



THE
2022
MARCUS
EXHIBITION

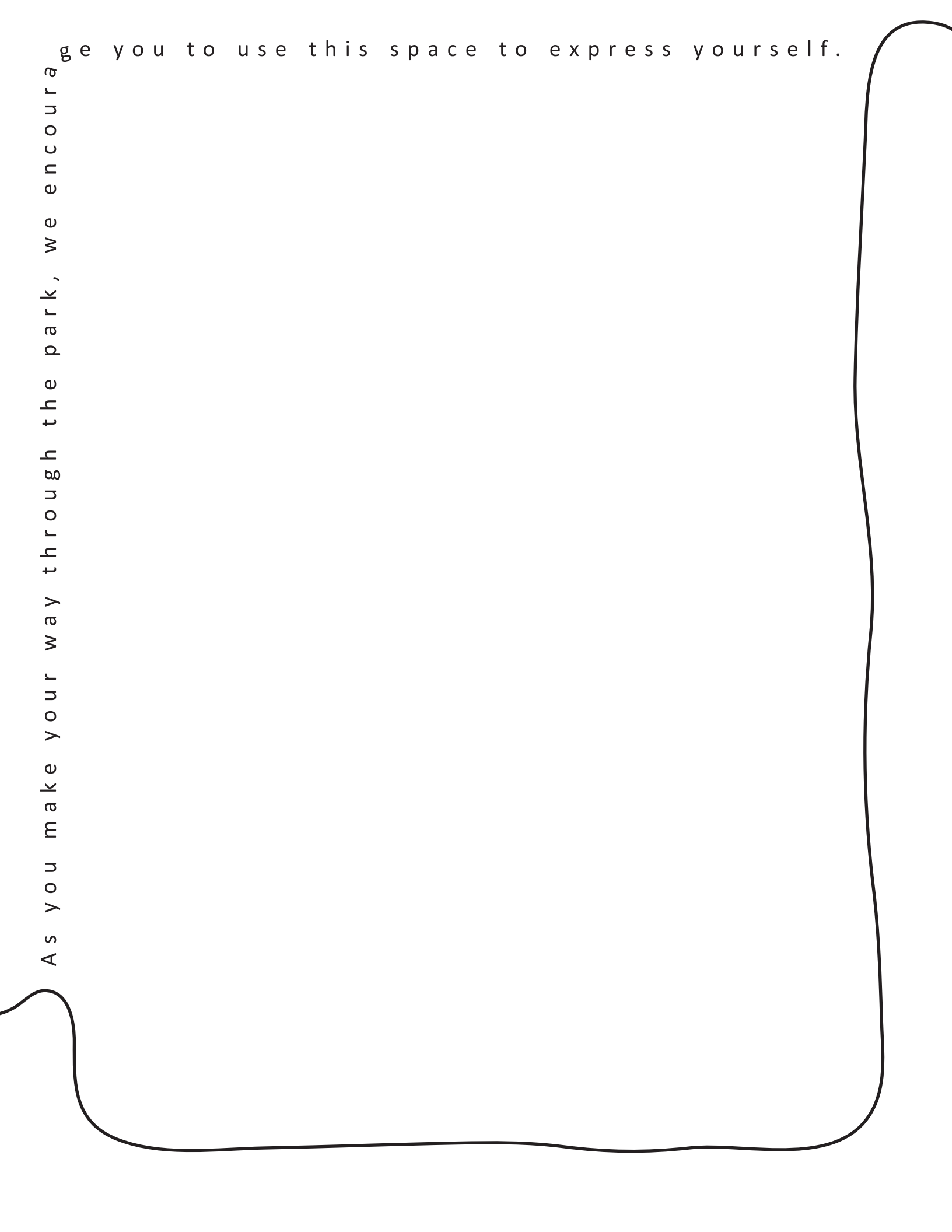
Claiming Space

REFIGURING THE
BODY IN LANDSCAPE

FAMILY
GUIDE
&
ACTIVITY
BOOK

stART here®
Montalvo Arts Center

As you make your way through the park, we encourage you to use this space to express yourself.



Welcome to

*Claiming Space:
Refiguring the Body in
Landscape*

at Montalvo Arts Center

As you walk through this exhibition, you will see sculptures that represent bodies of all shapes, colors, and sizes.

Something the artists would want you to know is that no matter what they look like, all bodies are whole and special.

