



Maya, Jaime Arredondo, 2009



FLOWERS IN ART: PAST, PRESENT, AND POWERFUL Family Gallery Guide



IRVING
ARTS
CENTER



WELCOME TO THE EXHIBITION "THE GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS: PAINTINGS BY JAIME ARREDONDO"

You will learn not only about Jaime Arredondo's paintings as you explore the "garden," but also about flowers in art throughout the ages and in different cultures.

Enjoy your visit!

Dates of exhibition:
Sept. 12- NOV 15, 2015

Gallery hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday:

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Admission is Free.

About the artist:

Jaime Arredondo now lives in New York City, but he grew up right here in Irving.

He attended MacArthur High School, across the street from the Arts Center! He also went to college at the University of Dallas in Irving.

His cultural heritage influences are Native American, Tejano, which is Texan of Mexican heritage, and Mesoamerican.



"Abstraction could no longer give me all the things that were necessary to continue painting. I needed a larger audience, a larger vision, and a greater sense of light and color. I wanted to speak directly and unequivocally about beauty in a way that was romantic and poetic but not cynical. Each of my paintings had to be unique, singular and visionary. I turned to nature, and nature led me to the flower."

- Jaime Arredondo

Flowers Engage ALL OF OUR SENSES

As you wander through this beautiful garden of paintings, one cannot help but notice the vibrant colors. But, flowers also have a texture. Some are smooth, some are bumpy. Flowers also have a smell. Some smell wonderful and sweet! Can you imagine what some of these flowers smell or feel like?

This is a painting by famous French Impressionist painter, Édouard Manet (1832-1883). It is called *Still Life, Lilac Bouquet*, and was painted in 1883. Lilacs smell amazing! They are also thought to symbolize the early stages of love.



Find a painting of a flower that smells the sweetest!
Write down the title and see if you can sketch it.

title

YOU
DRAW
IT!

FUN FACT! Many people confuse the two artists, Édouard Manet and Claude Monet. Both were French and active in the late 1800s, both painted in the Impressionist style, and both painted flowers! Monet is especially known for his series of large paintings of water lilies created in his garden and studio at Giverny, France.

The POWERFUL Presence OF POSIES through the Periods

2000 - 100 BCE

BEFORE PHOTOGRAPHY, PEOPLE WANTED TO CAPTURE THE BEAUTY OF NATURE AND THE ESSENCE OF TIME IN ART. Flowers and floral designs began showing up on Ancient Egyptian murals and then later in Roman artworks. Romans began recording everyday objects such as flowers in their murals, much like photography.



Ancient Egyptian mosaic, 1550-1295 BCE



Pyxis (box), Geometric period, c. 900 BCE, Greek art



Buckle, 2nd century BCE; European Iron Age, Celto-Iberian



Roman fresco from Boscoreale, 43-30 BCE, Metropolitan Museum of Art



250-900 AD

THE MAYA OFTEN CAPTURED FLOWERS IN THEIR ARTWORK

as seen here on a vessel for a sacred drink made from chocolate and spices, similar to hot cocoa.

During the 1300s, Italian artists used the same types of floral design to decorate even their book pages. This is the time frame that books were first being produced and each page was a work of art!



Flower of Quararibea species (pictured on top) painted on Maya clay vessel, 250-900 AD (bottom)



Assumption of the Virgin in an Initial V, ca. 1340. Leaf from an antiphony (book of choral music) Niccolò di ser Sozzo



1400-1600s

ISLAMIC ART HAS MANY FLORAL PATTERNS AND DESIGNS, however they hold no symbolic meaning like many other cultures. These patterns were used solely for their beautiful aesthetic appeal.

IN THE MIDDLE AGES IN EUROPE, HOWEVER, flowers were often painted for specific symbolism.

Here are two examples found in Islamic art that used many varieties of beautiful scrolling floral designs.



Shapur Ibishapur Anhalt carpet, mid-16th



Fragmentary Loom width with wavy-vine pattern, ca. 1565-80, Ottoman Period, Islamic Art



This painting uses flowers in a very subtle detail. In the bottom right corner, we see a vase of lilies. These flowers represented the Virgin's purity. This type of religious symbolism connected with flowers was widely used during this time period, and still is!

The Annunciation, Hans Memling, 1480-89

Many Asian cultures also revere nature and give significance to flowers and the attributes they represent.

In the Japanese painting to the right, we see the orchid that represents purity of heart, loyalty, and integrity. Cherry blossoms, plum blossoms, and chrysanthemums were and still are widely represented in Asian artwork.



Orchids and Rocks, Muromachi period (1392-1573), Gyokuen



The 16th century brought about the Renaissance and new scientific techniques and artistic sensibilities. Artists desired to show complete realism in a documentary, almost photographic manner, seen in this Albrecht Dürer painting. New species of flowers were painted and documented, and became very popular. However, eventually artists got bored with replication painting. They wanted to experiment with styles, stage and manipulate objects, as well as show emotion within their paintings.

The Large Piece of Turf, Albrecht Dürer, 1503

Mid 1800s - Present

BEGINNING WITH THE IMPRESSIONIST MOVEMENT IN THE 19TH CENTURY, ARTISTS BEGAN TO EXPERIMENT WITH COLORS AND BRUSHSTROKES.

