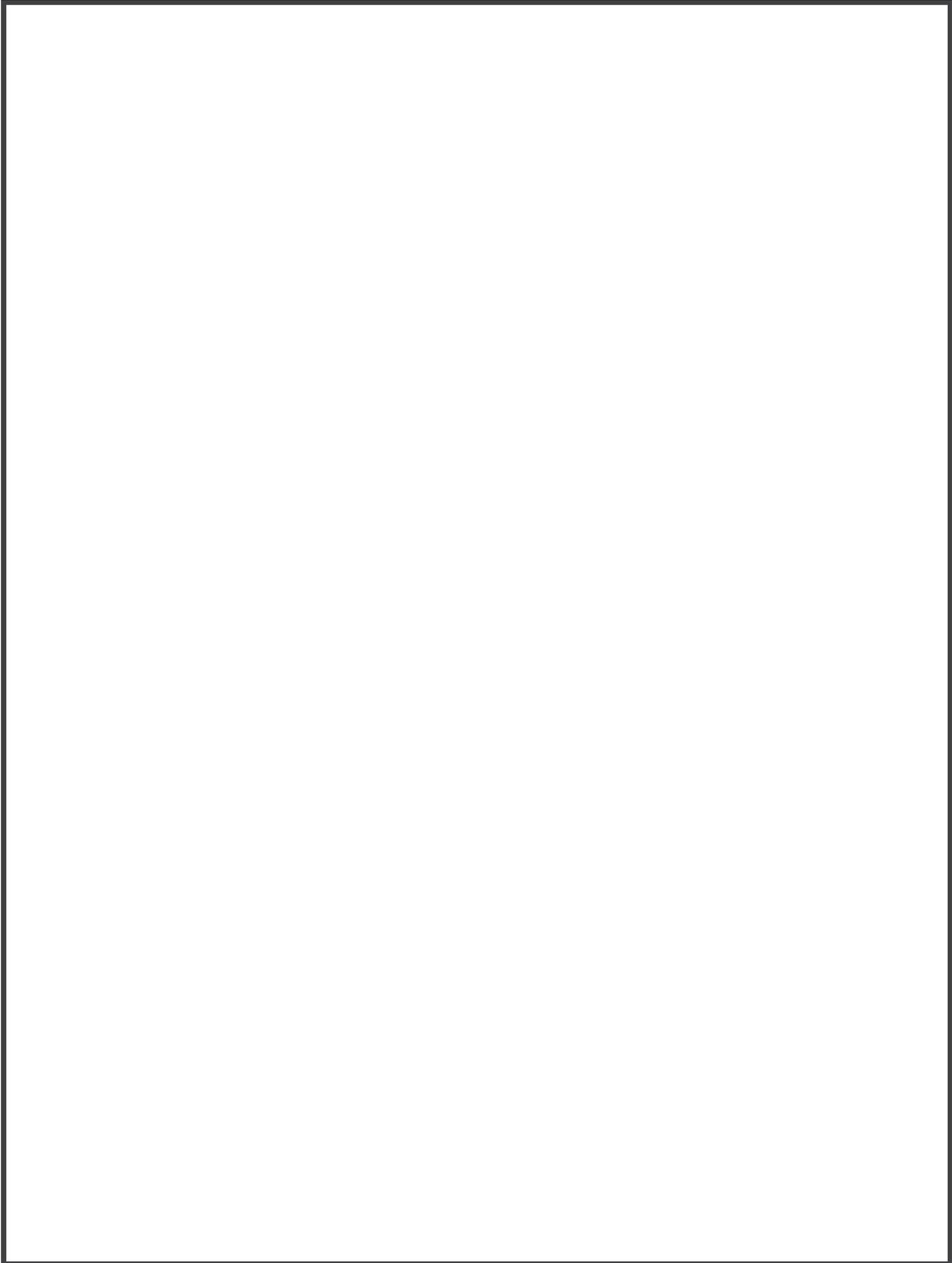
Use the rectangle on the next page to sketch out a design.

Draw an outline for a big shape. It can be a shape of anything you want.

Create patterns of other shapes or lines inside the big shape.

Find a brown paper bag. Copy your sketch on the bag and add colors.

Do you know someone who would love a specially designed shopping bag by you?





# HELEN CORSON HOVENDEN

American, 1846-1935

## The Concert

1890

Oil on canvas

Woodmere Art Museum: Gift of Amy and David Dufour

In this painting, Helen Corson Hovenden paints a special moment between her daughter, Martha, and their family dog. What is Martha doing? What is the dog doing? How do you think these two feel about one another?

The artist places the companions up close and calls attention to the most important parts by painting **details** and creating different **textures** (the way something feels). Notice the differences between the fabric in Martha's blue dress, the softness of her skin and swept back hair, and the shiny metal of the small harmonica. What textures do you see in the dog?