How can pose, size, texture, and color tell a unique story about a person and how their body carries their story?

What kinds of memories and stories are held in your body?

Get ready to express yourself with your body through movement, conversation, looking, drawing, and writing as you learn from the sculptures in this guide!

Are you ready?

Always remember to look with your eyes and not with your hands, stay close to your grownup, and—most importantly—have fun!

Here is where our tour begins!

Wanxin Zhang
COLOR FACE
2013

Ceramic artist Wanxin Zhang is inspired by everything from Qin Dynasty terracotta warriors to Western pop culture. When making this sculpture of a man's head, Zhang was thinking about Chinese opera performances, especially the masks that the actors wear on stage. Zhang is fascinated by how the masks convey different characters and personalities. Here, he uses color to communicate his thoughts about history, politics, and what it means to be human, all themes discussed in the opera.



LOOK CLOSELY AT **COLOR FACE**.

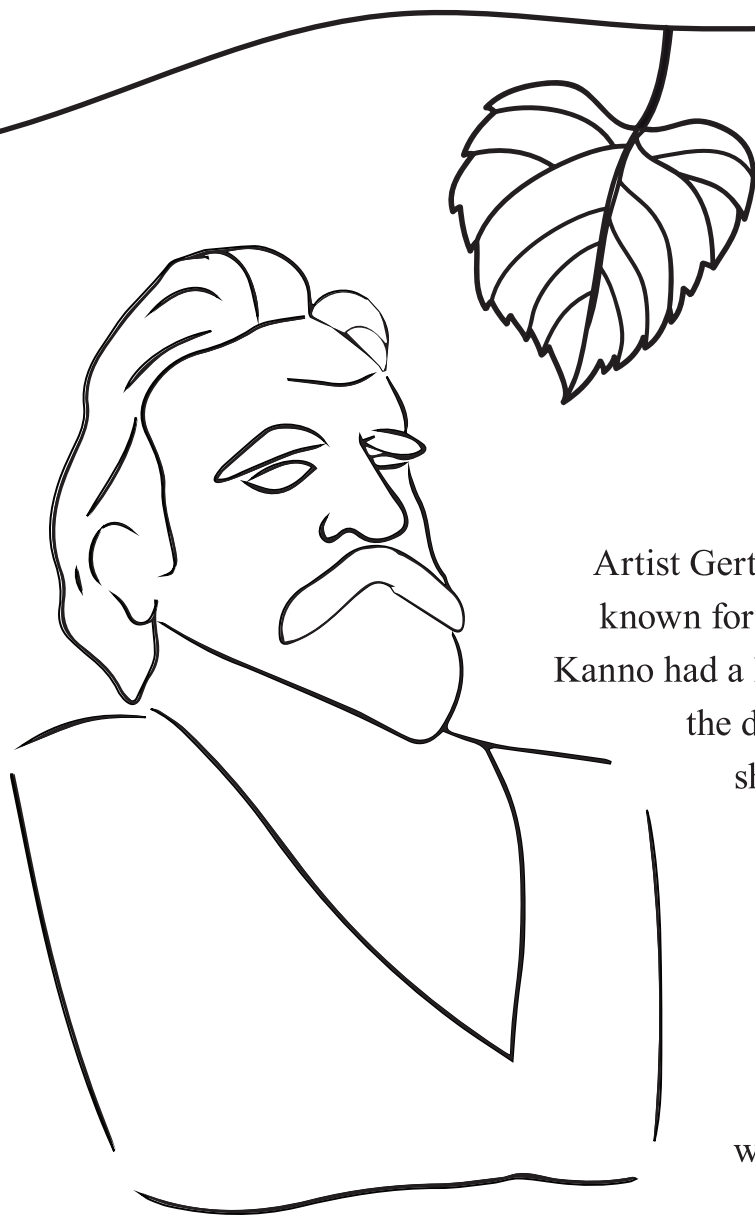
What colors do you see? What do you think they might mean?

Make up your own story about who this person is and tell it to someone with you.

What words would you use to describe this artwork?



A bust is like a portrait. It captures the unique features of a person. Now look up the path towards the hill for Edwin Markham's bust. What are some details we do not know because it is a bust? Look at Markham's expression. What kind of face is he making?