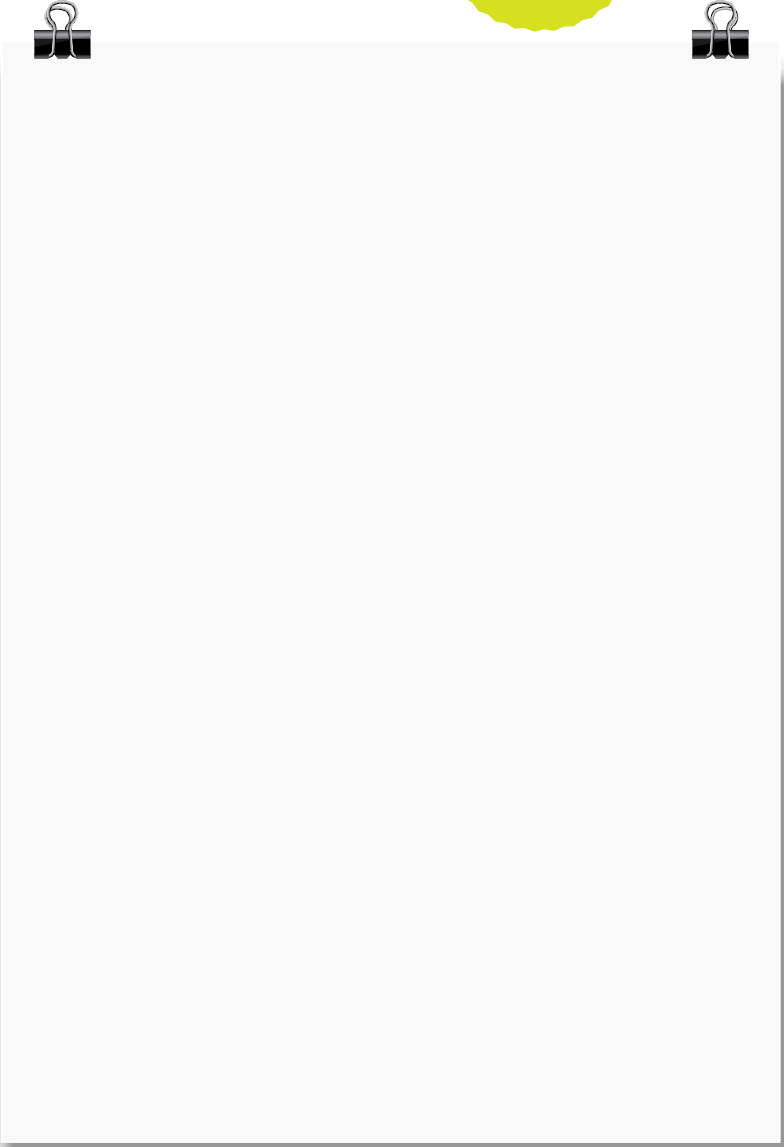
This is seen in the works of Claude Monet, Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Cezanne. In the 20th century, artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe began to depict flowers in a more abstract manner, but other artists such as Jaime Arredondo returned to the floral still life in a traditional, yet completely modern way.

Look for paintings by all of these artists listed above in this Guide.



Why do you think artists began painting and drawing flowers? They wanted to capture their beauty and that moment in time. Cameras and smartphones have not always been around! What is your favorite flower? Try drawing it here in the box.

YOU
DRAW
IT!



What's in a Name?

Unscramble these jumbled letters to discover the names of some beautiful flowers:

- 1. isdya _ _ _ _ _
- 2. ueptnai _ _ _ _ _
- 3. rseo _ _ _ _ _
- 4. pulti _ _ _ _ _
- 5. yill _ _ _ _ _
- 6. pypop _ _ _ _ _
- 7. servi _ _ _ _ _
- 8. hicrod _ _ _ _ _
- 9. werlof _ _ _ _ _
- 10. syapn _ _ _ _ _

Use the labels on the paintings for help. A couple of these words are found in the descriptions of Jaime Arredondo's paintings and in the *Family Gallery Guide*.



Flowers in Nature

Think about what you see when you see flowers outside in nature. Do you see different kinds of bugs on or around flowers growing outside? Some bugs are very helpful to flowers and keep them healthy and strong, like ladybugs. Notice the bugs in this detailed painting. Some artists painted objects to document the world around them. These paintings were like a science journal since they did not yet have photography.

The painting shown here was painted in 1594 by a Flemish artist, Joris Hoefnagel (1542-1601). He was very important in starting the idea of painting flowers in this kind of style, called a still life. The objects are placed, or staged, by the artist and then painted. They were trying to capture a moment of time. At the same time, artists were expressing the passing of time and each object had symbolic meaning. For example, the rose buds shown in this painting show youth or a beginning while the opening rose shows the passage of time and the aging process of the flower.

Flower Still Life with Insects,
Joris Hoefnagel, 1594



What kind of bug would you draw on this giant flower?
Where would you place it?
You are the artist!

YOU
COLOR
IT!



Make your (BOOK)MARK

Flowers and floral designs were used by artists in the Middle Ages to illustrate and decorate hand-written books called illuminated manuscripts. Luminous colors and real gold and silver were used to embellish the pages like the one in the picture below. Note the design of the beginning letter. It would almost fill the space of the entire first page!



Romanesque interlace “inhabited” with figures from an illuminated manuscript, England, 1190-1200

Can you make a bookmark in this style? Use the first letter of your first or last name and get started filling in with floral scrolls and designs.

YOU
DESIGN
IT!



FUN FACT! Illuminated manuscripts were produced in monasteries by monks. They worked in a special writing room called the Scriptorium. The monks who copied religious texts and works of classical learning were called clerics or scribes. Monks who produced the artwork were called Illuminators.

COLORFUL COMBINATIONS

Compare these two paintings. One is by **Vincent van Gogh**, a Dutch artist (1853-1890), painted in 1886. The other is by exhibition artist, **Jaime Arredondo**, painted in 2009. Note how both use the complementary colors of red and green to make their flowers pop out of the canvas. Artists love to play with color combinations to make their paintings more vibrant and dimensional.



**can you
see how
the colors
work so well
together?**



Poppies, Vincent Van Gogh, 1886



Electric Blue II, Jaime Arredondo, 2009

FUN FACT!

Poppies were used by the Greeks as a tribute to the goddess of fertility and the hunt. In modern times, poppies represent sleep or rest. (Remember the poppy fields in “Wizard of Oz”.... they made everyone go to sleep!)





Vase of Sunflowers,
Henri Matisse, 1898

Another artist that experimented with colors and flowers is the French artist, **Henri Matisse** (1869-1954). These two paintings show how he liked to change and play with colors. He began painting in a realistic color scheme but then began to experiment with colors as design elements as well as to add emotion.

can you see how his style of painting flowers changed?

FUN FACT!

In 1961, *Matisse's Le Bateau (The Boat)* hung upside-down for 2 months in the Museum of Modern Art, New York – none of the 116,000 visitors had noticed.



