Mini Art Lesson:
Zimaseka "Zim" Salusalu, Gugulethu, Cape Town by Zanele Muholi

Honor Pride Month and Black queer artists with this Mini Art Lesson exploring the work of **Zanele Muholi**, an artist who documents the Black lesbian and transgender community in South Africa and its diaspora. Follow along as we share step-by-step instructions to create self-portrait collages for kids ages 2–6, while kids ages 7 and up learn about the elements of portrait photography by creating their own portraits.

●FOR TEACHERS, CAREGIVERS, AND PARENTS
Access **a free teaching guide**, featuring questions for viewing and other great activities and resources.
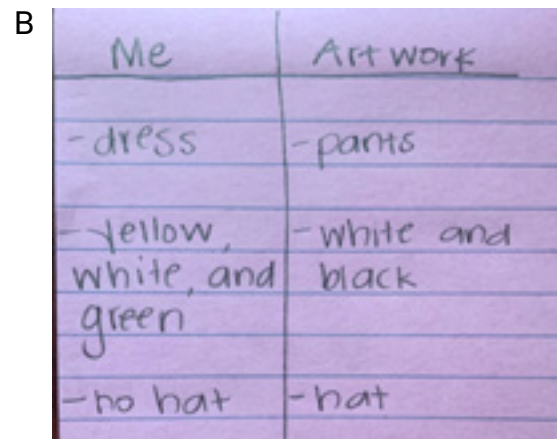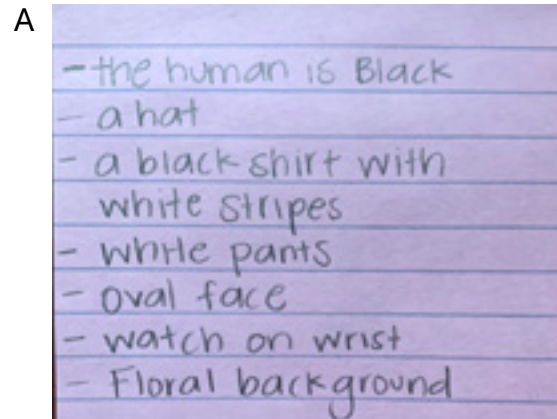

FOR AGES 2–6:
LET'S PLAY

Step 1: Take a look at Muholi's photograph and talk with your child about the portrait's subject. What are a few things you notice about them? (A)

Step 2: Next, discuss what the subject is wearing. How is your outfit different from or similar to theirs? (B)

Step 3: In this lesson, we'll make a self-portrait collage that celebrates everything that makes you special!

A

- the human is Black
- a hat
- a black shirt with white stripes
- white pants
- oval face
- watch on wrist
- Floral background

B

Me	Art work
- dress	- pants
- yellow, white, and green	- white and black
- no hat	- hat

FOR AGES 2–6:
LET'S PLAY (cont.)

Step 4: Take another look at Muholi's photograph. Do you notice how Muholi added flowers in the background? Think about a backdrop that represents you and add it to your collage. Education Fellow Tayler Milburn added flowers and music notes. (C)

Step 5: Next, cut out pictures from magazines, newspapers, or your own photos to create a collage. Use glue to paste down your images on a sheet of paper. (D)

Step 6: Find a special place to show off your new artwork! Tayler decided to put her project on the fridge. (E)

C

D

E

FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE

Step 1: In this lesson, we'll take photographs and reflect on how we feel when we see and create images of ourselves. Let's start by exploring the elements of portraiture: pose, facial expression, clothing, props, and background. How do these show up in Muholi's photograph?

Step 2: With these elements in mind, have somebody take your picture. The photographer will decide what your picture will look like. Here, the photographer picked out a white shirt and an artwork for Senior Instructor Noé Gaytán to pose with. (A)

Step 3: How did it feel to have someone direct you and take your picture? Do you agree with their choices? Do you like the result?

Step 4: Now, have the photographer take another picture of you, but this time you make all of the decisions. How will you pose? What will you wear? Do you have props or a background? This time Noé Gaytán picked the background and a black jacket to wear. (B)

Step 5: How did it feel to be in control of your own image? Does this picture communicate something about yourself that you want others to know?

Step 6: Do this activity again, but swap roles with the other person. How is capturing the image of another person different from capturing your own? Does it change depending on your relationship to that person?

Step 7: Muholi uses black and white in her photographs to create a sense of timelessness—to show that queer people of color have always existed and that they will continue to thrive despite discrimination. In twenty years, how will you look back on the photos you took today? (C)

A

B

C