Gertrude Farquharson Boyle Kanno

Edwin Markham

1928

Artist Gertrude Farquharson Boyle Kanno was a sculptor known for making busts of famous people. Born in 1878, Kanno had a long and successful career as an artist. Despite the discrimination she faced because of her gender, she is remembered as a person who lived life on her terms. She worked out of a studio on Pine Street in San Francisco early in her career and she was an important member of New York's Greenwich Village community of artists and writers during the 1920s. Kanno made this sculpture in 1928 of Edwin Markham who wrote poetry about inequality in society and the importance of workers' rights.

Now, walk down past Charmaine's Garden Terrace. Stop at the bottom of the steps to view:

Alison Saar WINTER

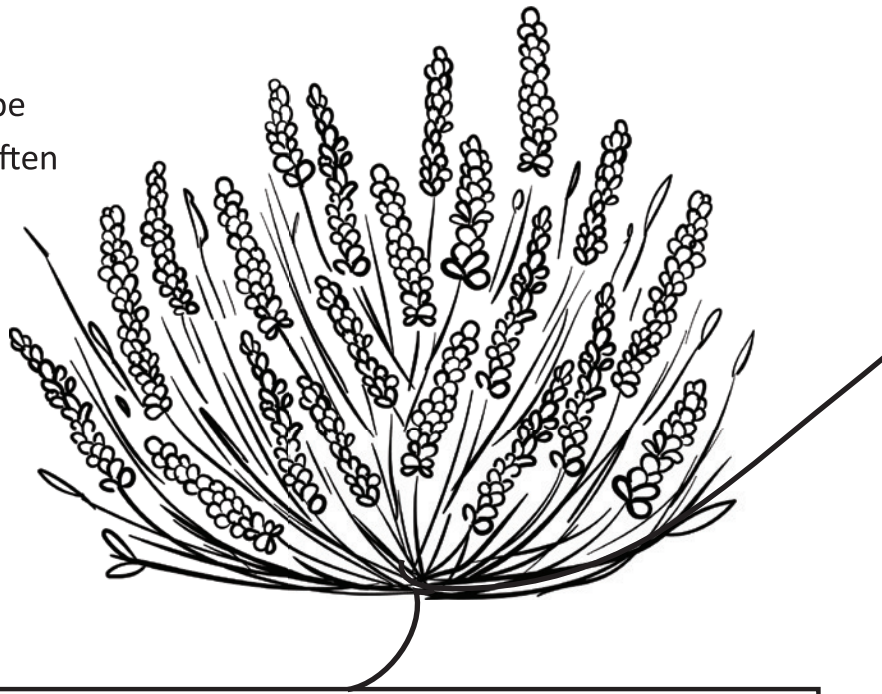
2011

Alison Saar wants people to be drawn in by her art, which often tells stories about the African

American experience. She says this sculpture is about the creative cycle: something that artists go through when they are making a piece of art. It is about balancing work with rest.

Saar says, "Winter looks like a stone, is petrified, and hibernating. She is curled up, in a dormant stage." Saar thinks this is an important part of the creative process: taking a break and resting before beginning the cycle of taking action again.

The creative process is similar to the cycle of the seasons. Nature rests in winter so that it can burst forth and blossom in spring!



How can you tell that Saar's figure is experiencing winter? Draw a picture or write a story about something or someone awakening from winter. What are they doing? How can you show a beginning, middle, and end?

Hank Willis Thomas

STRIKE

2021

Two stainless steel arms emerge from the ground, creating a triangle as one hand grasps the other person's wrist. In this sculpture, the artist is interested in the larger message of the struggle depicted, which is between a protestor and a police officer who has a weapon.

Like much of Thomas's work, this piece is about social justice, which refers to a fair relationship between people and society. Thomas makes artwork that shows how Black people have been mistreated throughout American history and have not been shown justice. Here, the protestor shows great strength in protecting themselves from the officer.



Close your eyes. Take a few seconds to think of a pose that makes you feel strong. When you are ready, show your pose to someone with you and have them show you theirs. How are your poses different? How are they similar? Share your pose with us @montalvoarts #ClaimingSpace.

Make your way down the Great Lawn towards the Italianate Garden,
where you will see four sculptures arranged in a semicircle.

