

Educator Guide

In January 2009, Gallery Crawl visited University High School and San Francisco Recycling & Disposal, Inc. to discover professional artists working in unexpected places. This guide provides resources for educators to support the utilization of this online virtual visit to the galleries to teach about contemporary art. The Gallery Crawl video, *The Gleaners*, can be found at www.KQED.org/gallerycrawl. Information about taking your students to the galleries can be found at the bottom of this guide.

Exhibitions *Mountain Time* by Lori Damiano, *Linear Elements* by Christine Lee, *Atoms, Satellites and Other Orbs* by David King

Locations San Francisco Recycling & Disposal, Inc. [Google Map](#)
San Francisco University High School [Google Map](#)

Grades 6 - 12

Standards Addressed Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Aesthetic Valuing

The Exhibitions

In the 1980's, staff at University High School decided to create a space that would be mutually beneficial for both students and professional artists. Artists are invited to show their work and interact with the community during opening receptions, gallery talks, and master classes for students. Artists gain exposure and are able to sell their work in a gallery format without rental or commission fees, and students are exposed to professional artwork and artists on a regular basis.

Lori Damiano is a Portland-based painter with a background in animation. Her paintings are whimsical and often appear to have a mysterious narrative element. At the opening of her exhibition at University High School, Lori D. will demonstrate her animation techniques by setting up flip book and zoetrope stations for viewers to create their own works of art.

The artist-in-residence program at San Francisco's dump is a one-of-a-kind program started in 1990 by environmentalist Jo Hanson to encourage people to conserve natural resources and instill in children and adults an increased appreciation for the environment as well as art. Over 75 professional Bay Area artists have completed residencies.

As part of her residency at the dump, Christine Lee created modular bench sculptures to be permanently installed near the Artist in Residence studio at SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc. The benches are made from layers of plywood topped with cement slabs. Lee cast the cement bench tops in wooden molds, leaving a subtle wood grain imprint on the cement. Lee also created other three-dimensional objects during her residency including woven finger traps made from vertical blinds.

Though David King usually concentrates on two-dimensional collage artworks, the residency at the dump inspired him to create three-dimensional orb-like forms that are non-representational and made from discarded materials such as pencils, glass shards, hair curlers, and varying hardware. The orbs might be interpreted as celestial objects, atoms, or enlarged microscopic allergens.

Teaching with Gallery Crawl

Using video in the classroom can breathe life and meaning into almost any lesson. In the arts, video can be particularly effective for introducing large concepts, aspects of the creative process, and key arts-related vocabulary to introduce students to discipline-based and concept-based study. Using media in the classroom helps connect students with local and faraway places and promotes critical viewing skills and media awareness. For more information about using media in the classroom download KQED's [Media Tips](#) teaching tool (a direct link is provided in the resource section of this guide).

Using a Gallery Crawl video in the classroom allows student to virtually view a local art exhibit, while listening to firsthand information about exhibitions from curators, gallerists, and artists. In order to present Gallery Crawl to your entire class, you will need a projector and computer with the capacity to stream video. Alternatively, assign students to watch the video on their own or in groups. After soliciting student responses to the video, continue the lesson by implementing hands-on or discussion activities to deepen the impact of the media – ideas are provided in this guide.

The Art Forms

Each artist featured in this episode of Gallery Crawl has a dynamic and varied background. Besides being a painter, Lori D. has a column in a skateboarding magazine, and she also creates animations for filmmaker Spike Jones, and for a television show called *Yabba Yabba Go*. Christine Lee has a background as a woodworker, and David King typically works as a collage artist. Artists often have their hands in many pots; architects, designers, artists, musicians, actors, and dancers often experiment with many different art forms and collaborate with other artists. After viewing the Gallery Crawl episode, invite students to discuss artists they're familiar with who work in more than one genre or medium.

Making the Most of your Virtual Visit

The following activity ideas may be used in the classroom after viewing the Gallery Crawl Video, and/or after a school tour of University High School's Jackson Street Gallery and SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc.

- ❖ Ask students to spend 1 – 2 weeks collecting reusable items from home, items that might be thrown out such as empty jars and containers, cardboard tubes, bottle caps, etc. They might ask for help from their families and friends in keeping an eye out for reusable art materials. Alternatively, pick up some materials from Scroungers' Center for Reusable Art Parts (SCRAP) listed in the resource section at the end of this guide. Each student should have 10 - 20 items to contribute to a collaborative sculpture. Using glue, staples, tape and string, have students work together to create a representational or abstract sculpture with the objects they've collected, or allow students to work individually if they prefer. Hold an exhibition of the recycled sculpture(s) and ask students to write a short description of what the artwork represents, which materials were used, and what the most important elements of the piece are, such as color, shape, meaning, etc.
- ❖ Artist Robert Rauschenberg experimented heavily with reused items, creating collaged sculptures he referred to as "Combines". Ask students to research the work of Rauschenberg

and other artists who are known for using recycled materials in their work. Students should also research local artists David Best, Bruce Conner, and Ann Weber. Each of these artists worked with recycled and found objects and made a powerful impact on the art world.

