MY PORTRAIT

Look

Portraiture is a popular art form that was used throughout history to capture the appearance, wealth, personality, and even the mood of a person. Some artworks are self-portraits, meaning artists represented themselves, while others are portraits that artists made depicting others. Explore PAFA’s online collection (Click HERE and just type in the keyword “portrait” in the search).

Here are some examples that we have selected:

![Image of Joan Brown’s Self-Portrait, 1977, Oil on canvas, 84 x 72 in.]

![Image of John F. Peto’s Patch Self-Portrait with Small Pictures, n.d., Oil on canvas, 29 x 24 in.]

![Image of Louis B. Sloan’s Self-Portrait in Landscape, 1970, Oil on canvas, 48 1/4 x 42 1/4 in.]

Think

Look at each painting and think:

- What is going on in this artwork?
- What materials did the artist use?
- What time period is this person from?
- How do we know?
- Is it a self-portrait or a portrait?
  *(Hint: read the title of the work)*

- What details do you see that tell you more about this person?
- How does the artwork make you feel?
- What did the artist do to make you feel that?

Make

Feel inspired? Now it’s time to create your own self-portrait. First, think about the following questions: What is your favorite season? What is your favorite hobby? What is your favorite color?

Try to find a way to show the answers to these questions in your self-portrait, so the viewer learns more about you! For example: If my favorite season is winter, I could make a portrait of myself wearing a hat, coat, and scarf.

Pick materials that you’d like to use: crayons, color pencils, markers, collage paper, etc. Make your own self-portrait, using the second page of this activity or any paper you have at home!

Share

We would love to see what you create! Share your artwork on social media and tag @pafacademy.