Artist Unknown

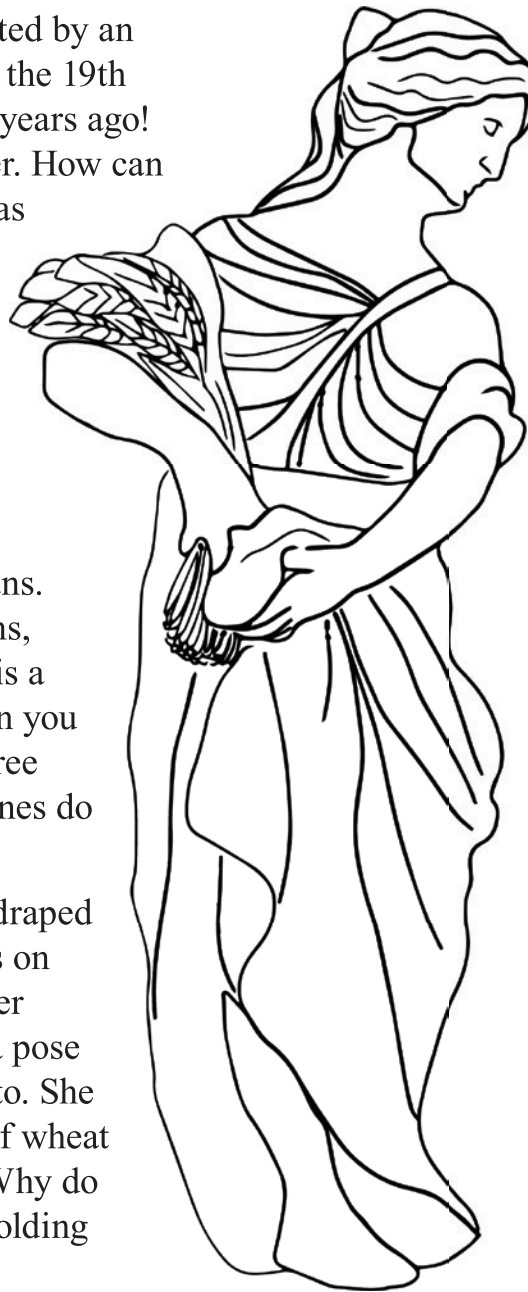
Summer of the Four Seasons

Mid to Late 19th Century

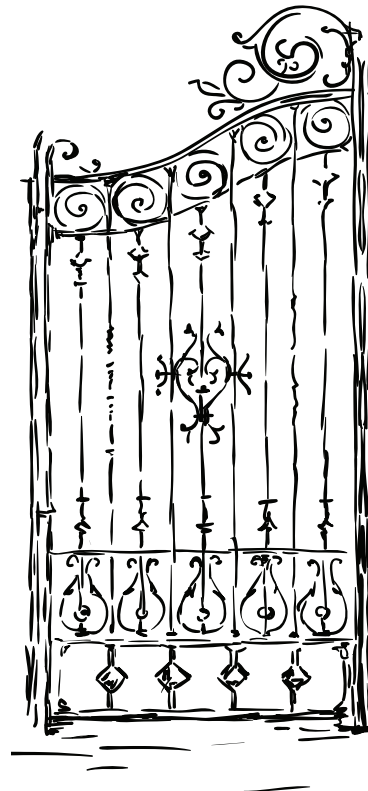
Summer was created by an unknown artist in the 19th century, over 100 years ago! Look closely at her. How can you tell that she has aged over time?

The tradition of representing the Four Seasons as sculptures goes back even further than the 1800s, to the Ancient Romans. In classical gardens, the Four Seasons is a popular motif. Can you name the other three seasons? Which ones do you see here?

Summer wears a draped garment and leans on her left leg with her right leg bent, in a pose called contrapposto. She balances a sheaf of wheat on her right hip. Why do you think she is holding wheat?



Close your eyes and try to find smells and sounds in the park right now that remind you of summer. Then, use pictures and words to share things you associate with summer on the blank spaces of this page.



Walk to your left so that you are standing in front of One-Legged Woman Standing.
How many steps did it take you?

Stephen DeStaebler

ONE-LEGGED WOMAN STANDING

1982-1985

This is a striking sculpture. Spend a little time looking at it closely and noticing the different textures.