The Plum Blossoms,
Henri Matisse, 1948





COLOR EXPLORATIONS

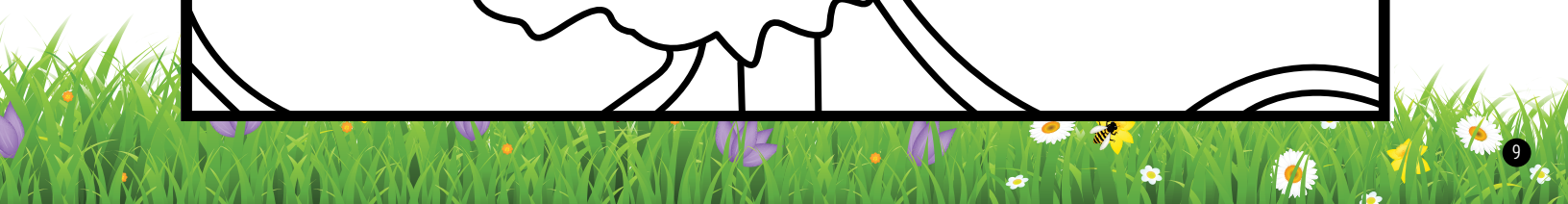
If you could change the colors of this beautiful flower and the background, what would you choose?

FUN FACT!

Vincent Van Gogh would often trade his paintings for food. He only sold one his entire lifetime and he painted 900! In 2007, one of his paintings sold for 39.7 million dollars.

YOU
COLOR
IT!

Rosa Seria (Serious Rose)
Jaime Arredondo, 2002



POP GOES the color

Artists through the years have painted flowers for scientific study, to decorate a wide variety of objects, and to add meaning and symbolism to an object. They have also experimented with flowers as their subject in changing their colors, arranging them in different ways, and exploding them into giant shapes. American artist, **Andy Warhol**, known for his Pop Art paintings also experimented with flowers.

Flowers, Andy Warhol, 1964



How would you draw these flowers and what colors would you choose? The bright colors really stand out on the green grass background.

YOU
DRAW
IT!



compare and contrast

Sometimes artists like the work of other artists so much they begin to experiment with their own version of that style. **Georgia O'Keeffe** was an American artist who lived between 1887-1986 and is known for her paintings of bold, abstracted flowers. Her work has had an influence on many artists. Can you see some similarities between her painting (below) and the painting by **Jaime Arredondo**?



Jimson Weed, White Flower #1,
Georgia O'Keeffe, 1932



El Gordito (Little Fat One),
Jaime Arredondo, 2006

FUN FACT!

This particular painting by O'Keeffe sold at auction in 2014 for \$44.4 million dollars making her the highest selling woman in art.



DO they look similar to you?
What are some differences?

Hispanic Heritage: Mexican Icons of Art

Frida Kahlo was a Mexican painter who lived between 1907-1954. She often used flowers in her paintings as a tribute to her heritage. In this painting of magnolias, she hid a calla lily as a tribute to her husband, **Diego Rivera**, also a Mexican artist. Perhaps this was her version of a “shout out” to her husband. **Can you find it? It is hiding!**

The calla lily is considered a sensual, sculptural flower as well as a quintessential example of Mexico’s cheerful flora. The calla lily was celebrated by Diego Rivera many times, particularly in frescoes depicting peasants carrying bundles or offerings of them.

Like Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, **Jaime Arredondo** uses flowers in his art as a powerful expression of connection to his culture.

The Flowerseller,
Diego Rivera, 1941



Magnolias, Frida Kahlo, 1945

FUN FACT!

In Ancient Egyptian art, there is a well-known bust/sculpture of Queen Nefertiti, queen to Pharaoh Akhenaton, which depicts her with a musing expression and her carved delicate contour resembles a flower on a long stalk much like the calla lilies shown here.



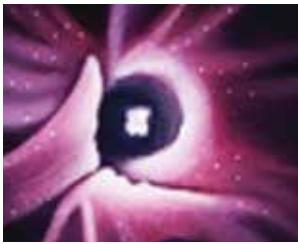
Bust of Nefertiti,
Thutmose,
1345 BCE, Egypt

scavenger hunt

Can you match the painting with the detail?
The detailed images are from 5 different paintings in the exhibition.
GOOD LUCK and have fun!



name the painting



name the painting



name the painting



name the painting



name the painting





coloring craziness

Have fun experimenting with this line drawing!
Fill in the colors!

Here's the original.
Which colors will you choose?

Gotas de Amor (Drops of Love),
Jaime Arredondo, 2005



Tulip mania

Paul Cezanne (1839-1906) was a French painter that paid very close attention to lines and shapes. He was influenced by Impressionism but experimented more with planes of color and short, repetitive brushstrokes to create the shapes and lines in his paintings. **Jaime Arredondo** looks closely at shapes and lines too. Cezanne liked to paint tulips and so does Arredondo. **Look closely at the image and see if you can sketch 4 details from the painting in these 4 boxes.** Think about the details you saw in the Scavenger Hunt. Can you do the same for this painting?



Tulips in a Vase, Paul Cezanne, 1892

YOU
DRAW
IT!



Now look at these painting of tulips. **Jaime Arredondo** has many paintings of tulips in the exhibition. Note how every artist paints in a different style and technique. This painting is by another French artist, **Claude Monet** (1840-1926), who was an influence on Jaime Arredondo. He painted in a style called Impressionism.

Does it look the same as all of the other tulips you have seen?

Three Pots of Tulips,
Claude Monet, 1883



Hot Tulip, Jaime Arredondo, 2009

FUN FACT!

Claude Monet's father wanted him to sell groceries instead of becoming an artist.

What is Tulip mania?

