Curate Your Own Exhibition Card Game

Students can curate their own exhibitions of art from the Nelson-Atkins using our downloadable card game. Art cards feature 111 objects from the museum’s permanent collection, including a special selection of 10 works from the exhibition, *Origins: Collecting to Create the Nelson-Atkins* (on view August 14, 2021–March 6, 2022). Also provided are 24 theme cards to help students plan their exhibitions, including a “choose your own theme” card for their original ideas.
CURATE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION

Museums make many choices when preparing and presenting works of art. Collections can be shared in a variety of ways to help people appreciate and understand the different cultures, ideas, experiences, and beliefs of the artists who created them.

In this activity, you will find 24 thematic cards that you can use to plan your own exhibition. Select one of these themes to build your exhibition around. A “choose your own theme” card has been provided for your original theme ideas.

Also included are 101 cards that feature works of art from the Nelson-Atkins collection. Each card shows an image of a work of art, and the caption lists details about that object. This information should help you in planning your own exhibition.

You can also visit nelson-atkins.org to learn more about works in our collection when you click Visit & See and Search Collection!

KEY TO IMAGE SIZES

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The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Seal Effigy Bowl, Chugach (Alutiiq), Southcentral Alaska, ca. 1780–1820. Wood (probably alder or birch). From the Estelle and Morton Sosland Collection, 2009.41.7. 3 5/8 × 8 × 12 1/4 inches.


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Commemorative Head of an Oba (King), Benin Kingdom, 16th century. Brass. Purchase: William Rockhill Nelson Trust through the generosity of Donald J. and Adele C. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Robert Sutherland, and an anonymous donor; The Nelson Gallery Foundation; and the exchange of a Trust property, 87-7. 9 1/8 inches.


Kente Cloth (Nsasawa), Akan; Asante subgroup, Early 20th century. Silk and pigments. Purchase: the Shirley and Barnett Helzberg Fund in support of the African Art department, 2013.2.3. 86 × 105 inches.


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**Metjetji with His Sons**, Egyptian, ca. 2375–2345 B.C.E. Limestone with paint. Purchase: William Rockhill Nelson Trust, 52-7/1. 56 × 30 1/2 inches.


GERMANTOWN EYEDAZZLER PICTORIAL SERAPE, DINÉ (NAVAJO), ARIZONA OR NEW MEXICO, CA. 1885. GERMANTOWN 4-PLY COMMERCIAL WOOL YARN AND COTTON TWINE. GIFT OF SUSAN DE JONG, 2017.79.1. 54 1/4 × 89 7/8 INCHES.

**Woman's Blanket**, Oto, Oklahoma, ca. 1910. Wool cloth, silk ribbon and glass beads. Purchase: William Rockhill Nelson Trust through exchange of the gifts of Mr. William L. Evans Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mann Jr., and other Trust properties, 89-38. 59 × 73 inches.


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Mary Cassatt (American, 1844–1926). L’Enfant Blonde (The Blonde Child), ca. 1901. Oil on canvas. Bequest from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brace, 75-27. 28 15/16 × 23 3/8 inches.


Profile portrait of Frederick Douglass, ca. 1858. Daguerreotype. Gift of Hallmark Cards, Inc. 2005.27.42. 3 5/8 x 6 3/8 inches.

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**Simone Leigh** (American b. 1967). **Figure with Skirt**, 2018. Terracotta, graphite, salt fired porcelain, steel, raffia. Purchase: William Rockhill Nelson Trust through the George H. and Elizabeth O. Davis Fund, 2018.57.1,2. 79 1/2 x 70 x 70 inches.
In the first years of the Nelson-Atkins, choices had to be made about what art to collect for the new museum. The people responsible for creating the collection wanted to gather art from cultures around the world and throughout history. To help us learn more about how the collection was built, a special exhibition was developed: Origins: Collecting to Create the Nelson-Atkins (on view August 14, 2021 – March 6, 2022). Ten art cards featuring works from the exhibition have been added to this game to help tell the story of the museum’s beginnings.

Imagine you could start a museum from scratch. Would you build an encyclopedic collection – one that features art from many cultures and places – or would you focus your mission on something more specific?

The newly added cards can be identified by the ORIGINS heading. You can use the expanded pack of art cards to plan your own exhibition with the existing themes or create an exhibition (or whole museum!) of your own choosing.

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The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art


Mosaic Spandrels of an Arch, attributed to Isfahan, Iran, about 1600. Glazed ceramic tile and gold leaf.
102 5/8 x 233 1/8 inches.

Storehouse, China, Eastern Han Dynasty (25-220 C.E.) Earthenware with iridescent green glaze.
16 x 8 1/4 x 16 1/4 inches.

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FRIENDSHIP
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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OBSERVATION
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

CURATE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION
ENVIRONMENT
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

CURATE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION
INTERIOR
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CURATE YOUR OWN EXHIBITION

LIFE

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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ANIMALS

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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FORM

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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LOSS

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
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FAMILY

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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NARRATIVE

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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STILL LIFE

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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SPACE

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PATTERN

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PORTRAIT

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DEATH

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BEAUTY

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YOU CHOOSE!

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

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