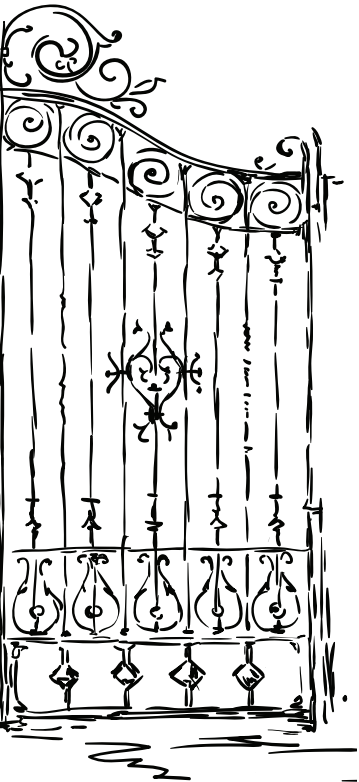


Artist Stephen De Staebler was interested in capturing the struggles and challenges that are part of all of our lives. His sculptures appear to defy gravity and be rooted to the ground at the same time.

At first glance, we might think that this person is not whole or that they are missing something. But she is not. She rises up strong and steady, like the tree behind her.



Try to balance on one leg for more than five seconds. How did it feel? If it was difficult at first but you kept trying, good job!



Now, enter the Italianate Garden. Look to the right when you reach the four benches.

Oliver Lee Jackson

MARBLE SCULPTURE NO. 1

1983

Artist Oliver Jackson tells stories of transformation.

Stroll around the marble sculpture as you take a good long look. Notice how different cuts form elegant figures and shapes that emerge from the marble. Notice, too, how the color of the stone changes.

There are many ways to depict a person. Compared to other sculptures in this park, such as *Adam and Eve*, Jackson's creation is in a constant state of transformation. Figuration, or the depiction of a person, can take any and all forms, and every stage of its growth is beautiful.

Consider how each angle of Jackson's sculpture tells a different story of transformation.



Imagine you and the sculpture are seedlings waiting for water and sunshine to grow and transform. What do you look like as you grow?

Come up with two poses that tell the story of your growth as a seedling.

Snap a photo of both poses and tell the story of your emergence. Share your photo with us @montalvoarts #ClaimingSpace.



Francesco Fabi-Altini
Adam and Eve
Mid to Late 19th Century

In this sculpture by Francesco Fabi-Altini, Adam and Eve embrace one another. Look at how Eve rests her head on Adam's shoulder. How would you describe her expression?

Notice that Adam's hand is clasping Eve's arm. What does this gesture tell us about their relationship?

In traditional carving, sculptors use a chisel to burst pieces of the stone away and a tooth chisel to form the sculpture's outline. Then sculptors use a rasp, a piece of metal with little teeth, to create texture.

What kind of texture does this sculpture have based on what you can see? Is it smooth, bumpy, or rough? Are all of the surface textures the same?

Look at the Adam and Eve sculpture. What similarities and differences do you notice between this sculpture and Jackson's?