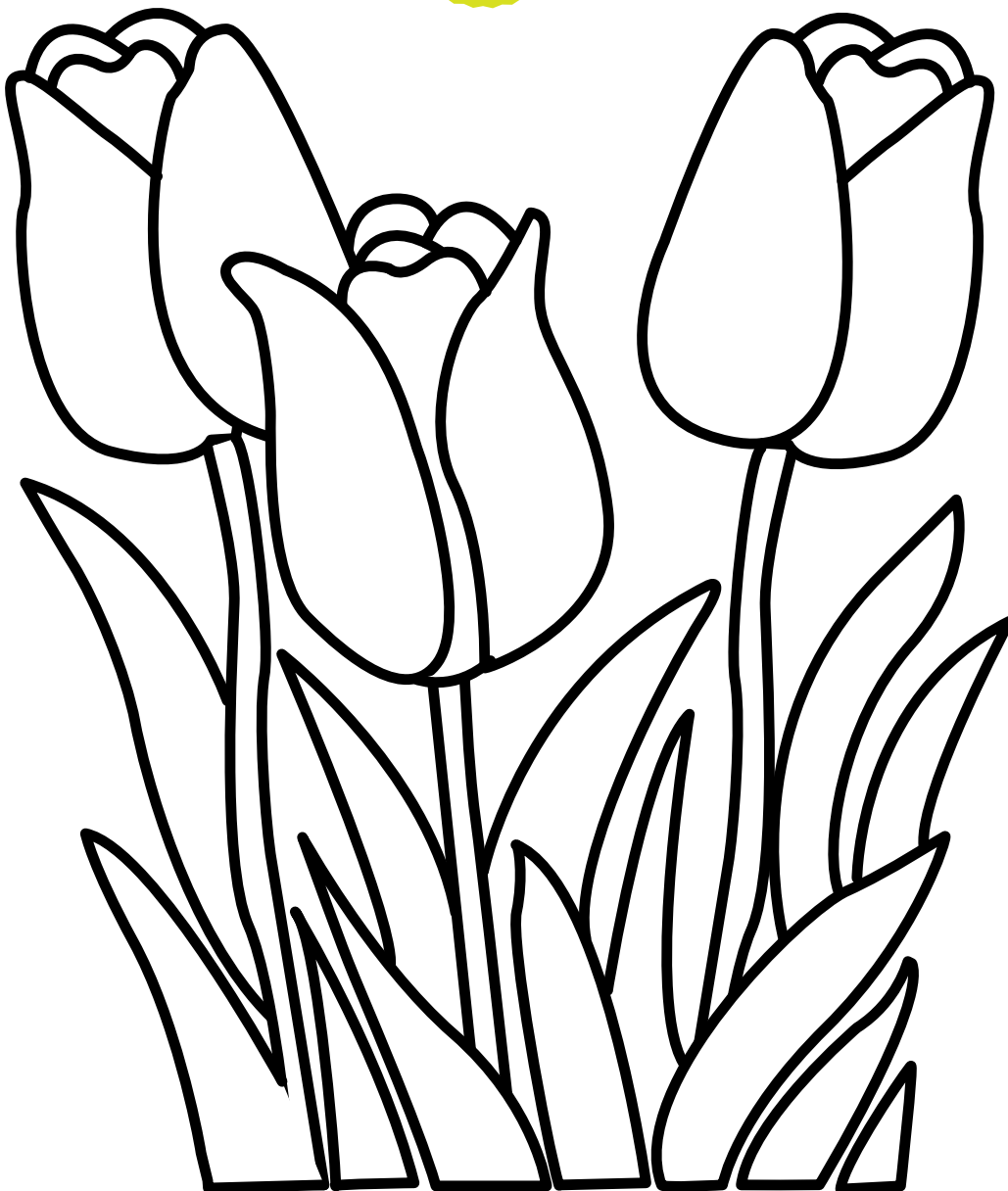
Tulip mania was a period in the Dutch Golden Age during which prices for tulip bulbs reached extraordinarily high levels and then suddenly collapsed.

At the peak of tulip mania, in March 1637, some single tulip bulbs sold for more than 10 times the annual income of a skilled craftsman. It is generally considered the first recorded speculative or economic bubble. The term “tulip mania” is now often used metaphorically to refer to any large economic bubble.

your Tulip mania

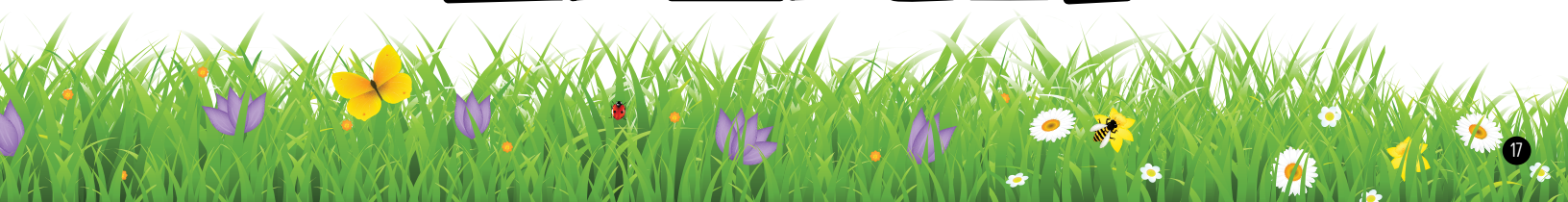
Your turn at creating colorful tulips.

YOU
COLOR
IT!



FUN FACT!

Tulips are usually associated with Holland, but they are originally from Central Asia (present day Turkey).



Flowers and The Divine

Flowers are closely associated with the Virgin of Guadalupe. The early accounts surround her presence and appearance with the flowers, Castilian roses. They represent her purity and love.



Virgin of Guadalupe, Isidro Escamilla, 1824

“In Mesoamerican culture, the flower operates not as decorative device as in the Western world but comprises aspects of a dual character, recollecting moments of the living and of the after-life. They act not as items of embellishment but as portals to gain access of the sacred and divine.”

~ Jaime Arredondo

YOU
FIND
IT!

Can you find this flower in the virgin of Guadalupe painting above?



Diamond Galaxia, Jaime Arredondo, 2009-2015





This is the Hindu goddess, Lakshmi, who is very closely associated with the lotus flower, and her many epithets are connected to the flower. She represents wealth and fortune.

