

MICHAEL DUNLAVEY

Watercolor Paintings

blue line arts

Grades
K-2

Tour Talk & Create

Exhibition Background

Michael Dunlavey: Watercolor Paintings is an exhibition featuring local watercolor artist, Michael Dunlavey. This exhibition showcases his watercolor paintings that have various method, technique, and artistic ideas and elements within them. Before viewing the Watercolor Show, this worksheet will help you prepare your students with brief information on watercolors, relevant terminology, and the basic understanding of elements of art and principles of design. During the show, we will discuss the different technical methods and expressive content used in each watercolor piece and their relation to one another. Your students will then be able to use this information to create their own work of art during an instructional step by step video after viewing the gallery tour & discussion video.

This lesson plan features the following National Core Standards for Visual Arts for Grades K-2: VA:Cn10.1, VA:Cn11.1, VA:Cr1.1, VA:Cr2.1, VA:Cr2.2, VA:Cr3.1, VA:Re7.2, VA:Re9.1



Blue Shutters
by Michael Dunlavey

Touring + Connecting

During the first part of the video, students will be able to watch a tour of the show to **see and respond** to a variety of watercolor paintings and identify several different artistic techniques and practices, hosted by one of our Teaching Artists. They will be able to evaluate the works through guided questions, such as **How does the use of more or less water change the appearance of watercolor paints?** Students will be **encouraged to perceive, analyze, and interpret** artworks firsthand before creating their own project inspired by the show.

Talking + Responding

During the tour of the Michael Dunlavey: Watercolor Paintings exhibition, students will be encouraged to **brainstorm different ideas** and questions they may have about a work of art. The video will have moments of silent footage focused on each piece to allow for discussion among the class and can be paused at any time for longer discussion needs. Students can also use the paused time to **connect with one another** to share ideas and questions about the exhibit or about watercolors in general.

Creating + Presenting

During the hands-on art making session video, students will **use the materials provided to explore different techniques** and styles of watercolor painting that they saw used in the Michael Dunlavey show to create their own expressive work of art. This video can also be paused at any time, while students follow along and create their paintings. This activity is curated and taught by one of our Teaching Artists and is tailored to the grade level of your class. Students will be able to **engage artistically with the ideas and art works** they have discussed and seen. This project will focus on the various techniques used in watercolors arts, as seen in the show, allowing students to create their own meaning through specific technique and method. After students have completed their art project, we encourage teachers to have students **present their work** to each other so that they can share what they enjoyed and learned about the creative process.

For more information, please contact: Programs@bluelinearts.org

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LESSON PLAN

Art Terms

Line: Straight or round continuous marks that define shape and figures.

Shape: The outline of an object (ie. triangle, circle, square).

Palette: A flat surface that an artist uses to lay and mix colors.

Primary Colors

The primary colors are used to create all other colors. They are red, yellow and blue.



Secondary Colors

By mixing the primary colors together, they create other colors, such as the secondary colors, which are green, orange and violet.



Art History



Cave Paintings

Watercolor is the oldest painting method in the world! Scientists have found evidence of paintings that were created using mixtures of color and water and were used to decorate cave walls (like the cave painting above) and Egyptian tombs in ancient times.

Questions to Consider

What primary colors are used in this painting? What about secondary colors?

What kinds of shapes do you see in this piece?

What colors might the artist have on their palette?