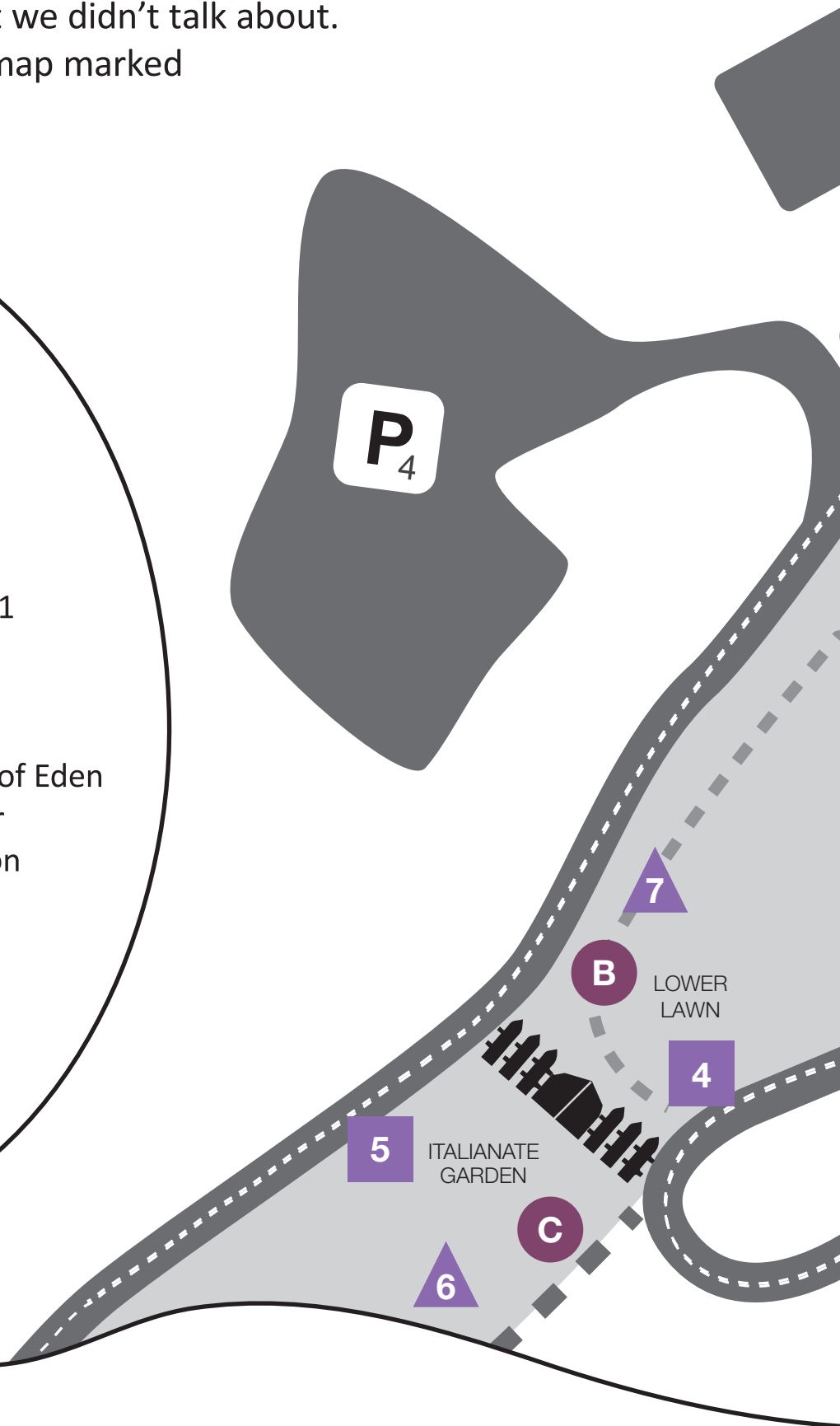
We hope you enjoyed learning about the sculptures in *Claiming Space* and the stories each of them tells. Did you have a favorite?