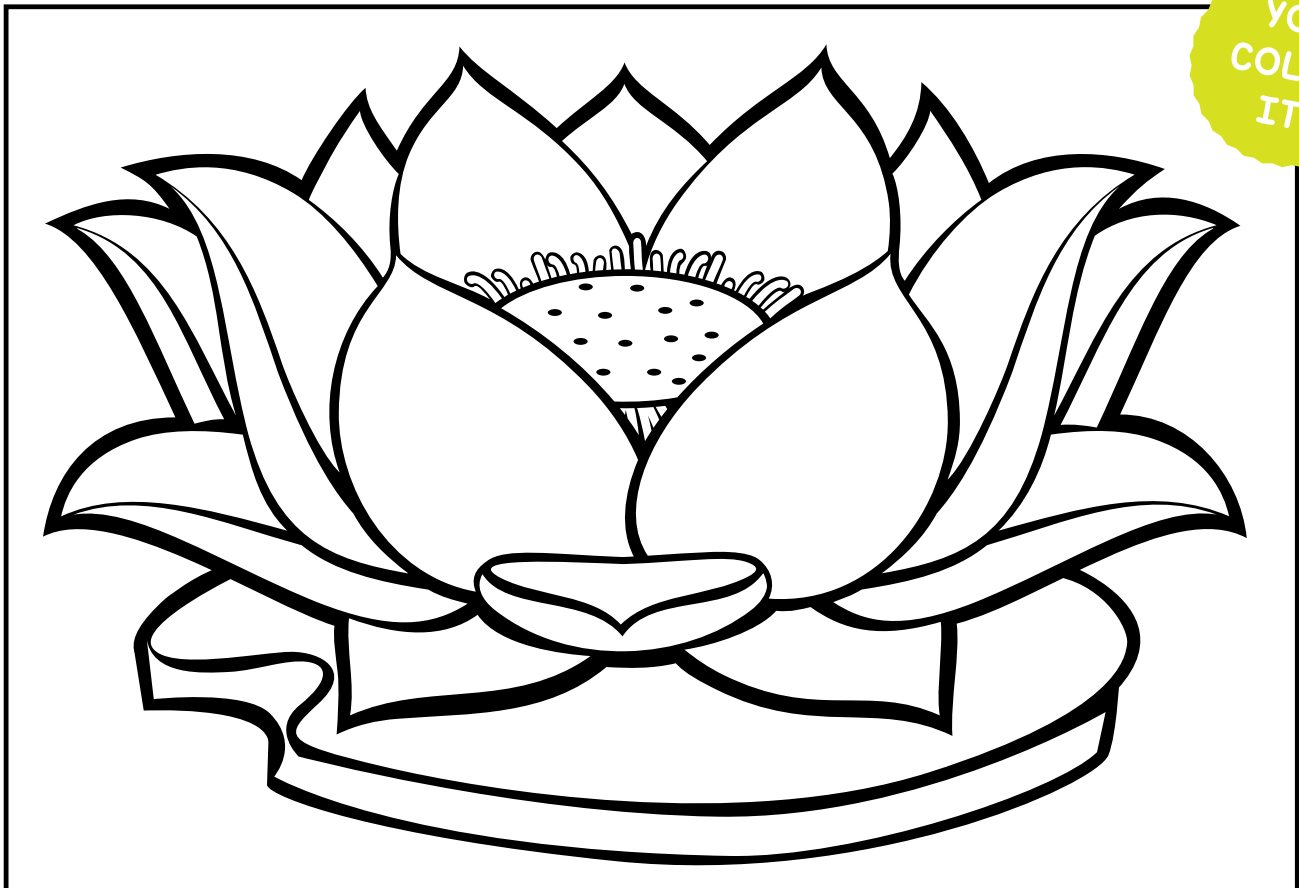
Flowers are once again used to represent the divine.

What will you do with this lotus flower?



Lakshmi, Raja Ravi Varma

**YOU
COLOR
IT!**



Flowers for Remembrance & Tradition

The **Day of the Dead** (Dia de los Muertos) is a Mexican holiday that falls on November 1st and 2nd of each year. Families of all ages honor and celebrate their loved ones who have passed away. They do this by building altars with flowers and sugar skulls, as well as food and drinks. The tradition dates back several hundred years.

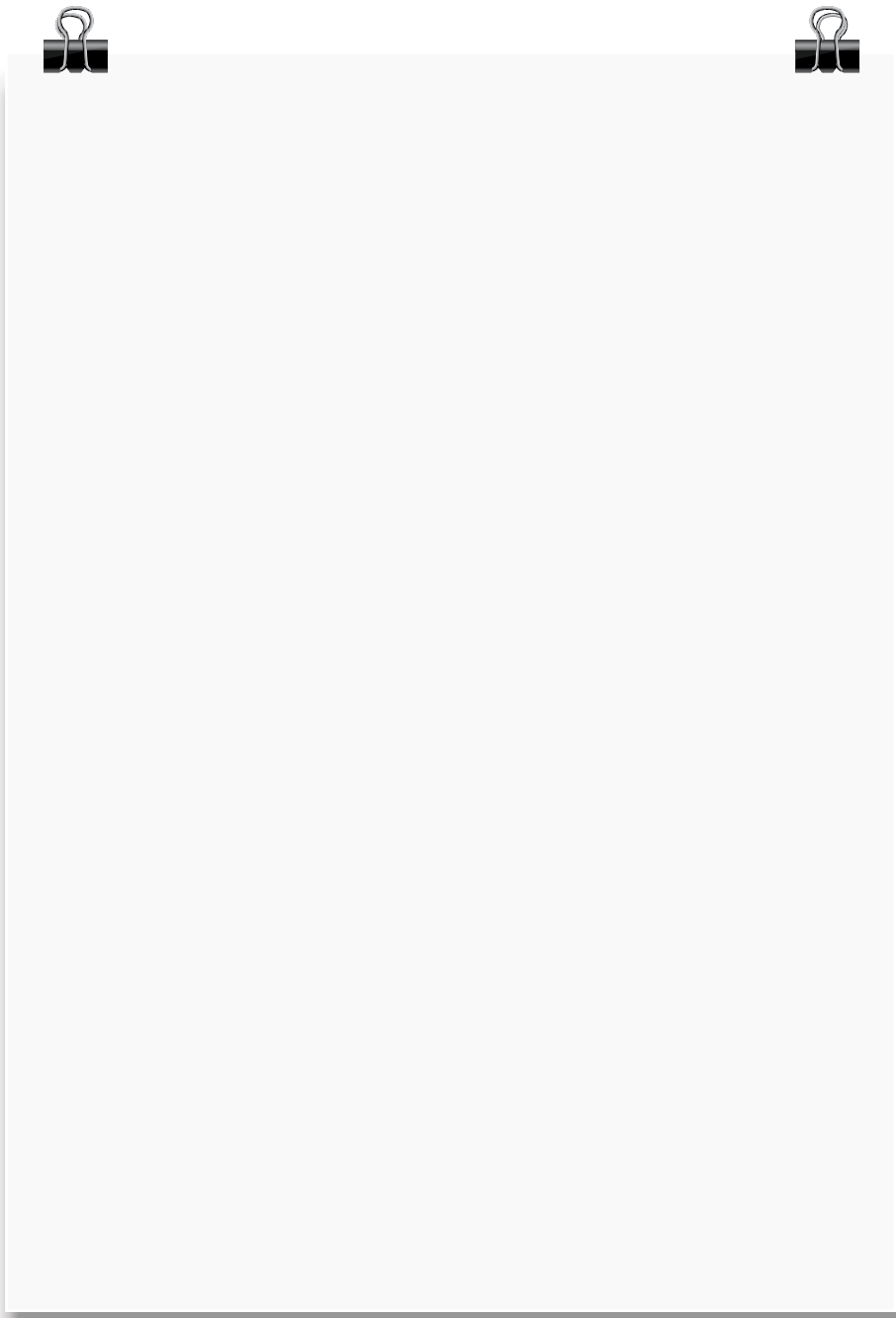
Day of the Dead sugar skulls show up in many places during this celebration. In Mexican culture, skulls continue to symbolize death and rebirth. The marigolds represent the flower of the dead in Mexico. These flowers are thought to attract souls of the dead to the offerings.



