

Revised Sept. 2011

FAMOUS ARTIST SERIES: GEORGIA O'KEEFFE (1887-1986)

"Oriental Poppies", 1928

Oil on canvas

30" x 40 1/8"

University Art Museum, University of Minnesota,

Supplies needed:

- * Framed print of "Oriental Poppies"
- * Laminated examples of works (4 total)
- * Oversized laminated print from Post Office
- * Watercolor paper from supply box – ½ sheet per student
- * Students will need pencil and colored markers - orange, black green and purple--CRAYOLA WATERCOLOR ONLY (have students share who do not have Crayola brand)
- * Paintbrushes labeled O'Keefe Project on shelf
- * Cups for water from supply box
- * Paper towel, folded into squares
- * Yellow marker for presenter from supply box
- * Sample art works, one for each color.
- * ***My Name is Georgia***, by Jeanette Winter, from supply box
- * Project sample
- * ***Georgia O'Keefe Museum***, by Lynes in supply box for reference

Reference Books:

- * Georgia O'Keeffe Penguin Books
- * Georgia O'Keeffe One Hundred Flowers Alfred A. Knopf
- * Georgia O'Keeffe Painter Michael Berry
- * Georgia O'Keeffe An Adventurous Spirit Philip Brooks
- * Georgia O'Keeffe M.Venezia
- * Georgia O'Keeffe: Painter of the Desert J. Ball

AHEAD OF TIME NOTE: Please cut the watercolor paper in half, enough for each student to have one ½ sheet. Also, please make enough copies of master "Famous Artist Series" note for students.

Present laminated "Oriental Poppies" print from Post Office. Also show framed print "Oriental Poppies".

The Post Office was celebrating an artist by making stamps of her painting "Oriental Poppies". Her name was Georgia O'Keeffe. She painted pictures of flowers and trees and mountains because she loved the outdoors. These types of paintings are called landscapes. We will read a book about Georgia O'Keeffe.

Read My Name Is Georgia by Jeanette Winter. Show examples of laminates. Talk about how her flowers fill the page.

Project:

Today, we will have a chance to paint flowers the way Georgia O'Keeffe saw them. (Explain to the students they must be good listeners.) You will take time for each step, and will not go on to the next step until everyone is quiet and ready.

- 1. First choose the colors you will use for your picture. We will need a green marker. Then choose a red, purple or orange. If you choose orange, you will also need a black marker. Turn your paper over and use your pencil to write your name on the back.**
- 2. (Demonstrate on a sheet of paper taped to the chalk board) Using your pencil, lightly draw five or six small circles in the middle of the page, like a cluster of grapes.**
- 3. Using your pencil, draw soft triangle (candy corn) shapes for petals, or heart shapes, going all the way to the edge of the paper. Be sure to make your petals almost FILL the page like O'Keeffe's work. (If a student makes theirs too short, just have them draw another row of petals until they fill the page)**
- 4. Using your pencil, draw two short lines - about two inches long - on each petal coming from the center circles and going out toward the edge of the paper.**
- 5. Using your pencil, draw two or three leaves around the edges of the petals (a leaf is like a greater than or less than symbol).**
- 6. If you are using a red or purple marker, then outline your small, center circles using your green marker. If you are using an orange marker, use black to outline the center circles. DO NOT FILL IN THE CIRCLES - JUST OUTLINE THEM!**
- 7. Use red, purple or orange marker to outline the petals. Color in the tips of the petals about one to two inches down toward the center. Color the base of the petals about one inch toward the edge of the paper. Color the lines in the petals.**
- 8. Using your green marker, outline the leaves and color the leaf tip.**
- 9. Have everyone come to the center of the room. Tell them to watch while you do the next step. Dip your brush into the water, and paint over the marker. Blot the brush before you "paint" another color. TOO MUCH**

**WATER WILL SOAK THE PAPER AND MAKE THE COLORS BLEED TOO MUCH.
Pass out the brushes, paper towel for blotting and cups with water.**

10. When the students are finished, use your yellow marker and make highlights on the center of each petal.

11. Frame by mounting on construction paper. Please leave at least five minutes at the end of the presentation for the students to present their work.

FAMOUS ARTISTS SERIES

O'Keeffe

Today in class a volunteer parent presented the works of American artist Georgia O'Keeffe. They learned about her life and her love of nature as expressed in her art. The students also made a take-home project that parallels O'Keeffe's style.

The Milwaukee Museum of Art has the third largest collection of paintings by O'Keeffe in the world. In addition, The Art Institute of Chicago has a number of O'Keeffe's works on exhibit. The students were read a book in class today about O'Keeffe which is available at Cook Library: My Name is Georgia by Jeanette Winter.

Sincerely yours,

Art Volunteer