Explore More is a self-guided program for kids and families normally taking place in our gallery. The Home Edition is designed for families to enjoy virtually!

About 3AM: Time Sensitive

Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA) presents Time Sensitive, an exhibition of works by Myanmar artist collective, 3AM, curated by Adriel Luis. Since 2016, members Ma Ei, Ko Latt, and Yadanar Win have collaborated on works that dissolve the lines between art and activism, performance, and media.

3AM’s work responds to social conditions that are pressing in Myanmar, but that resonate throughout the world – the repression of social critique, the complexities of queer life, and the effects of globalization, to name a few.

Read More About Time Sensitive for Inspiration

Activity 1: Create Your Own Artist Collective

The artwork featured in Time Sensitive is created by an artist collective called 3AM. An artist collective is a group of artists working together on the same project, in result creating a group artwork. The members of an artist collective can have their own distinct talents and choice of medium, but they come together to create artwork that is unique to the group.

To create group artwork with your own artist collective, you will need the following: A sheet of paper (any size, shape, or color will do), a drawing utensil of your choice, a few people to be a part of your artist collective (these could be friends, neighbors, or family members!), and enough space for everyone to work comfortably.

1. Start by finding a place to work where all members of your artist collective can draw comfortably. Everyone should have the drawing utensil of their choice and one piece of paper for the group to share. Talk with your artist collective to decide on a theme for your artwork. This could be your favorite pet, your favorite food, or a shared sports team! Once the group has agreed on a theme, you are ready to begin drawing!

2. To start your drawing, one member of the group should begin to draw a picture relating to your chosen subject. When they are done, the next member of the group will add to the drawing. Don't be afraid of adding your own style or flair when drawing! This will continue until either all members of the group have had an equal chance to contribute to the artwork, or the drawing is complete.
3. When finished, give your artwork a title and hang it somewhere for everyone to see. Give your artist collective a name too, just like 3AM!

**Activity 2: Using Art for Activism**

Activism is an action to change something in the world. Many artists, like 3AM, use their artwork as a way to show and share the changes they want to see in the world. Some even believe that art and activism are inseparable!

Let’s use artwork to show the ways in which we want to make change. You will need: Paper, pen or pencil, and coloring utensils such as colored pencils, crayons, or watercolors (optional).

1. Begin by finding a cause or subject that means a lot to you. This could be something as small as wanting school to start at a later time in the day, saving an endangered animal species, or something as big as climate change.

2. Using your paper and drawing materials, draw a visual picture your cause or change. This could be the negative effects from the cause or subject or the positive effects that you hope will come about from this change. For example, if you chose to draw about how school should start later because you and your friends are too tired, consider drawing sleepy students on their way to school or happy awake students to show how this change would affect you!

3. Finish your artwork by adding color, and then give it a title!