Sugar skulls and marigolds
Photo: Glen van Etten

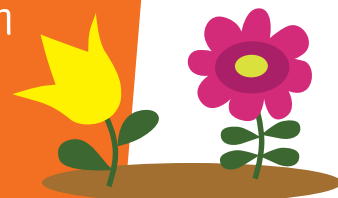
challenge – can you find a flower by artist, Jaime Arredondo that closely resembles the orange flowers in the photo? Draw it in your own style when you find it.

YOU DRAW IT!



“Native peoples view the flower as living symbols of memory, faith, and spirit, concrete artifacts by which we may tap into the lives of our ancestors.”

~Jaime Arredondo



Catrina, by Jose Guadalupe Posada



YOU
COLOR
IT!

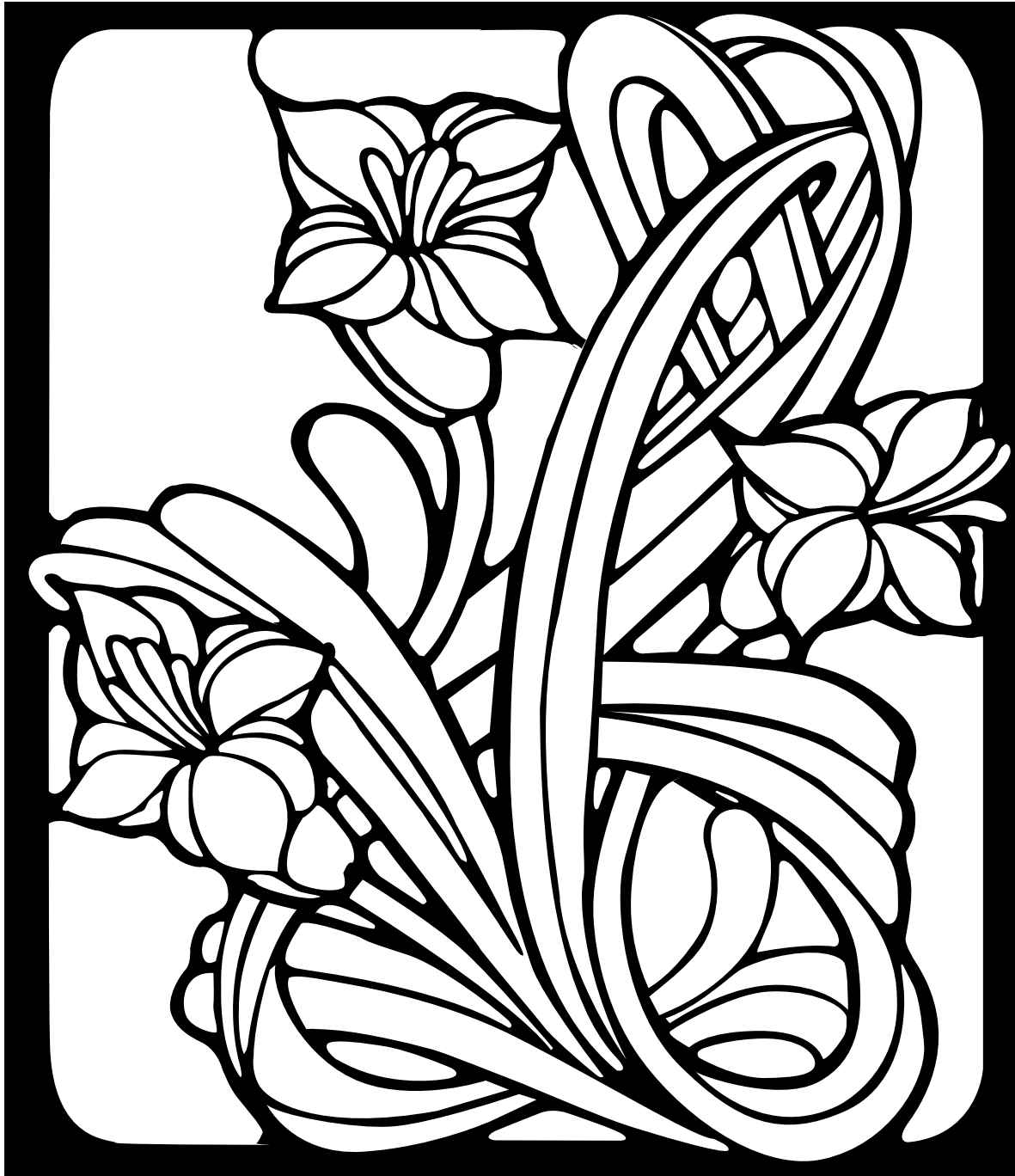
Maybe you can add
some color to this
Day of the Dead
celebration picture!
The flowers on the
hat need color!



COLORFUL CURVES

YOU
COLOR
IT!

Fill in this Art Nouveau style of drawing flowers. Do you like this curving, stylized form of art? This art movement developed in 1890-1910 and used curved lines inspired by nature and Celtic art. You can see this use of curved lines in the background of some of Jaime Arredondo's paintings, such as "El Tigre" and "Rosa Seria". He was influenced by this style as well as the Baroque, a style of art and architecture that began in late 17th century Italy. It is also characterized by a strong sense of movement, flowing curves and swirling spirals.



