VIDEO 9
The Art of Edwin J. Torres:
Creating Photographs of Your World

Caregiver Resource Guide
Bronx Children’s Museum
Dream Big Arts Enrichment Program
Awesomely You, Cool Together

Video 9: The Art of Edwin J. Torres: Creating Photographs of Your World

Program Description
The overall theme of Dream Big: Awesomely You, Cool Together is about celebrating the diversity, perseverance, and uniqueness within all of us, the similarities we all share, and the magnificent potential we have as a group when we are together dreaming big.

Video Description
Join Bronx Children’s Museum Program Manager Chris Gomez as he introduces the life and work of Bronx photographer Edwin Torres and demonstrates a photography project.

Video Link: https://www.bronxchildrensmuseum.org/db20-torres

Age/Grade: 7+ years old; 2nd-3rd Grades

Vocabulary

- Photograph: A picture made by a camera
- Edit: To change or correct something
- Silhouette: The shape or outline of something
- Horizontal/Landscape: Positioned from side to side rather than up and down
- Vertical/Portrait: Positioned up and down rather than from side to side

Materials Needed: Picture taking device: cell phone, tablet, laptop with a webcam, (disposable) camera or Polaroid

Tips for Success
- Watch the film on your own before showing it to children; identify any words or images that may require additional information or explanation.
- Prepare all the materials beforehand, and don’t be afraid to substitute for what you have available. For this project, use whatever picture-taking device you have available.
- Stop the video or replay certain moments to allow for questions or comments from the children.

Before You Watch...
- Group Discussion Questions: Choose a few questions from the list below to ask your children. Keeping your questions open-ended will get your children speaking more and allow them to express themselves more than a simple “yes or no” question. Offer your own answer to the question as a way to model conversation!
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- What makes you YOU? How are you different or similar to other kids your age?
- If you could take a photograph that shows who you are, or that shows your community, what photograph would you take? Why?
- Remind children that creating beautiful art takes time! Watch the video first, and create the self-portraits after.

After You Watch...

- Have children complete the self-portrait activity. Feel free to create your own alongside your child(ren)!
- Group Discussion Questions: Select a few questions to ask children about their experiences creating their self-portrait.
  - What objects, colors, or symbols did you add to your photograph and why?
  - What do you want the world to know about you through your photograph?
  - What edits did you make to your photograph after you took it? Why?
  - What are your big dreams for the future?
- Sharing
  - Ask children to explain the process of creating their artwork in sequential order: “First I did this...then I did this...”
  - Ask children to share their artwork with others (via live meet-ups, Google classroom, FlipGrid, etc.). Encourage each child to give comments on one thing they liked and one thing they would like to see more of in the artwork of at least one other person.

Dream Big! Exhibition Gallery

Share your child’s big dreams and artwork in the Dream Big! Online exhibition. Take a picture of your child’s artwork or make a video of them showing and talking about their work. Ask them questions like:
- How did you create this artwork?
- What symbols, images or colors did you add to your self-portrait and why?
- What do you want the world to know about you through your self-portrait?
- What are your big dreams for the future?

Upload your artwork here: www.bronxchildrensmuseum.org/dreambig2

For more information, contact:
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