Art History & Crafts with the Zuccaire Gallery

Yayoi Kusama
Yayoi Kusama

- Yayoi Kusama is a avant-garde contemporary Japanese artist
- Known for work with patterns and polka dots
  - Yayoi has embraced multiple styles including pop-art and abstract impressionism
- Yayoi began creating artwork from childhood but was not supported by her parents
  - Experienced a turbulent household and childhood both from internal family and experiencing World War II
- Yayoi began experiencing hallucinations at ten years old that often involved patterns and dots
  - These hallucinations molded her art style
- "My art is an expression of my life, particularly my mental disease" - Yayoi Kusama
  - Her art was a form of therapy
Yayoi Kusama, Flowers That Bloom At Midnight, 2018

My Heart Is Dancing Into The Universe, 2018

All the Eternal Love I Have for Pumpkins, 2018

Summer is Forever, 1989

Mushrooms, 1995

My Eternal Soul, 2009

Endless Floor Show, 1965

My Hope for Peace, 2019
Sexism in Japan

- “If we increase the number of female board members, we have to make sure their speaking time is restricted somewhat, they have difficulty finishing.”
- “We have about seven women on the organizing committee but everyone understands their place.”
- “Women talk too much.”
- “Japan’s LDP invited women to ‘look, not talk’ at key meetings.” (Source: BBC.com)
Sexism & Gender Norms

- Ryosai Kenbo: “good wife and a wise mother” or “wise wife and a good mother”
- Japan is ranked 121/153 in the World Economic Forum’s 2020 Gender Gap Index.
- Only ~15% of leadership positions are filled by women.
- At 24.5 percent in 2018, the gender wage gap is the second largest among Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations.
- Women in Japan spend more than four times as much time as men on unpaid domestic work.
- According to a 2018 study by Kantar and Women Political Leaders, 24% of people in Japan said they would feel comfortable having a woman as a CEO of a major company, compared to 63% in the US.
Create Patterned work like Yayoi

Materials List:

- Bright colored construction paper
  (Yellow, Red, White, Black)
- Something to draw a circle
- Dot Stickers
- Colored markers (Sharpie)