

# NATIONAL MUSEUM of **ASIAN ART**

Welcome to your virtual field trip with the National Museum of Asian Art. We are looking forward to hosting you. Here is some information and logistics about the program.

## Platform and Expectations

Staff of the National Museum of Asian Art will create a unique Zoom meeting link and share it with teachers two weeks before the program date. A reminder e-mail with the link will be sent a few days before the program.

Please log in 15 minutes prior to the start time of the virtual field trip.

Please be sure students arrive to the virtual field trip with paper and something to write with.

The program will be interactive via a PowerPoint presentation. We request classrooms participate with cameras on and come off mute to respond to questions. We request teacher assistance to call on students to respond to questions. Please direct your students to walk over to the microphone to share their answers. We will do our best to make sure each classroom gets to respond at least once to each question.

The virtual field trip lasts one hour. If you would like to adjust the end time, please be in touch with Jenn Reifsteck, Education Specialist: [reifsteckj@si.edu](mailto:reifsteckj@si.edu)

## Program theme and works of art

When do people give gifts?

Why do people give gifts?

How do you feel when you give a gift? Receive a gift?

What do gifts look like in cultures across Asia?

Students will explore gifts exchanged for holidays, religious customs, and other rituals with example objects from countries such as China, Japan, India, and Turkey.

Visit this website to review works of art that may be featured during the program:

<https://learninglab.si.edu/q/ll-c/F4WxRVLMgiI0Kfzu#r/67613>

## Post-virtual field trip activity

Extend the learning with a post-visit activity. Flip over for instructions and supplies.



**Smithsonian**  
*Freer Gallery of Art*  
*Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*

USPS MAIL:  
PO Box 37012, MRC 707  
Washington, DC 20013

PACKAGE AND COURIER DELIVERIES:  
1050 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20560

**asia.si.edu**

## Post-Virtual Field Trip Art Activity

### Learning Objective

Students will design a gift box with symbols and messages using a variety of media to communicate hopes, wishes, and good fortune to a friend, family member, or community member that could need a gift right now.

### Procedure

Revisit the image Treasure Box of Eternal Spring and Longevity with students. Ask them to recall what they remember about the object from the virtual field trip. Explain that the box was a gift box that would have held a present inside. The gift was either from or to the emperor of China over 250 years ago. The gift box has many symbols that mean good luck and long life to wish the person receiving the gift a lot of happiness.

Explain to students that they will be creating their own gift box that will communicate wishes and hopes for someone they know. They can communicate these messages using symbols, images, and/or words. Images can be found in magazines or drawn by the students.

As a class or individually, students will answer these following questions to guide the creation of their gift box:

- Why might we give someone a gift?
- How do you feel when you give someone a gift?
- Think of someone you know that could use a gift right now to make them feel \_\_\_\_\_ (use the words expressed by students from prompt above)
- Think about what you want to say to that person. How would you show them in words or pictures how you feel or what you think about them?

### Suggested Supplies

- Box, one per student
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Assorted magazines, papers to cut, photographs to cut, or other collage materials
- Construction paper