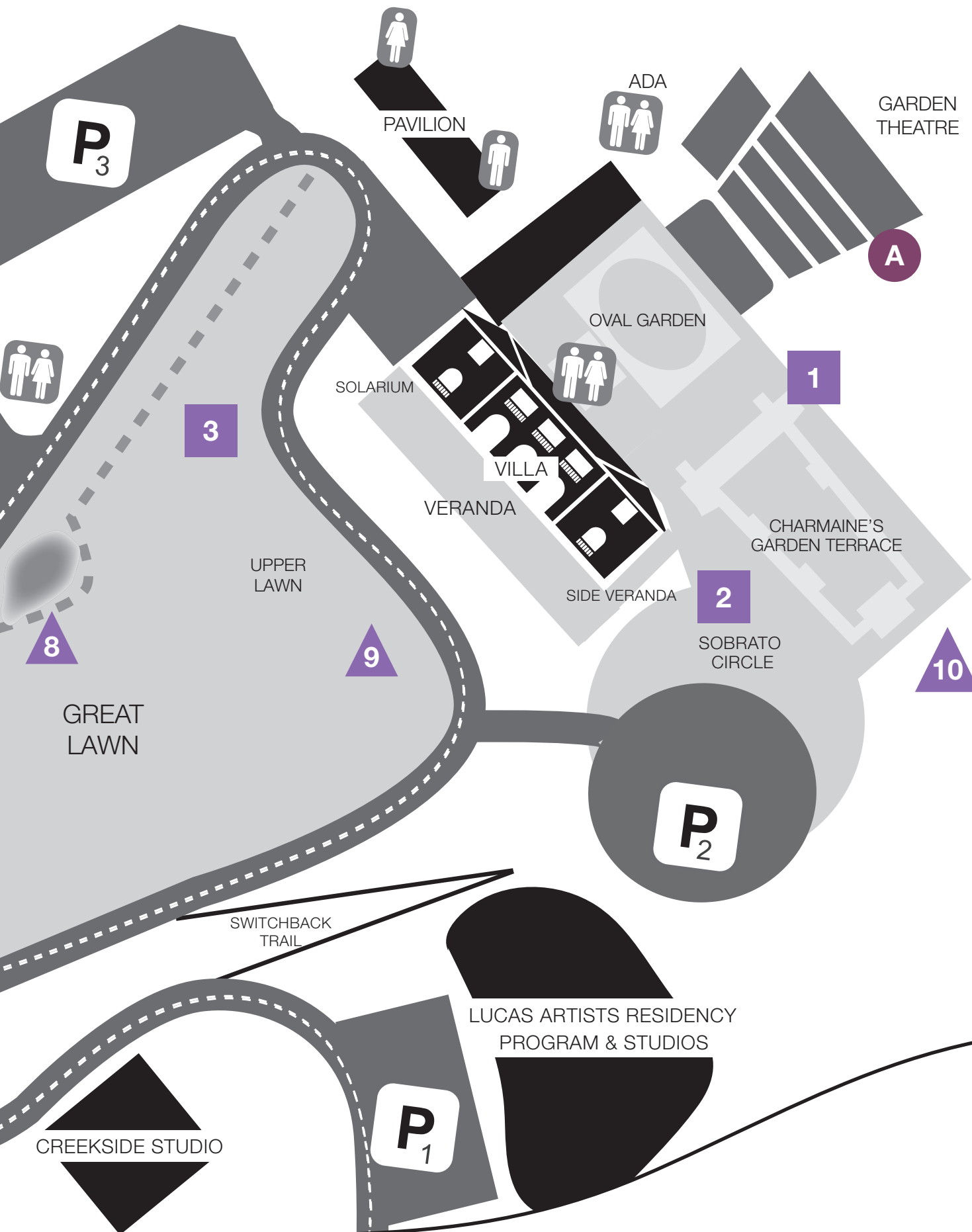
There are other works that we didn't talk about. You can find them on the map marked with a triangle.

LEGEND

1. Color Face
2. Winter
3. Strike
4. One Legged Woman
5. Marble Sculpture No. 1
6. Of Color
7. It's All About Love
8. Resilience of the 20%
9. Return to the Garden of Eden
10. Works by Riva Lehrer and Oliver Lee Jackson

- A. Edwin Markham
B. Summer
C. Adam and Eve





Credits

Wanxin Zhang (b. 1961)

Color Face, 2013

High fired clay with glaze

30 x 31 x 37 in.

Courtesy of the artist and Catharine Clark Gallery,
San Francisco

Photo: Isaiah Plaza

Gertrude Farquharson Boyle Kanno
(1878–1937)

Edwin Markham, 1928

Cast bronze

26 x 23 x 12 in.

Collection of Montalvo Arts Center

Line drawing: Pallavi Nemali

Alison Saar (b. 1956)

Winter, 2011

Cast bronze

22 x 31 x 23 in.

Courtesy of the artist and L.A. Louver Gallery,
Venice, CA

Photo: Isaiah Plaza

Hank Willis Thomas (b. 1976)

Strike, 2021

Polished stainless steel

122 x 120 x 30 in.

Courtesy of the artist

Photo: Flying Studio, Los Angeles.

Courtesy of the artist and Kayne Griffin, Los Angeles

Artist Unknown

Summer (of the Four Seasons), 19th Century

Carved stone

Height: 69 in.

Base: 36 x 21 x 21 in.

Collection of Montalvo Arts Center

Line drawing: Pallavi Nemali

Stephen De Staebler (1933–2011)

One Legged Woman Standing, 1982–1985

Cast bronze

Height: 70 in.

Base: 36 x 21 x 21 in.

Collection of Montalvo Arts Center

Photo: Isaiah Plaza

Oliver Lee Jackson (b. 1935)

Marble Sculpture No. 1, 1983

Marble

56 x 23 x 27 in.

Courtesy of the artist and Rena Bransten Gallery,
San Francisco

Photo: Isaiah Plaza

Francesco Fabi-Altini (1830–1906)

Adam and Eve, mid to late 19th Century

Marble

Sculpture: 70 x 45 x 47 in.

Base: 30 x 40 x 40 in.

