

# Exhibition Resources for Middle and High School Teachers

# About the Exhibition

Each of the nine regional, young artists featured in this exhibition approach the subject of food through their own personal lens. Some of the artists in the show use food symbols as metaphors for home, memory, or time like West Louisville native Dr. Jabani Bennett's self-portrait in an urban landscape, artist and activist Shauntrice Martin's altar-like paintings with plates and vessels, and IU Southeast graduate Stashia Smyrichinsky's videos featuring food as a prop in the performance of life.

Some focus on the way that food brings comfort, even if it's a daydream--like Southern Indiana native Brick Kyle's dreamy photographs inspired vintage advertisements of food and drink, or painter Lori Larusso's and glass artist Olivia Lantz's peculiarly artificial confections. Artist and food justice activist Taylor Sanders' chandelier of empty grocery bags is a stark contrast to these alluring images, their towering height in the East Gallery underline just how out-of-reach these luxuries can be for many.

In the Newkirk Gallery, 2022 CCAH Artist in Residence Kacey Slone and Pulitzer-Prize winning photojournalist Jon Cherry place a spotlight on agriculture, with Cherry's documentation of Black farmers in Kentucky and Slone's sculptural musings on her rural Indiana upbringing, her ceramic corn cobs marking the passing of time.

Thank you to the other artists and members of the community that contributed to the featured wall of small works by pondering the question: What does food and access mean to you?

# Questions for Viewing and Discussion

The following questions can be used to guide viewing and discussion of any of the paintings or drawings in the exhibition.

- What feelings do these pieces of art bring out for you?
- What can you learn about the artists from viewing this exhibition?
- How does the imagery used in these works relate to the idea of food access and insecurity?
- · What is your favorite work in the exhibition and why?
- What questions would you like to be able to ask the artists to know more about a specific piece of art or the exhibition as a whole?
- How do the pieces in the exhibition connect with your relationship with food?
- · What does food and access mean to you?



Jon Cherry, Dr. Nancy Dawson

### Activities

#### Food Insecurity Research and Infographic (Social Studies)

For many people around the country food pantries are depended on to meet nutritional needs because of food insecurity. Have students do research into food insecurity across the country and/or <u>Indiana</u> using information from the <u>USDA</u>, <u>Feeding America</u>, the information from around the exhibition, and any other outside resources to create an engaging <u>infographic</u> (using Canva or other software of your choice) presenting the information found about food insecurity in a specific area or the country as a whole. To extend this have students brainstorm ways that the nutritional needs of all people can be met and the instances of food insecurity can decrease. This could be added to the bottom of the infographic or could be a longer writing exercise as well.

#### Community Art Call (Art-Making/Language Arts)

One of the ten artists in the exhibition is the community and was curated through an open call for art. Have students create a two-dimensional artwork that illustrates what food and access means to them. Some research into food access in their local community (see activity above) could be helpful for students to flesh-out their ideas and feelings toward food and their access to it. This could also include poetry or prose composed by students.

#### Volunteer Opportunities (Service Learning)

Our community has many resources to help those need food gain access to it. Have students view the <u>list of food pantries and community kitchens</u> and contact the organizations to inquire about volunteer opportunities. This would be especially helpful to students if your school requires a certain number of volunteer hours as part of class/graduation requirements.

#### Egg Tempera Painting (Art-Making)

Have students create their own paint out of egg yolks, white vinegar, water, and food coloring. Students can work in groups to create their own paints and work on color-mixing or can work independently. For each color of paint that students create they will need one egg yolk, a small amount of white vinegar to keep the paint from smelling, food coloring, and some water to thin out the mixture as needed. Liquid or gel food coloring works well but any pigment can be used. Combine all of the ingredients in a small bowl or cup and mix them until they are well combined. Have students use their paints on watercolor paper or canvas to create a work that is food-related. A video tutorial for younger kids can be found here.

## Additional Resources and Artist Websites

Ate x 10 Webpage

carnegiecenter.org/exhibitions/ate-x-10/

Information from the Carnegie Center about Ate x 10 as well as other events at the museum

NYT Magazine Article (Pay Wall)

nytimes.com/2018/11/29/t-magazine/food-as-art.html

Profile of artists using food as art

Feast in Floyd Community Cookbook

floydlibrary.org/indiana-history-room/community-cookbook/

Let Us Learn

facebook.com/letuslearnky

New Albany non profit focused on growing food to build a healthier community

Jon Cherry Shauntrice Martin jonpcherry.com/ chahtanoir.org

Lori Larusso Dr. Jabani Bennett

<u>lorilarusso.com/</u> Instagram: <u>@dr.jabani</u>

Taylor Sanders Olivia Lantz

<u>taylorsandersart.com/</u> <u>olivialantz.squarespace.com</u>

Kacey Slone Stashia Smyrichinsky

<u>kaceyslone.com/</u> <u>stashia.art/</u>

Brick Kyle

brickdkyle.com/

## About Us

The Carnegie Center for Art & History is one of Southern Indiana's cultural cornerstones. Housed in New Albany's original library building, the Carnegie Center has ongoing exhibits about the history of the Underground Railroad in the region and the remarkable life story of celebrated Civil War nurse Lucy Higgs Nichols. The Carnegie also features rotating exhibitions of contemporary local, national, and international art in a wide range of visual mediums, as well as many opportunities for hands-on learning.

As a branch of the Floyd County Library, the Carnegie Center supports the growth and creativity of an engaged, informed, and connected community. Those tenets form the basis of the Carnegie Center's creation of quality programming for both youth and adults. Admission is always free as part of our dedication to community accessibility and inclusivity. Visit or schedule a tour on Mondays through Saturdays, and join us for special programs on Thursday evenings.

201 E. Spring Street, New Albany, IN 47150 812-944-7336 -- www.carnegiecenter.org Monday-Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.





