Online Reflective Writing Workshops Inspired by Visual Art Presented by Mary Hall Surface

Discover how close, intentional looking at visual art can inspire rich reflective writing. Mary Hall Surface, popular Smithsonian Associates instructor, founding instructor of Washington DC's National Gallery of Art's Writing Salon, Kennedy Center National Teaching Artist, and 6-summer faculty member of Harvard's Project Zero Classroom offers 10 online reflective writing workshops inspired by a diverse range of visual art as well as poetry. These writings can also be the source for memoir, poetry and more. 90minutes each, interactive via chat and an end-of-workshop open dialogue, these workshops engage participants in close looking, word-sketching and imaginative responses to diverse writing prompts. Workshops can be presented singly or in a selected sequence. <u>www.maryhallsurface.com</u>.

Autumn's Harvest

Inspired by works of art by Hudson River landscape painter, Jasper Francis Cropsey, and poetry by Mary Oliver, explore the lessons that the season of autumn offers us when we slow down, look closely, and reflect.





Bridges of Light and Time

Step into the colors, light and forms of Claude Monet's exquisite *The Japanese Footbridge* to explore the bridge as a metaphor for the thresholds and journeys of our lives.

Colors of Love

Inspired by paintings of the visionary Belorussian-born French artist Marc Chagall and by poetry across time, explore love as an animating force in our lives and world.





The Holding Bowl

Inspired by contemporary works by American artist Margaret Boozer and poet Jane Hirshfield, consider the bowl as a metaphor for our lives and the world.

Metaphors and Meaning

Discover how close looking at a fascinating work by German artist Sigmar Polke deepens self-awareness and builds resilience in times of challenge and change.





Mothering

Two British artists, painter Evelyn De Morgan and poet/playwright Carol Ann Duffy, will lead us into the myth of Demeter, a world-changing mother from Greek mythology. Reflect on the myriad meanings of mothering in our lives, in the natural world, and in the creative process.

Spring's Awakening

Inspired by works of art by Vincent Van Gogh and poetry by Mary Oliver, explore the lessons that the season of spring offers us when we slow down, look closely, and reflect.





The View from Here

Inspired by Hughie Lee-Smith's intriguing painting, *The Beach,* discover how shifting perspectives can strengthen your resilience and hope.

Winter's Colors

Experience new ways to contemplate the gifts of winter inspired by the vibrant *Winter Landscape* by Wassily Kandinsky, an artist who embraced the transcendent power of color.





Winter Wisdom

Inspired by Claude Monet's *The Magpie* and two winter poems by Mary Oliver, explore the lessons that this season offers us when we look closely, wonder, and write.

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Responses from Smithsonian Associates Workshop Participants:

Mary Hall was phenomenal. She is among the greatest educators I've ever had. She exemplifies the best of "Light Gatherers" and I was most fortunate to have been touched by her.

I loved her special heartwarming, caring, nonjudgmental guidance

This was the best session I have taken through the Smithsonian. The instructor was phenomenal. An absolutely outstanding! She made the subject matter accessible. Her content, participant engagement, and hands on writing were a perfect balance.

Mary Hall is a national treasure; how fitting then that the Smithsonian offers so many of her classes!

Mary Hall Surface is an extraordinarily gifted teacher and artist. Her sessions are at the top of the list of those offered by Smithsonian Associates.

Contact:

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