

Primary Source Exploration

Artist Mary Nohl

Team Members:

Early in October of 2070, your research team uncovers a trove of primary sources from 2020, the year the world plunged into a global pandemic. As a team, you will need to do the following.

1. Review the collected documents. Take notes on what you are seeing.
 - a. Are you seeing a lot of the same thing? Yes or No? Describe.

 - b. What items relate directly to the pandemic?

 - c. What items do not seem to have a direct connection to the pandemic?

2. After your review, identify some trends you are seeing. (For instance, throughout Mary Nohl's newsletters, she wrote about harassment by vandals, her dogs, and her art. While she wrote about travelling in some newsletters, it was not always mentioned. A historian studying those documents could conclude that Nohl valued art, safety, and animals.)

3. What further information would you need to confirm the trends you identified? Locate at least two primary sources online that confirm the trends you've identified. (To confirm that Mary Nohl valued art, safety, and animals, one could review the [primary and secondary sources made available through the John Michael Kohler Arts Center](#). Why can't we locate a secondary source in 2021 about the pandemic?)

4. Based on your team's review, what is a statement you can make about the pandemic that is supported by the primary sources you reviewed and the trends you identified. (For Mary Nohl, one might say: The artist, Mary Nohl, spent her life creating unique art work that explored the same motifs through various media, the use of which was influenced by the events around her including vandalism (moved from driftwood sculptures to cement) and harsh Wisconsin winters (worked on larger outdoor projects during the nicer months and concentrated on art that could be completed inside, such as oil paintings, during the colder months.).