Barnes Art Adventures—Grades 5–8

STEAM Challenge

In our STEAM online learning series for grades 5–8, students go behind the scenes with creative professionals—art conservators, video game designers, and animators—to learn how science and math skills are used in their work, providing students with real-world context for important STEM concepts.

Our spring STEAM Art Adventure series offers two 45-minute shows with Barnes educators and a final Meet the Professionals event where students learn from someone working in the field. Teachers must register their class for episode 1 to participate in the Meet the Professionals event.

Spring Project Challenge: Film Animation

Students explore creating animated characters and scenes after observing how artists represent natural phenomena in their work. In the first episode, students analyze portraits from different cultures and time periods to see the different ways artists portray the human experience. Then, students study landscapes to see how artists interpret natural environments. Finally, students are challenged to storyboard their own character(s) and scenes based on their observations. Teachers will receive activity prompts to guide the storyboard challenge.

Featured artists: Barkley L. Hendricks, Mickalene Thomas, Pablo Picasso, Chaim Soutine, Pierre Auguste Renoir, Kerry James Marshall

EPISODE 1: HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
Wednesday, April 7; Tuesdays, April 13 & 27; Monday, April 19; 1–1:45 pm
Students explore the challenges of creating characters in film and how observing human behavior informs the development process. Discussion will include how artists convey personal meaning in art. Students will see clips illustrating how film studios like Pixar animate objects to seem more human.

EPISODE 2: ART AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS
Wednesday, May 5; Tuesday, May 11, 18; 1–1:45 pm
Students explore how observations of the natural world inform storytelling by looking at artwork from different places and time periods. Students will see examples of films that were inspired by famous artworks.

MEET THE PROFESSIONALS
Tuesday, May 25, 1–2 pm
Students who participate in our spring show are invited to register for a special one-time live event where we meet a director of short animated films. Teachers must register for episode 1 to participate in this event.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT BARNESFOUNDATION.ORG/TEACHERS.