Collaborative Art

The Desert Caballeros Western Museum hosts various family events throughout the year. One of our favorite projects to kick off the start of 2020 was a collaborative painting of a giant boot!

Here is how you can do your own collaborative painting at home.

Supplies

- Multiple small canvases
- Acrylic paint
- Masking or painter’s tape
- Paint brushes
- Cup(s) for water and paint
- Plastic tablecloth or covering
- Permanent marker(s)
**Collaborative Art**

**Step 1:** Write names on back of canvases and then arrange as one cohesive piece.

**Step 2:** Have one member begin taping lines across all canvases while the other members hold them in place.

**Step 3:** Every participant will select one or two colors. In this example, the paint was added to a small amount of water for dripping and pouring.

(Optional: add a pouring medium.)

**Step 4:** Begin painting, dripping or pouring your color(s) on each canvas. Continue until all white areas of the canvas are covered.

**Step 5:** Allow artwork to dry.

While waiting, clean up area and wash paint brushes.
Step 6: Gently pull off tape. If your paint has leaked under the tape, use white paint for touch ups or to repaint lines as shown in this example. *Hint: If you paint a thin layer of white paint or school glue over the tape lines and allow it to dry before you begin painting, it will minimize leaking.*

Step 7: After the artwork is completely dry, use a permanent marker to write the following on the canvases.

- Write your name on your canvas
- Write the date on each canvas
- Write two positive things about the other participants on their canvases
- Write two things you have in common on each canvas
- Write two things you want to remember on your canvas

When done, each participant will have a piece of collaborative art!