

Tree of Life Drawing



Essential Question: How do people turn gratitude into art?

Duration:

Variable, ongoing.

Art History/Inspiration:

Mexican popular art

Materials:

- Drawing paper
- Pencil
- Colored pencils
- Markers

Lesson:

On piece of drawing paper, sketch out the trunk and empty branches of what will be your tree of life. Your tree can be symmetrical or unpredictable. Be creative with the base of your tree: Which character(s) will you put there? Tree of Life imagery in Mexico often features Adam and Eve as prominent figures but you can choose any character(s), even yourself. Draw leaves on the branches, keeping in mind you are going to be adding many elements going forward. As you return to your drawing each day, add symbols or *Milagros* that represent the sanctity of your life and what you are thankful for. What is beautiful, creates a sense of awe, and brings you joy? This will be a drawing that “grows” organically and can take as long as it needs to be completed.