Art Nouveau Stained Glass pattern of a lily.



OUT OF THIS WORLD

Many artists use flowers as their subjects. We can see just from the images in this Family Guide that there are many ways to depict flowers!



Star Flower, James Surls, 2008

This is **Irving Arts center's very own "Star Flower"!**

You can find it in our Sculpture Garden. It was made by the artist **James Surls**, an internationally-renowned artist whose abstract sculptures blend natural forms with powerful archetypal imagery.

What about the petals of the flowers in "Star Flower"? They look a little bit like blades on a propeller, don't they? The choice of materials for this sculpture (bronze and stainless steel) are also a contrast to the organic expectation of a flower.

All of these things show us flowers in an unexpected format. It makes them interesting!



can you see some similarities between this painting by Jaime Arredondo and the sculpture by James Surls?

Cosmic Yellow, Jaime Arredondo, 2006



White Trespasser, Jaime Arredondo, 2006

The use of dark backgrounds in these works pushes the flower forward to give it greater three-dimensionality and undeniable presence. With the use of stars in the background I have depicted flowers as if floating in a cosmic landscape, a landscape that moves and swirls in a spatial timelessness. *-Jaime Arredondo*



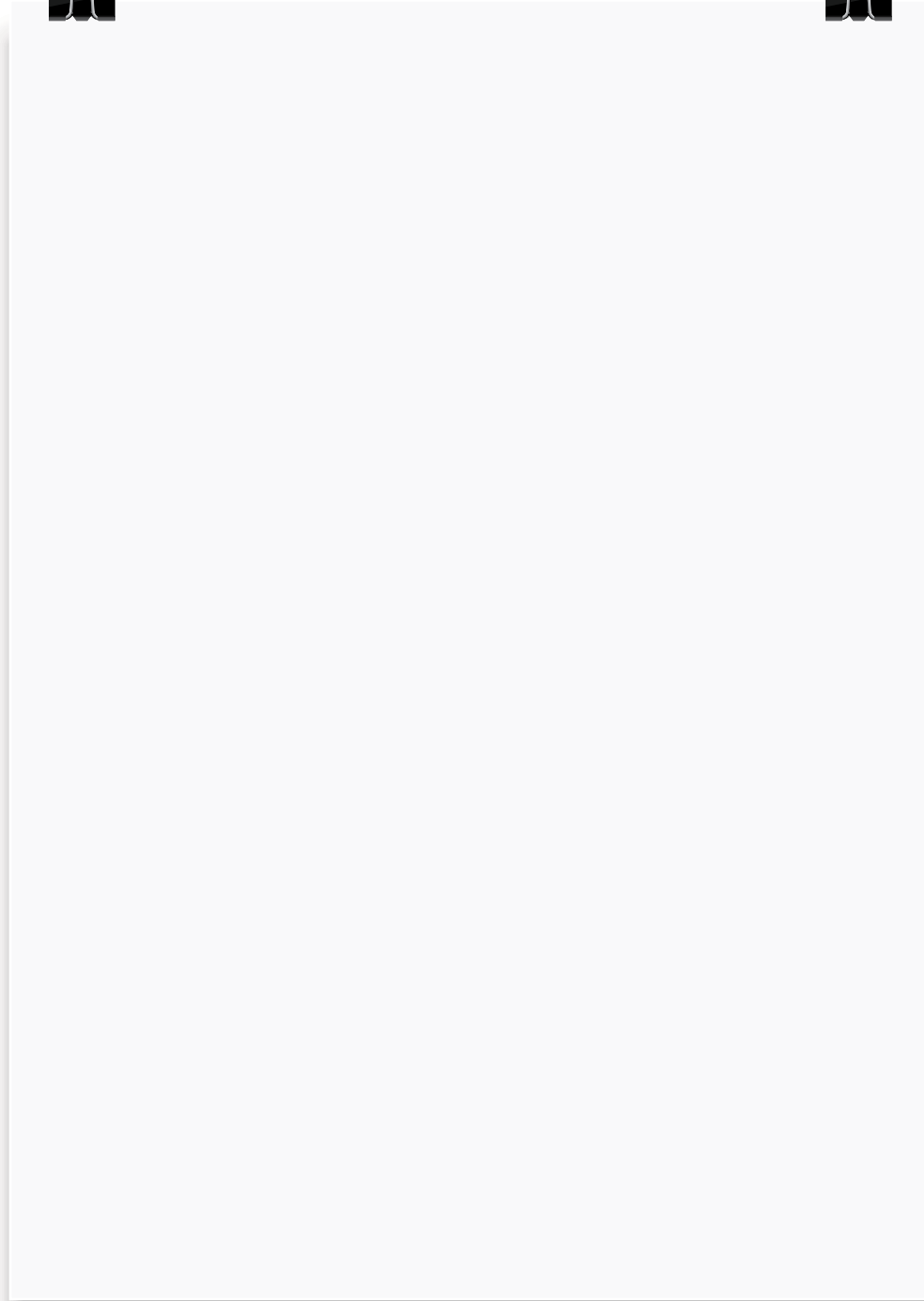
Think about the “Star Flower” sculpture and the “Cosmic Yellow” painting from the previous page. Are some things about all three of these artworks flower-like, but then some NOT flower-like? Look at the background of the painting. Does it look like outer space with stars? Could the daisy in this painting be “trespassing” in another galaxy? What are some other things you see? These two paintings are not shown in the grassy outdoors like the Andy Warhol painting, nor are they set up as a still life painting.





unexpected Flower Fun

How would you draw a daisy in an unexpected way?



