

Light Painting

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS | Classroom Connections
Grade Level: 3rd-5th

The
Nelson-Atkins
Museum
of Art



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Connections are made with science and art as students have fun exploring circuitry, functional art and the photographic techniques of light painting.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Create a circuit that activates a light source
- Create a piece of functional art that utilizes a light source as part of the design
- Create a light painting using a light source and a camera with a slow shutter speed

COLLECTION FOCUS

Works of art that illustrate various mark making techniques as well as works that focus on light will be viewed and discussed in the galleries. Galleries visited may include Contemporary and Impressionist Galleries.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Share photos with #nelsonatkins

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

National Visual Arts Standards

- Organize and Develop Artistic Ideas and Work: Experiment with Forms, Materials, Art-making Approaches (VA:Cr2.1.5a-8a)
- Analyze How Technologies Have Impacted the Preservation and Presentation of Artwork (VA:Pr4.1)
- Perceive and Analyze Artistic Work: Engage with Works of Art to Develop a Greater appreciation of Self, Others, and Natural and Constructed Environments (VA:Re7.1)
- Interpret Intent and Meaning in Artistic Works, Looking at Subject Matter, Use of Media, and Visual Elements (VA:Re8.1)
- Identify/Analyze How Art Reflects Changing Times, Traditions, Resources and Cultural Uses (VA:Cn11.1)

Next Generation Science Standards

- Make Observations that Energy Can be Transferred From Place to Place by Sound, Light, Heat and Electric Currents. (4-PS3-2 Energy)

*Certain collections or galleries may be unavailable due to rotations or construction.
We apologize for the inconvenience.*

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School Workshop Scheduler
StudioWorkshops@nelson-atkins.org

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

- Review the vocabulary/concepts list.
- Invite students to research ways artists are using electricity to create artwork. Provide an opportunity for them to share favorite examples.

VOCABULARY/CONCEPTS

Circuit: In electronics, a circuit is a path between two or more points along which an electrical current can be carried.

LED Lights: A light emitting diode is a two-lead semiconductor light source.

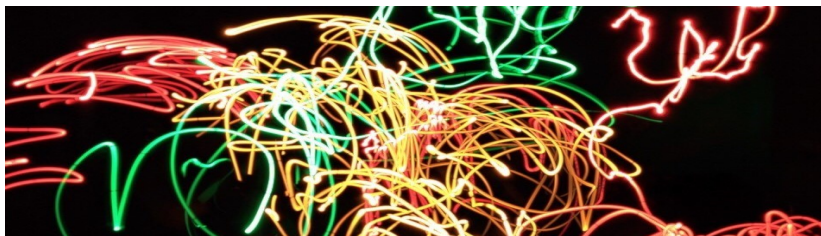
Mark making: A term used to describe the different lines, patterns and textures that are created in artwork using a variety of materials.

Light Painting: A photographic technique in which exposures are made by moving a light source and using a slow shutter speed.

Functional Art: Something that has been created as a useful object as well as having aesthetic value.

AFTER YOUR VISIT

- Use the printed light paintings as elements in another art project such as collage or bookmaking.
- Ask students to brainstorm ways they could use the light painting process to solve a problem or communicate a message. Groups of students could collaborate to present their solutions.
- Continue to explore light painting techniques using flashlights, string lights, or electroluminescent wire. Note the differences in the light paintings produced. Ask students which tool they like best.



Donald Judd, American, 1928-94
Large Stack, 1968



Franz Kline, 1910-1962
Turin, 1960



Ivan Navarro, Chilean, born 1972
Untitled (The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art), 2017



EDUCATOR RESOURCE CENTER

The ERC can help you expand your before and after visit activities to fully connect your museum experience with your classroom curriculum. The ERC provides:

- Curriculum consultations
- Circulating Resources, including Art Connection Kits
- Professional Development Workshops

nelson-atkins.org/educators/