

Conversations through Art: EXPLORE and CREATE

With a partner, select a theme to explore. Using the VMFA Collections Search, explore works of art from different collections, places, or time periods. After exploring, each partner should select a work of art from a different collection, place, or time period. Using both the information from the VMFA Collections Search along with additional research, complete the chart below. Keep in mind that some pieces of art might have more information available than others.

Theme:

	Title	
	Artist	
	Artist Background	
	Year	
	Location	
	Subject Matter	
	Symbols, Objects	
	Historical Context or Cultural Background	
	Purpose/Meaning	

Once you have completed the chart, think about what these two pieces would talk about if they could. What would they want to know about each other? What would they reveal about themselves? What common experiences might they share? Below are suggested conversation starters. Create a short dialogue between your shared pieces grounded in the information from your chart. This could either be written in the format of a conversation, text message, or be videotaped on fligrid.

Suggested Conversation Starters:

- What are your hopes or dreams?
- How would your friends describe you?
- What makes you happy? What makes you sad?
- What is something you wish you could do?
- What is something no one would guess about you?
- Where do you see yourself in five years?
- What is something you like about yourself? What is something you don't like about yourself?
- Describe your perfect day.
- In what ways are you similar to me?
- What is your background, or family life like?