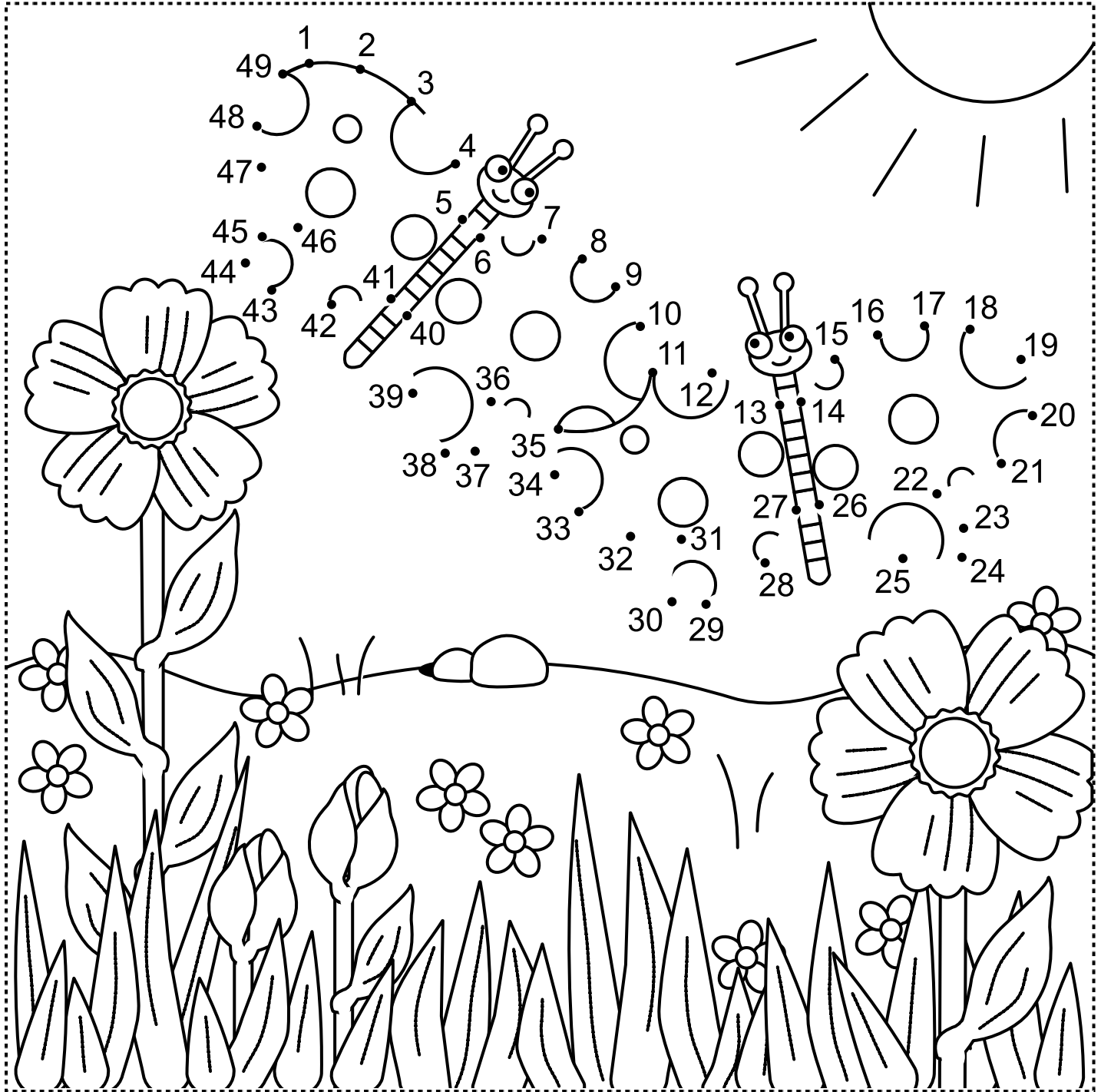
FUN FACT! Egyptian ceramics found in excavation sites in Crete show that they decorated their ceramics with daisies even 4,000 years ago.



connect the dots!

Draw a line from dot number 1 to dot number 2, then from dot number 2 to dot number 3, 3 to 4, and so on. Continue to join the dots until you have connected all the numbered dots. Then color the picture!

YOU
DRAW
IT!



FURTHER FLORAL EXPLORATIONS

Keep exploring and check out your local library or bookstore for these recommended books:

YOUNGER READERS:

In the Garden with Van Gogh by Julie Merbeg

Camille and the Sunflowers: A Story about Vincent Van Gogh by Laurence Anholt

Frida Kahlo: The Artist Who Painted Herself by Margaret Frith, illustrated by Tomi dePaola

Flowers in Art (What Makes a Masterpiece?) by Brigitte Baumbusch

Through Georgia's Eyes by Rachel Victoria Rodriguez, illustrated by Julie Paschkis

Diego Rivera: His World and Ours by Duncan Tonatiuh

Matisse's Garden by Samantha Friedman
Come Look with Me, Latin American Art by Kimberly Lane

The Magical Garden of Claude Monet by Laurence Anholt

Paper Crafts for Day of the Dead by Randel McGee

Clatter Bash!: A Day of the Dead Celebration by Richard Keep

What's in the Name of Flowers by Peter Limburg

Flowers (Eyewitness Explorers Series) by David Burnie

Ava's Poppy by Marcus Pfister

OLDER READERS:

Freaky Flowers, D.M. Souza

Here is My Kingdom: Hispanic-American Literature and Art for Young People (H. N. Abrams, 1994)

Draw 50 Flowers, Trees and Other Plants: The Step-by-Step Way to Draw Orchids, Weeping Willows, etc... by Lee J. Ames and P. Lee Ames

ADULT

Flowers in Art (National Gallery of Art Series) by Ljiljana Ortolja-Baird

Full Bloom: The Art and Life of Georgia O'Keeffe by Hunter Drohojowska-Philip

The Language of Flowers Coloring Book for Adults by John Green

Working Among Flowers: Floral Still-Life Painting in Nineteenth-Century France, (Yale University Press)

Frida Kahlo's Garden by Adriana Zavala and New York Botanical Gardens

Folklore and Symbolism of Flowers, Plants, and Trees (Illustrated Edition) by Ernst Lehner and Johanna Lehner

Monet's Passion: Ideas, Inspirations, and Insights from the Painter's Garden by Elizabeth Murray



Now this was a beautiful book! Note the floral design in the decorative interlacing pattern IN GOLD....not suitable for any backpack!

The 11th century *Tyniec Sacramentary* was written with gold on purple background.



Orchids have a symmetry that is very similar to the human face.
Look closely and see if it is looking back at you!



Dracula,
Jaime Arredondo,
1998



FUN FACT!
Petunia means “your presence soothes”.

Petunias, Georgia O’Keeffe, 1924

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The exhibition *The Garden of Earthly Delights: Paintings by Jaime Arredondo* is organized by the Irving Arts Center.

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Gallery admission and parking are free.