Elementary Curators: Part 2

Creating a Museum Exhibition
What is an Exhibition?

Museums not only collect objects, they also organize them into exhibitions so they can share them with all of you!

An exhibition is a group of objects that are gathered together based on a common theme or idea.

What museum exhibitions have you seen? What museum exhibitions can you find to explore online?

Explore the galleries and exhibitions at NEHMA with our online virtual tour!
In an **art exhibition**, sometimes the art objects were all made by the same person.

Other times the objects were created using the same medium (like these photographs).

They might also fit the **theme or idea** used to create the exhibition.

Gelatin silver print, 9.76 x 16.68 in.
Museum Purchase with the Charter Member Endowment Fund

Gelatin silver print, 15.25 x 19.25 in.
Museum Permanent Collection

Ansel Adams, *Nevada Fall, Rainbow*, 1959
Gelatin silver print, 9.5 x 7.25 in.
Museum Permanent Collection

These photographs are included in NEHMA's exhibition *Sky Above, Earth Below.*
Explore the complete exhibition online!
Creating an Exhibition

When museums create exhibitions, it takes a lot of time, work and people with special skills.

NEHMA’s curatorial team works hard to prepare the exhibition space, paint the walls, create display spaces and place each artwork in place.

Exhibition work requires many different tools. Some are special museum tools and others you might have at home.

Zaira Arredondo, Museum Registrar adds vinyl lettering to exhibition walls with help from museum staff.

NEHMA often builds false walls for exhibitions. They help break up big gallery spaces and offer more wall space to hang artwork.

Selina Ramsey, Collections & Exhibition Coordinator lies inside a museum display case while assembling it for the exhibition.

Notice how museum staff are wearing gloves to protect the artwork as they hang this sculpture from the ceiling.
Click on the link below to view a video about Exhibitions!

Elementary Curators Part 4: Exhibitions
Creating a Museum at Home

Create your own exhibitions!

• Using your collections, what kind of exhibition could you create?

• Will you need any tools to help you?

• Could you combine more than one collection into an exhibition?

• Who can you share your exhibition with?

Be inspired by museum exhibitions from NEHMA! Explore this exhibition – *Latinx* – and others both past and present at: [artmuseum.usu.edu](http://artmuseum.usu.edu)
Art Challenge

Build a display case for an object from your collection.

**Instructions:**

1. Find a thin cardboard box. A large cereal box is great!
2. Carefully unfold the box until it is flat.
3. Download the PDF pattern from NEHMA’s website.
4. Use the ruler to draw the pattern on a blank side of the cardboard.
5. After drawing the pattern, double check which lines are to be cut and which are to be folded. If it helps, draw the fold lines with the pencil and the cut lines with the maker.
6. Cut out the pattern and separate piece with scissors. Remember that scissors are sharp so ask an adult to help you with this step!
7. You will have two pieces: a larger one that is the main box pattern and the small square frame that will be the front of the box.

**Continue this project on the next slide...**
Art Challenge

Build a display case for an object from your collection.

Instructions continued:

7. Turn the large pattern upside down so the cereal box printing is on top. Use the glue stick to cover the printing with glue, then place white paper on top, covering the whole pattern.

8. With scissors, trim the white paper to the edge of the pattern.

9. Fold the pattern together into a box shape and tape the edges together.

10. Take the small square frame and tape it to the open front of the box.

11. Cut a small hole in the top of your display case so your flashlight or smartphone light can shine down.

12. Place a small object from your collection in the display case. Position your light over the hole and see your display come to life!
Thanks for joining us!

Check out more amazing art from NEHMA’s collection online: collection.artmuseum.usu.edu
Core Standards

Fine Arts

Kindergarten
Standard K.V.P.1: Select art objects for personal portfolio and display, giving explanation for choices.
Standard K.V.P.2: Identify places where art may be displayed and explain the purpose of the portfolio or collection.
Standard K.V.P.3: Explain what an art museum is, and distinguish how it is different from other buildings and venues.
Standard K.V.R.1: Recognize art, identify its uses within one’s personal environment, and describe what an image represents.

1st Grade
Standard 1.V.P.1: Explain why some objects, artifacts, and artworks are valued over others.
Standard 1.V.P.2: Ask and answer questions such as where, when, why, and how artwork should be prepared for presentation or preservation.
Standard 1.V.P.3: Identify the roles and responsibilities of people who work in and visit museums and other art venues.
Standard 1.V.R.3: Classify artwork based on different reasons for preferences.

2nd Grade
Standard 2.V.P.1: Categorize artwork based on a theme or concept for an exhibit.
Standard 2.V.P.2: Distinguish between different materials or artistic techniques for preparing artwork for presentation.
Standard 2.V.P.3: Analyze how art exhibited inside and outside of schools (such as in museums, galleries, virtual spaces, and other venues) contributes to communities.
Standard 2.V.R.1: Perceive and describe aesthetic characteristics of one’s natural world and constructed environments, and categorize images based on expressive properties.

3rd Grade
Standard 3.V.P.1: Investigate and discuss possibilities and limitations of spaces, including electronic, for exhibiting artwork.
Standard 3.V.P.2: Identify exhibit space and prepare works of art, including artists’ statements, for presentation.
Standard 3.V.P.3: Identify and explain how and where different cultures record and illustrate stories and history of life through art.

4th Grade
Standard 4.V.P.1: Analyze how past, present, and emerging technologies have impacted the preservation and presentation of artwork.
Standard 4.V.P.2: Analyze the various considerations for presenting and protecting art in various locations, indoor or outdoor settings, in temporary or permanent forms, and in physical or digital formats.
Standard 4.V.P.3: Compare and contrast purposes of art museums, art galleries, and other venues, as well as the types of personal experiences they provide.

5th Grade
Standard 5.V.P.1: Define the roles and responsibilities of a curator, and explain the skills and knowledge needed in preserving, maintaining, and presenting objects, artifacts, and artwork.
Standard 5.V.P.2: Develop a logical argument for safe and effective use of materials and techniques for preparing and presenting artwork.
Standard 5.V.P.3: Cite evidence about how an exhibition in a museum or other venue presents ideas and provides information about a specific concept or topic.

6th Grade
Standard 6.V.P.1: Analyze the similarities and differences associated with preserving and presenting two-dimensional, three-dimensional, and digital artwork.
Standard 6.V.P.2: Individually or collaboratively develop a visual plan for displaying works of art, analyzing exhibit space, the needs of the viewer, and the layout of the exhibit.
Standard 6.V.P.3: Assess, explain, and provide evidence of how museums or other venues reflect history and values of a community.