

# MICRO-ARTMAKING LESSONS

Inspired by [2022 Faculty Biennial](#)

## SEASONS AND THE SENSES

### 2022 FACULTY BIENNIAL

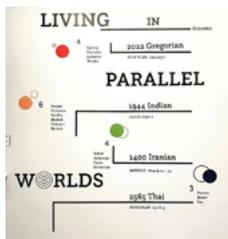
This activity is inspired by artworks featured in the *2022 Faculty Biennial* that reference the seasons, nature, and the passing of time. Take a moment to explore the [exhibition](#). How many artworks can you find that incorporate these themes? What materials and techniques have the artists used? How do these choices impact your understanding of the work? Do the colors, textures, and patterns remind you of a time, place, or experience? What sights, sounds, tastes, and smells do you associate with what you see?

**Step 1:** Using the template below, write a poem in response to senses you associate with your favorite season.

**Step 2:** Sculpt symbols using air-dry or polymer clay to represent each line in your poem. A symbol is an image or an object that stands for an idea or a feeling, such as a heart for love. Consider ways you could represent sounds, tastes, and smells through your use of colors and shapes. Think of textures and patterns that remind you of your favorite season and explore ways to include them in your sculptures.

**Step 3:** Use poster board to design a base to hold your sculptures. Explore different ways to arrange your sculptures. Try combining them in the order of your poem or in a way that tells a story. Reference works by [Tyler Lotz](#) for inspiration. Consider ways you could incorporate your poem into your design such as writing it directly onto the poster board, creating words using the clay, or by scratching words into the surface of the clay.

**Step 4:** Photograph your work and share it with us on Instagram by tagging us at [#universitygalleriesisu](#).



Ladan Bahmani, Archana Shekara, and Annie Sungkajun, [Parallel Worlds](#), 2022 and ongoing. Vinyl, augmented reality, digital print, and video. Courtesy of the artists.



Laura Primozi George, [Overgrowth](#), 2021. Ceramic, concrete, and flocking. Courtesy of the artist.



Tyler Lotz, [Collegiates](#), 2019. Ceramic and epoxy. Courtesy of the artist.

### SEASONS AND THE SENSES POEM

Take a moment to envision what you see, taste, touch, and smell during your favorite season. Write a poem in response using the following format:

**Line 1:** One word about your favorite season

**Line 2:** Two to three words associated with the smells and/or tastes

**Line 3:** Three to four words illustrating what you see

**Line 4:** Four to five words describing what you hear

**Line 5:** One word for the overall feeling of the season

**Example:**

Summer

Suntan lotion

The waves on the shoreline

The seagulls squawking in the air

Relax

**Line 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Line 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Line 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Line 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Line 5:** \_\_\_\_\_

# EXPLORATIONS WITH LETTERFORMS

## 2022 FACULTY BIENNIAL

This activity is inspired by the utilization and manipulation of text and type fonts in artworks throughout the *2022 Faculty Biennial*. Take a moment to explore the [exhibition](#). Look for ways artists have incorporated text in their work. What characteristics do the fonts have? Are they soft and rounded? Hard and angular? Examine ways artists [Vitoria Faccin-Herman](#), [Ladan Bahmani](#) and [Brian Franklin](#), and [Michael Wille](#) have manipulated or altered text within their work. Are you still able to recognize the letters or words? At what point do they become unrecognizable?

**Step 1:** Consider a letter or letters that hold significance to you. You could choose the letters of your first and last name, a state's abbreviation such as IL, or an acronym like ISU.

**Step 2:** Use stencils to trace your chosen letters or freehand draw them onto a square piece of paper. Try varying the size and placement of your letters to create a pattern. You might try only using sections of the letters to create new letters or shapes.

**Step 3:** Use markers to complete your design. Explore shading some areas a solid color and filling others with patterns or smaller repeating letters. What shapes begin to form in the space around the letters?

### Additional constructions:

**1:** Fold your paper into an [origami box](#). In what ways has this process altered your design? Are the letters still recognizable? Do you notice new shapes, letters, or patterns? Try making multiple drawings and boxes to stack or arrange to create a pattern or form, as seen in [Vitoria Faccin-Herman's](#) work.

**2:** Inspired by [Melissa Oresky's](#) work, design a sculpture that corresponds with the patterns and colors in your letter drawing. Draw or trace two to four letters onto posterboard and cut them out. Use markers to color and draw on both sides. Cut a slit into the bottom of one letter and the top of the other at each point that they intersect. Then slide the letters together to form a free-standing sculpture to accompany your drawing.



**Vitoria Faccin-Herman**, *Pop-Mobile*, November 2021. Digital print, paper, and fishing line. *Pop-A Type-Form Exploration*, October 2021. Digital prints. Courtesy of the artist.



**\*Photograph and share your work with us on Instagram by tagging us at [#universitygalleriesisu](#).**

**Melissa Oresky**, *Fern Fabric (Yellow)*, 2021. Acrylic, graphite, wax pastel, fabric, and paper collage on canvas with artist's frame. *Fern Fabric (Ember)*, 2021. Acrylic and fabric collage on canvas with artist's frame. *Sentinel*, 2021. Foam insulation and acrylic. Courtesy of the artist.

### SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS RELEASE

The *2022 Faculty Biennial* presents work reflecting creative research by 32 faculty members and staff teaching during the 2021–2022 academic year in the Wonsook Kim School of Art and the Program in Creative Technologies. The artists in the exhibition represent the areas of Studio Art, Graphic Design, Art Education, Art History, and Creative Technologies. Featuring the mediums of ceramics, drawing, game design, glass, graphic design, installation, painting, performance, photography, printmaking, sculpture, textiles, video, and wood, the exhibition will also include artist lectures, workshops, and a performance.

Members of the faculty have exhibited their work nationally and internationally and have received support from such prestigious entities as the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Fulbright Scholar Program, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Illinois Arts Council Agency, among many others. Participants are: Veda Rives Aukerman in collaboration with Meda Rives Smith, Ladan Bahmani, Saskia Beranek, Judith Briggs, Steve Bryant, Ruth Burke, Kristin Carlson, Tony Crowley, Vitoria Faccin-Herman, Andreas Fischer, Brian Franklin, Laura Primozic George, Melissa Johnson, Gary Justis, Jeremy Langston, Jin Lee, Tyler Lotz, James Mai, John Miller, Melissa Oresky, Morgan Price, Jason Reblando, Randall Reid, Tanya Scott, Sercan Şengün, Archana Shekara, Sarah Smelser, Albert Stabler in collaboration with Simone Fizdale, Albion Stafford, Annie Sungkajun, Michael Wille, and David Wilson.

View the exhibition video tour [here](#).