Activities: Grades 9-12

1. Art can represent many things. It can be realistic, symbolic, abstract, subtle, or bold. These are just some ways art is used to represent thoughts, feelings, or ideals. As you look around this exhibition what forms of expression do you see? What pieces are more realistic? Symbolic? Are there any pieces where the artist is being more bold? How about more subtle? Art gives us the opportunity to convey our thoughts and feelings about life too. Find a piece to which you feel a connection. What about this piece are you drawn to?

Activity:
- Select a piece from the exhibition that you feel a connection to in some way. Spend a few minutes writing what the piece makes you think or feel. Using your selected piece as an example, create your own work of art that expresses your thoughts or feelings. Is your work realistic? Symbolic? Subtle or bold?

2. Art encourages us to connect with something more than ourselves. The artists in this exhibition show us a bigger, broader world, but they can also show us things that reflect more about their own thoughts, feelings, or ideals. Art can lead us to discover something we never knew or learn more about a particular subject. Spend some time looking at one or two pieces in this exhibition. What do you see? What does it make you think or how does it make you feel? Art helps us draw connections from something inside of us to something outside of us. Select a piece with which you connect to in some way. What drew you to that particular piece? In what ways do you feel a connection to other artists or works in this exhibition?

Activity:
- Select one of the following words and find a piece in the exhibition that exemplifies that word. Write why you selected that piece. How does this piece portray your word? What drew you to that piece when thinking about this word? Look up definitions of words to help you gain a deeper understanding and connection

Words:
- Nostalgia
- Confusion
- Peaceful
- Judgement
- Isolate/isolation
- Vulnerable
- Intimate
- Pain
- Free
- Anxiety/anxious
- Seeking
- Humor
- Found
- Satisfied
- Tension/tense

Additional Resources:
- Five Ways to Help Teens Think Beyond Themselves: https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/five_ways_to_help_teens_think_beyond_themselves
- Why Art Has the Power to Change the World: https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/why-art-has-the-power-to-change-the-world/
- The Need for Teen Self-Expression Through Art: https://artsacad.net/the-need-for-teen-self-expression-through-art/
5 Ways to Help Teens Feel Good About Themselves:
https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/five_ways_to_help_teens_feel_good_about_themselves

Utah State Core Standards:

**Language Arts**
**Writing Standard 2**
Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

**Secondary Visual Arts - (Level 1 and up)**
**Visual Arts Standard Create**
Students will generate artistic work by conceptualizing, organizing, and completing their artistic ideas. They will refine original work through persistence, reflection, and evaluation.

**Visual Arts Standard Respond**
Students will understand, evaluate, and articulate how works of art convey meaning for the observer, as well as the creator.

**Visual Arts Standard Connect**
Students will relate artistic skills, ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.