Mini Art Lesson: 
*Revolutionary Sister* by Dindga McCannon

In the 1960s and '70s, artist Dindga McCannon didn’t see many Black women warriors, so she created her own in *Revolutionary Sister*. This mixed-media artwork is made from lots of different materials—including a Statue of Liberty–inspired headpiece made from recycled flagpoles and pieces from the hardware store. Follow along with step-by-step instructions as kids ages 2–6 create artworks made out of household items and paint, and kids ages 7 and up use found items to create images that make them feel powerful.

FOR AGES 2–6:
LET’S PLAY

In this lesson, we’ll explore the items that make us feel free. We’ll go on a scavenger hunt for art materials around our home or neighborhood and will make art with the objects we find.

**Step 1:** Think of a place that makes you feel happy and talk about it with your family. Museum Educator Tamar MacKay thought about the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, a place she’s visited before with her family. (A)

**Step 2:** Now, it’s time to find your materials! Go on a scavenger hunt and look for items that remind you of your favorite place. Here, Tamar uses a bouquet of flowers that she has at home and a few gathered sticks she found outside with her dog, Maple. (B)
Step 3: Gather a few household items and some paint (C). We recommend using:

- A brown paper bag as your canvas
- Painting and drawing materials (Tamar uses paint, pencils, correction fluid, and some brewed tea)
- Sponges, paper or newspaper, glue, and any other household materials

Step 4: Explore how you feel as you use your painting tools on your paper or paper bag. Here, Tamar paints with tea and uses a stick as her paintbrush. She also dipped a leaf in paint to create an imprint of it. (D)

Step 5: Now that you’ve explored your materials, it’s time to make your art. Enjoy the process and try to feel free as you create! (E)

Step 6: Put your artwork on display or share it with a loved one! Tamar is going to send her art to her grandmother Flora, whose name means “flower.” (F)
FOR AGES 7+
LET'S CREATE

In this project, we’re making powerful images using everyday materials! All you need is a photograph, a pen or pencil, glue or tape, and a few found objects from around your home.

**Step 1:** Find an image of someone you look up to, such as a family member, friend, or maybe even someone you don’t know. Senior Instructor Noé Gaytán chose to celebrate his grandmother. (A)

**Step 2:** Trace or sketch an outline of this person. You can fill in a few details, too. (B)

**Step 3:** Once you have your sketch, look around your home or neighborhood for 3–4 other materials. Noé is using yarn, because his grandma loved to knit and crochet; black pieces of paper from mailings, because black was her favorite color; and wrappers from one of her favorite snacks. (C)
FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE (cont.)

Step 4: Now, take your materials and start to line them up on your sketch. Cut your materials into different pieces or shapes based on where you want to put them. (D)

Step 5: Glue or tape your materials in place. If you have some empty space, use markers or colored pencils to fill it in. (E)

Step 6: Once you’re done, hang up your creation in a place that will inspire you!