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

Memorial Art Gallery

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
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](image)

*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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pungent</th>
<th>Tear</th>
<th>Chicken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knife</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Slice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloth</td>
<td>Far away</td>
<td>Sounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hour</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Thought</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities for Creating Pictures & Poetry

Art Gallery Stories

Articulate Game of ARTought and ARTalk
   Game with spinner board, question cards, score cards, directions, question cards

Celebrate America in Poetry and Art

Color Me a Rhyme: Nature Poems for Young People

Come Look with Me: Enjoying Art with Children

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

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

Interdisciplinary Connection: Art and Language Arts, the Artist as Story Teller
   Take 5 posters and teacher’s guide

I See the Rhythm.

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
Sing Me a Story: the Metropolitan Opera’s Book of Opera Stories for Children.

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

Words for Images: A Gallery of Poems

Voices in the Gallery: Writers on Art


Wings of an Artist: Children’s Book Illustrators Talk about their Art.

Words with Wings: a Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art

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.