Though we see only Martha's cheeks, ear, and hand, we sense her concentration and feel the captive response in her dog's eyes. **Light** washes over them in **contrast** to the dark, shadowy **background**.

Mothers enjoy watching their children play. Here Hovenden shares this tender interaction between her daughter and their dog. We can imagine hearing the music being played and see the love between the two. Why do you think the artist titled this *The Concert* and not a portrait of her daughter and the dog?

**On the next page:**

Create a **self-portrait** as a Mother's Day present.

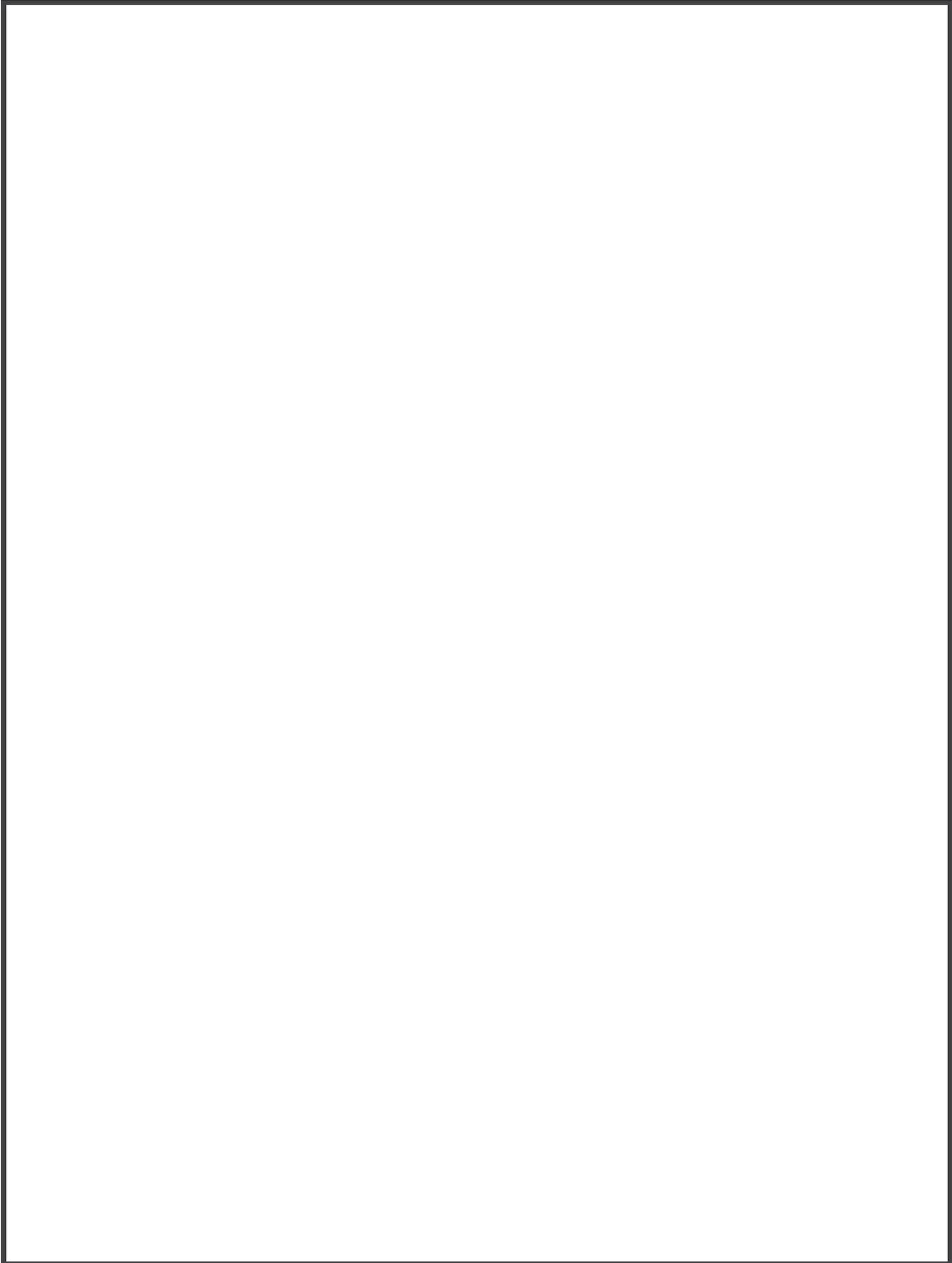
What is one of your favorite things to do?

Think about what to include in your self-portrait to show something important about yourself. It might be your choice of clothing, or a specific object such as a book, a game, sporting equipment, a hat, or perhaps include a friend or pet.

Decide if you want your picture to be horizontal or vertical.