- ❖ Ask students to research the path their trash follows after it's thrown out. Web sites listed in the resources section of this guide are a good place to start their research. Additionally, ask students to view and discuss activist Annie Leonard's "Story of Stuff" video to learn more about our production, consumption, and disposal patterns. <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>
- ❖ Suggest that students bring an everyday item such as a mirror, coffee mug, or plate to class. Encourage them to collect interesting discarded materials that can be used to decorate the everyday item. View the Gallery Crawl video and press pause when images of David King's orb sculptures are on the screen, asking students to identify the materials he used. This will inspire their collection of reusable, decorative objects. The decorative materials can be attached to the everyday items using hot melt or white craft glue. Show examples of mosaic art for inspiration.
- ❖ Initiate a discussion with students about Lori D.'s artwork, focusing on her ideas about painting her "own personal folklore" and the "heroes of her culture". Invite them to create their own work of art that represents the "heroes" of their culture. Additionally, introduce the idea of narrative painting to students and, while viewing the Gallery Crawl video, press pause when one of Lori D.'s paintings is on the screen. Ask students to spend ten minutes free-writing about how they interpret the story behind the painting. A "free write" is an exercise in which students write for ten minutes without stopping, not worrying about punctuation or grammar, letting their thoughts flow freely. As a prompt, pose the following questions: Who are the characters? What is the situation? What is the mood of the scenario? Ask students to share their answers with the class.

Visiting the Galleries

Christine Lee and David King's exhibition at San Francisco Recycling & Disposal, Inc. will be on view for two days only: January 23rd, 2009 from 5:00 – 9:00pm, and January 24th, 2009 from 1:00pm – 5:00pm. Lori D.'s opening reception at University High School's Jackson Street Gallery will take place on January 23rd, 2009 from 5:30 – 7:30pm. The exhibition will be open to the public during school hours from January 12th – February 27th, 2009. For public transportation information, visit the galleries' Web sites listed below.

Resources to extend learning about the exhibits, the art form, and featured artists

University High School
<http://www.sfuhs.org/>

San Francisco Recycling & Disposal, Inc.
<http://www.sunsetscavenger.com/>

Free tours are available for San Francisco Schools. To learn more, visit:
<http://www.sunsetscavenger.com/residential/sfschoolsrecycle.php?t=r>

SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc. – Artists in Residence Program

<http://www.sfrecycling.com/AIR/index.php?t=d>

SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc. – “Art at the Dump” photo set on Flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/artatthedump/>

East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse

<http://www.east-bay-depot.org/>

Stop Waste – East Bay Center for recycling and reuse info

<http://www.stopwaste.org>

Scroungers’ Center for Reusable Art Parts (SCRAP) in San Francisco

<http://www.scrap-sf.org/>

Little Clicker’s Web site: What happens to your trash?

<http://www.littleclickers.com/garbage1208.html>

The Imagination Factory, featuring lesson plans related to recycled art.

Membership to the Imagination Factory requires a \$10 fee.

<http://www.kid-at-art.com/>

Wikipedia entry on Robert Rauschenberg

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Rauschenberg

Lori D.’s Web site

<http://www.lori-d.com/>

Christine Lee’s Web site

<http://missleelee.com/splash.html>

David King’s Web site

<http://www.davidkingcollage.com/>

The following KQED Spark documentaries may be used for compare/contrast purposes and to extend learning about contemporary art:

KQED Spark documentary about art car enthusiast [David Best](#).

KQED Spark documentary about sculptor [Ann Weber](#).

KQED Spark documentary about mosaic artist [Laurel True](#).

An in-depth Spark educator guide accompanies this video.

Visit the KQED Spark Web site for additional Educator Guides and videos about local contemporary artists at www.KQED.org/spark. Also available are educator resources on media literacy and production, using video in the classroom, standards-based arts instruction, program development, and more. For more information about KQED’s Arts Education resources, send an email to ArtsEd@KQED.org or call 800.723.3566.

Direct Links

- Gallery Crawl: <http://www.kqed.org/arts/gallerycrawl/>
- KQED "Media Tips" Tool: <http://www.kqed.org/assets/pdf/arts/programs/spark/video.pdf>
- Google Map to SF Recycling & Disposal:
http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=503+Tunnel+Avenue+San+Francisco&sl=37.709101,-122.397029&sspn=0.007656,0.013261&g=501+Tunnel+Avenue+San+Francisco&ie=UTF8&ll=37.709356,-122.397909&spn=0.007656,0.013261&z=16&iwloc=addr
- Google Map to University High School:
http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=3065+jackson+st.+san+francisco,+ca&sl=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=33.572881,55.546875&ie=UTF8&ll=37.791015,-122.445352&spn=0.008173,0.013561&z=16&iwloc=addr
- KQED Spark video about Ann Weber <http://www.kqed.org/arts/programs/spark/profile.jsp?essid=4175>
- KQED Spark video about David Best <http://www.kqed.org/arts/programs/spark/profile.jsp?essid=4330>
- KQED Spark video about Laurel True <http://www.kqed.org/arts/programs/spark/profile.jsp?essid=5420>