Collection of Montalvo Arts Center

Line drawing: Pallavi Nemali

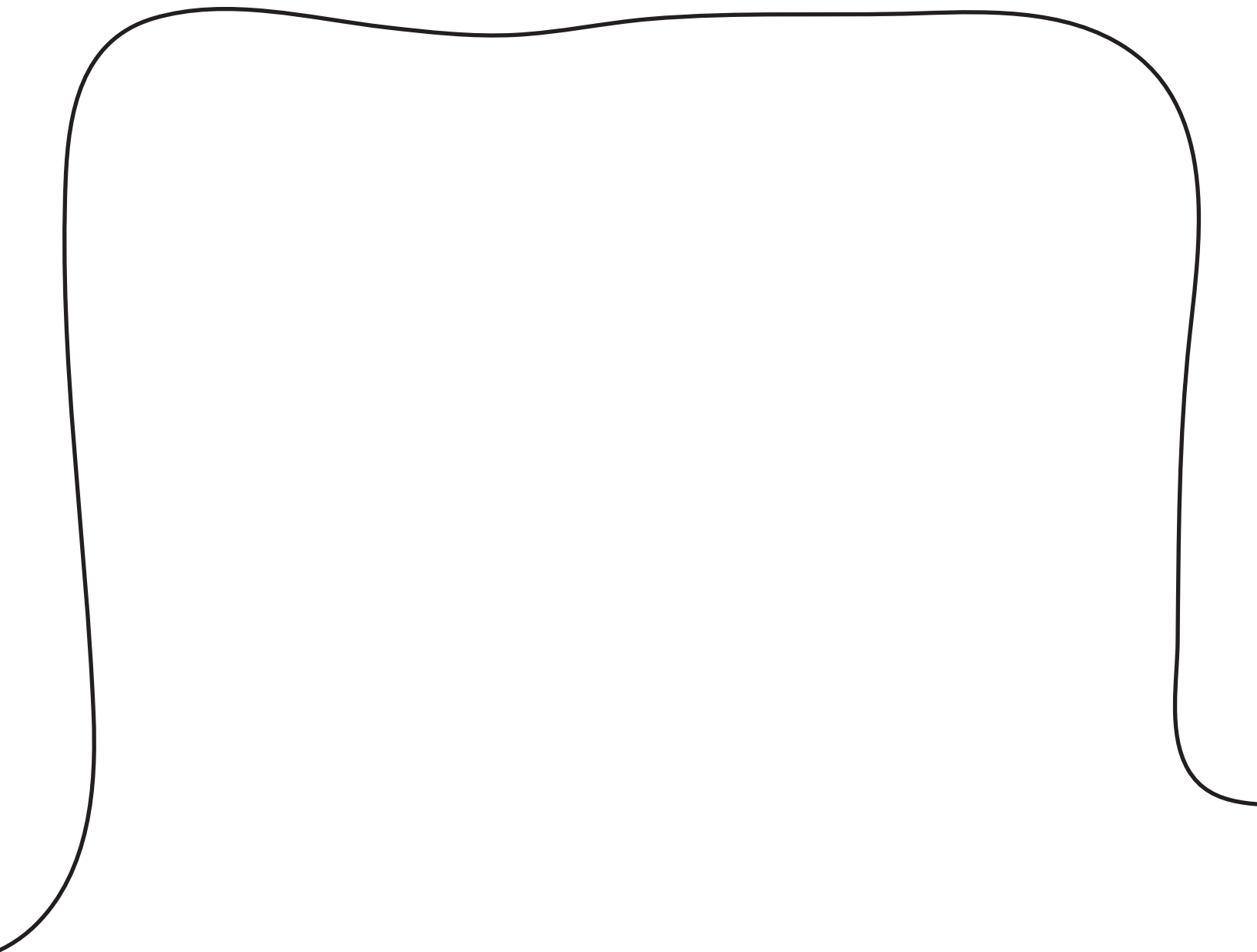
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Claiming Space family guide developed by
Akane Okoshi and Lara Schilling, and designed by
Pallavi Nemali.

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continuing support of Sally Lucas.

Exhibition organized by the curatorial team at
Montalvo's Lucas Artists Program: Donna Conwell,
Judy Dennis, and Kelly Sicat.

Draw a picture or write a story about what you saw today and share it with someone at home.





Thank you for visiting *Claiming Space!*

This guide is available online at
montalvoarts.org/guide

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