

**Voices in the Gallery  
Memorial Art Gallery  
March 14, 2007**

**Lesson Plan  
M.J. Iuppa**

Pick a work of art that calls to you.

On your brainstorming page (see reverse) identify:

- landscape, color tied to objects, mood – emotional consequence, such as love, peace, justice, loneliness, confusion, isolation, etc.
- action – what is going on in the art work?

Ask questions of the art (its scene-situation, its characters); see if the questions generate a response.

What is this art “like” as in simile, using like, as or than, or can it be directly compared to something else, as in metaphor.

What could be a potential anaphoric device that is a line or phrase worth repeating? Is it connected to an object, or mood, or action of the art work?

Does the art lead you to one or more new thoughts?

Write your poem in the form that you want.

It may be a narrative – a poem that creates a story. Or it may be lyrical, using a series of ideas and images. The poem may rhyme or not.

Length of poem is up to you.

You may certainly write more than one poem, on the same piece of art, or chose another.

We will come back together to share our work.

*M.J. Iuppa, poet, essayist, short storyist, is Writer-in-Residence and Director of the Arts Minor Program at St. John Fisher College.*

This is your brainstorming page, you will see six categories:  
Generate as many words (reactions) as you can in each category.

**Images**

**Emotions**

**Sound/Smell**

**Action Verbs**

**Month/Season**

**Colors**



Support for the Gallery's 2006-07 school programs is provided by Dominion, Bank of America, and the Mary W. Clark Trust. Additional support is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Judson Jr., the estate of Estelle B. Goldman and an anonymous donor for the McPherson Director of Education.



**Lilly Martin Spencer**  
***Peeling Onions*, ca. 1852**  
**Oil on canvas**  
**Gift of the Women's Council**  
**in celebration of the**  
**75th anniversary of the**  
**Memorial Art Gallery, 88.6**  
**Collection of the Memorial Art Gallery**



**John Sloan**  
***Chinese Restaurant*, 1909**  
**Oil on canvas**  
**Marion Stratton Gould Fund, 51.12**  
**Collection of the Memorial Art Gallery**

**Voices in the Gallery  
Teacher In-service  
March 14, 2007**

**M. J. Iuppa  
Word Spill**



*Chinese Restaurant, 1909*  
John Sloan, 1871-1951

**Directions:** On this page, there are 15 words. Please write a word or phrase in association to the words on the page and the painting before you. Once you've done this, you will have doubled your vocabulary.

- Now see how these words “cluster.”
- Draw lines connecting the words that work together.
- Using as many of the words (print and written) and any other words in your vocabulary so you're not limited to just these words, write a poem based on these words and the painting.

Red

Hand

Slurp

Whirl

Soup

Feather

Smoke

White

Murmur

Cat

Homage

Attention

Warmth

Sounds

Blink

**Voices in the Gallery  
Teacher In-service  
March 14, 2007**

**M. J. Iuppa  
Word Spill**



***Peeling Onions***, ca. 1852  
Lilly Martin Spencer, 1822–1902

**Directions:** On this page, there are 16 words. Please write a word or phrase in association to the words on the page and the painting before you. Once you've done this, you will have doubled your vocabulary.

- Now see how these words “cluster.”
- Draw lines connecting the words that work together.
- Using as many of the words (print and written) and any other words in your vocabulary so you're not limited to just these words, write a poem based on these words and the painting.

Pungent

Tear

Chicken

Knife

Blue

Slice

Fruit

Harvest

Table

Cloth

Far away

Sounds

Hour

Absent

Thought



**Voices in the Gallery: Art and Writing**  
**March 14, 2007**

**Classroom Resources Available in the Teacher Resource Center  
of the Memorial Art Gallery**

<http://mag.rochester.edu/learn/teacherServices/teacherResourceCenter/>  
473-7720, ext. 3022

*Activities for Creating Pictures & Poetry*

Janis Bunchman and Stephanie Bissell Briggs. Worcester, MA: Davis Publications, Inc., 1994.

*Art Gallery Stories*

Philip Wilkinson. New York: Peter Bedrick Books, 2000.

*Articulate Game of ARThought and ARTalk*

Nancy Walkup. Glenview, IL: Crystal Productions, 1996.

Game with spinner board, question cards, score cards, directions, question cards

*Celebrate America in Poetry and Art*

New York: Hyperion Paperbacks for Children in association with the National Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institution, 1994.

*Color Me a Rhyme: Nature Poems for Young People*

Jane Yolen. Honesdale, PA: Wordsong/Boyd's Mills Press, 2000.

*Come Look with Me: Enjoying Art with Children*

Gladys S. Blizzard. Charlottesville, VA: Thomasson-Grant, 1993.

*Draw Me a Story. An Illustrated Explanation of Drawing-As-Language*

Bob Steele. Winnipeg, Canada: Peguis Publishers, 1998.

*Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art*

Jane Greenberg, ed. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers, 2001.

*Interdisciplinary Connection: Art and Language Arts, the Artist as Story Teller*

Aspen, CO: Crystal Productions, 1998.

Take 5 posters and teacher's guide

*I See the Rhythm.*

Paintings by Michele Wood, text by Toyomi Igus. San Francisco: Children's Book Press, 1998.

*Language as Object: Emily Dickinson and Contemporary Art*

Susan Daly, ed. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press and Mead Art Museum, 1997.

*Paint Me a Poem: Poems Inspired by Masterpieces of Art*

Justine Rowden. Honesdale, PA: Wordsong/Boyd's Mills Press, 2005.

*Sing Me a Story: the Metropolitan Opera's Book of Opera Stories for Children.*  
Jane Rosenberg. New York: Thames and Hudson,, 1989.

*Telling Stories in Art Images*  
Chicago, IL: Art Institute of Chicago, 1996.  
Teacher manual and 6 slides.

*Words for Images: A Gallery of Poems*  
New Haven, CT: Yale University Art Gallery, 2001.

*Voices in the Gallery: Writers on Art*  
Grant Holcomb, ed. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2001.

*Wake Up Our Souls: A Celebration of Black American Artists.*  
Tonya Bolden. New York: Henry Abrams, Inc. in association with the  
Smithsonian Art Museum, 2004.

*Wings of an Artist: Children's Book Illustrators Talk about their Art.*  
Julie Cummins. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Publishers, 1999.

*Words with Wings: a Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art*  
Belinda Rochelle. New York: HarperCollins/Amistad, c. 2001.



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