

# DONUTS AND ART: A PERFECT PAIR

## AGES

Tweens 9–12

Teens 13–18

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Donuts and art make a perfect pair! This art project mashes the works of Vassily Kandinsky (specifically *Color Study, Squares with Concentric Circles*) and Wayne Theibauld (specifically *Cakes*) to create an artfully arranged wall of donuts. Every participant paints their own donut on canvas or paper; when arranged together, the pieces become a work of friendship and collaboration. To emphasize friendship, pair up participants and ask them to make two donut paintings that complement each other in some way (color, form, layout, style, etc.). Registration recommended. Suggested runtime: 60–90 minutes.

## MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials:

- Canvas (one per participant)
- Acrylic paints and paint brushes
- Tablecloths, paper towels, cups, and water
- Donuts for snacking (optional)

Before painting, give a brief art history lesson on the works of Vassily Kandinsky and Wayne Theibauld. Guide the discussion by asking questions: What colors do you see? How do the paintings make you feel? Do you think these paintings could be paired together? Do they represent a theme?

Explain that you will be working together to create a giant wall of donuts. After the paintings have dried, hang them up. Be sure to share examples for those who would rather copy a donut design than come up with their own.

## UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Solo-librarian friendly. In-person programs may require a microwave (for Rice Krispy treats).

## ADAPTATION:

For a passive program that can be aged down, provide donut coloring sheets. Turn the finished pages into a donut wall quilt that grows over the summer.

## TIP:

For more famous artist-inspired projects, see ideas from the Art with Jenny K. blog here: <https://bit.ly/3NN79QX>

## TIP:

You can also include a lesson on color mixing! Consider reaching out to local artists to help run this program.



Image source: Shutterstock

## RESOURCES

### Web

“Wassily Kandinsky” from *The Art Story*: <https://bit.ly/3MD1nQt>

“Wayne Thiebaud” from *The Art Story*: <https://bit.ly/3ttBVq0>

### Books

#### Donut Fiction

*Donut the Destroyer* (2020) by Sarah Graley and Stef Purenins (middle grade)

*Donuts and Other Proclamations of Love* (2021) by Jared Reck (YA)

*The Doughnut Fix* (2018) by Jessie Janowitz (middle grade)

*The Doughnut King* (2019) by Jessie Janowitz (middle grade)

#### Nonfiction

*The Art of Graphic Communication* (2019) by W.L. Kitts (YA)

*Art Matters* (2018) by Neil Gaiman (YA)

*Delicious Metropolis: The Desserts and Urban Scenes of Wayne Thiebaud* (2019) by Wayne Thiebaud (adult)

*The Life and Art of Wassily Kandinsky* (2016) by Adam Simpson (YA)

### Printables

Donut Coloring Page