Mary Nohl & Tokens of Appreciation

How do artists use their work to show what they care about?

From notes in a daily journal to creating a gift to show your appreciation for someone's help, art provides a mode for expressing everyday emotions.

This teacher overview provides a suggested outline for using the materials and resouces found at **jmkac.org/educator**

Resources you will find online

- A video tour of Mary Nohl's home and living room

- Five-minute gallery tours of the exhibition *Tokens of Appreciation,* available in both Spanish and English, for grades K-4 and 5th-8th.

- Mary Nohl: A Life's Work - a thirteen minute video interview with Mary Nohl

- Video workshop tutorials to create a 2-D token with watercolors and a 3-D token with model magic, and a video tutorial for a 5th grade+ extension activity.

- A video of a JMKAC docent reading *In Mary's Garden* by Carson and Tina Kugler

- Printable Daily Journal templates, with an option for early elementary to draw instead of write.

-Printable care thinksheets.

- A printable bio of Mary Nohl with daily journal discussion questions and prompts.

- A powerpoint with guiding discussion questions and images.
- An exhibition overview of Tokens of Appreciation.

- A project reflection form

*We are working towards providing all materials in Spanish and English. Until we have all materials translated, anything can be requested to be translated. E-mail us at education@jmkac.org.



John Michael Kohler Arts Center

Mary Nohl Lake Cottage Environment (site view, Fox Point, WI), c. 1960–2001.

Suggested Four Day Lesson for K-5 (30-minutes each day)

Day One: Getting to Know Mary

- Watch the video tour of Mary's Home.
- Read Mary Nohl's bio as a class or individually.
- Look at the slideshow of images of Mary Nohl's work and the exhibition Tokens of Appreciation and discuss the provided questions together or as a journal exercise.

Day Two: What Do You Care About?

- Complete the care thinksheet for your grade level.
- Watch the 2-D token workshop tutorial.
- Complete the painting project.

Connect to Mystery Science

K-3: Prompt students to specifically reflect on how they care for animals and plants using their new knowledge from science class.

4-5th: Prompt students to reflect about how they care for themselves through mindfulness, healthy eating, etc.

Extension Activities

- A token of appreciation show-and-tell. What is an object that someone has given you that means a lot? Where is it from? Where to you display it or how do you use it?

- Create a daily journal practice using the provided sketchbook. Students can continue to journal daily like Mary,

or choose a theme for their journal.

- 5th grade and up - use paper embroidery to embellish your 2-D token.

- Try the prompt created by Danceworks, Inc. on the Tokens of Appreciation exhibition overview for a movement connection.

Vocabulary

Two-dimensional (2-D)

A flat object, such as sheet of paper.

John Michael

Three-dimensional (3-D)

Something with height, width, and depth. Most objects in the world are 3-D. Even you are 3-D!

Token of Appreciation

A token serves as a visible or tangible symbol of a fact, quality, feeling, etc.

Appreciation is the recognition of someone's good qualities.

Tokens of appreciation are objects given in thanks for and recognition of a person's good qualities.

Kohler Arts Center

Day Three: Can you make it 3-D? - Watch the Tokens of Appreciation gallery tour

- Watch the 3-D token workshop tutorial.
- Complete the sculpting portion of the 3-D token project.

Day Four: Paint and Reflect

- Use watercolors to paint the dry 3-D tokens.
- Complete the project reflection sheet.

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Mary Nohl at her Lake Cottage (Fox Point, WI), 1994. Photo: Ron Byer