Draw yourself **large** and **up close**. Include as many **details** as possible.

Focus attention on yourself by creating a dark **background**.





# EILEEN GOODMAN

American, born 1937

## Three Bouquets

1987

Watercolor on paper

Woodmere Art Museum: Gift of Donna Turner Petersen and Robert E.A. Petersen, 2003

Artist Eileen Goodman has a special way of using watercolor paint to bring to life the magic of a flower bloom.

Look at the flowers in this painting. Notice the layers of petals in each bloom and how **colors** change from **light** to **dark**.

Mixing different amounts of water into paint changes a color from **bright** to **light**. A color will become lighter as more water is added.

Look at the variety of pinks in the flower in the **foreground** (front). Find the **light** pink petals. Find the **bright** pink petals. Which pink is mixed with more water?

Eileen Goodman's painting, *Three Bouquets*, is a beautiful Mother's Day treat.

Learn how to create a 3D bouquet of flowers on the following pages.



# CREATE A THREE-DIMENSIONAL BOUQUET OF FLOWERS FOR MOTHER'S DAY!

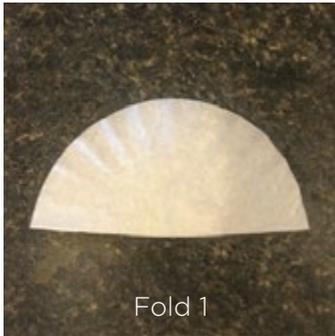
## Materials:

- Setup: material to protect work surface
- Washable markers
- Round white coffee filters (flat or basket): 1-2 filters/flower
  - If you are using basket coffee filters, flatten them.
- Scissors
- Spray bottle
- Wax paper or aluminum foil
- Pipe cleaners, floral wire, or string
- Hot glue (optional and with adult supervision)



## Step 1: Cutting a Petal Pattern (Optional)

Fold a filter in half four times. Repeat with each coffee filter.



Draw a **curvy line** on the folded filter from one edge to the other. Cut along the line and unfold to see the **round** petal shapes.



Different lines will create different petal shapes. **Draw a diagonal line** to get **pointy** petal shapes.



## Step 2: Adding Color

Use washable markers and draw lines, shapes, and patterns on the coffee filters. Use colors that are next to each other on the color wheel on each filter. For example: red, yellow, and orange.

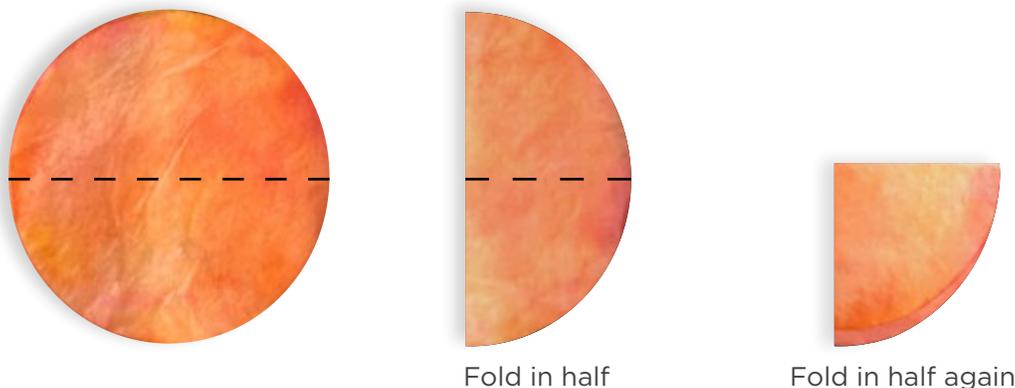


## Step 3: Spray Water

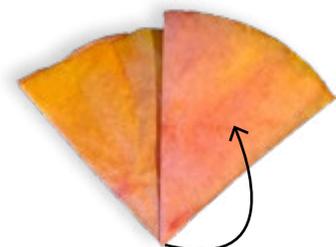
Place the colored filters on wax paper or aluminum foil. Spray each filter with water 3-5 times. Watch the colors spread. It takes time. Spray again if needed. Allow time for them to **dry completely**.

## Step 4: Folding the Filters

Use one filter or stack two filters on top of each other. The more filters you have, the fuller the flower.



Take the top layer of the folded filter and fold it across to the opposite side.



#### Step 4 (continued)

Flip the filter over. Repeat.



#### Step 5: Add Stem and Create a Three-Dimensional (3D) Flower

Use a pipe cleaner, floral wire, or string for the stem. Pinch the pointed bottom of the folded filters. Tightly wrap the stem around the bottom point. *Optional: ask an adult to secure with hot glue.*



Carefully open up the filters layer by layer to create a 3D flower. Put it in a vase and make some more!





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