

EJ Hill

**ACTIVITY +
REFLECTION
GUIDE**



OXYARTS

**Wherever
we will to root**

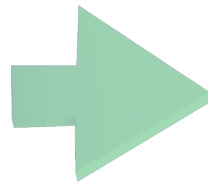
HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

You can print this out at home, or follow along online! You will need a pencil or pen, and something to color with. You can use colored pencils, markers, or whatever you have at home!

If you are viewing this online and not printing the guide, get 5 pieces of blank paper to write and draw on!

**Click on this button or
enter the url into your
browser**

<https://bit.ly/ej-hill>



**VIEW
THE
EXHIBITION**

Scroll down until you see the **GALLERY** with photographs of the exhibition. We will use these photographs to complete the activities in this guide!

WHEREVER WE WILL TO ROOT

This exhibition is filled with paintings of flowers by EJ Hill. EJ Hill is an artist who doesn't always paint. He also makes sculptures, music, and performances.

For this show, he wanted to create something that would be healing and joyful for him to make. Painting flowers was a good fit - the **process** and **subject** matter are both calming and restorative.

Just like flowers, people need nourishment and care to grow and **bloom**. Creating these paintings was a way for EJ Hill to rest, reset and take care of himself.

This show is an invitation to join him - to let yourself be surrounded by the beauty of flowers and re-connect with what we need in order to grow.

VOCABULARY

Bloom - come into or be in full beauty or health; flourish.

Gradient - a visual technique of gradually transitioning from one color to another.

Observational - drawing on things that one has seen, heard, or noticed in everyday life.

Process - how the artist creates their artwork.

Subject - the main idea that is represented in the artwork.

IMAGINE A FLOWER

Some of the flowers you see in this exhibition are painted based on real flowers.

Look around you. What shapes and colors do you notice? Do they remind you of flowers you have seen before? Take notes in the space below:



Sketch an imaginary flower here.
What shape are its petals?
What colors are in your flower?



When you leave the gallery, find a flower outside and draw it from **observation.**



How are your two flowers different? How are they similar?

HOW DO YOU BLOOM?

We are growing all of the time - whether it is our bodies or minds, we are constantly changing and responding to our environment.



Think about a flower - *what does it need to grow?*

Most plants need water, sun and soil. Some plants need help from other plants, humans, or other animals in order to grow - like a bee to pollinate, or a human to weed out other plants so it has space to grow and **bloom**.

What do **you** need in order to grow and **bloom**?

1.

2.

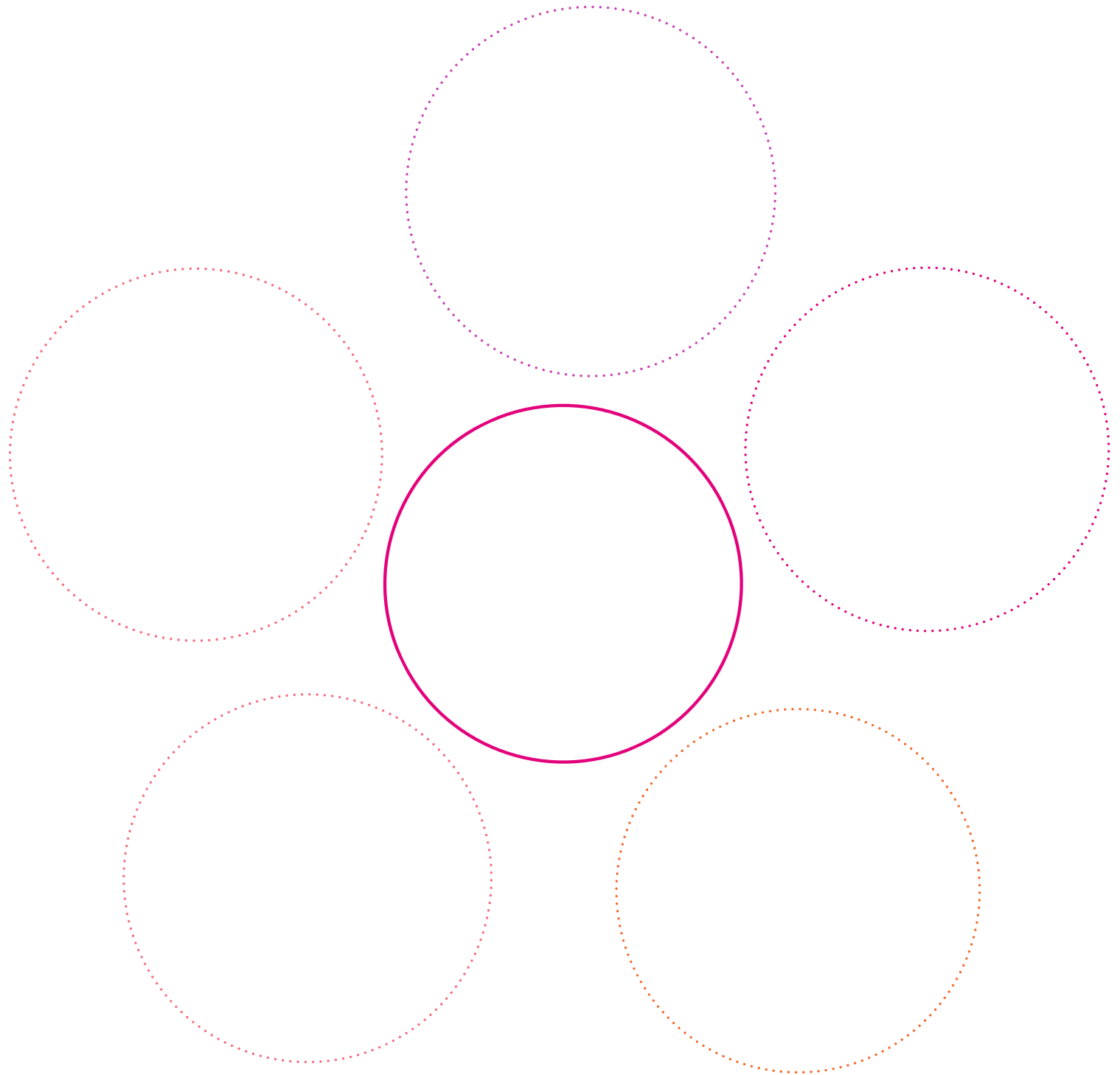
3.

4.

5.

Think about things your body needs - like water and food, but also things your mind and spirit might need - like friendship, music or animals. Make a list of 5 things you need to grow:

Draw a self
portrait in
the center
circle. In the
circles
around your
self portrait,
draw the 5
things that
help you
grow:



THE POWER OF COLORS

Different colors make us feel different emotions. What colors do you **observe** in these paintings? Make a list below.



Pick two colors from these paintings. Write or fill in the color on the left side, and write down the emotions they make you feel on the right:

COLOR 1

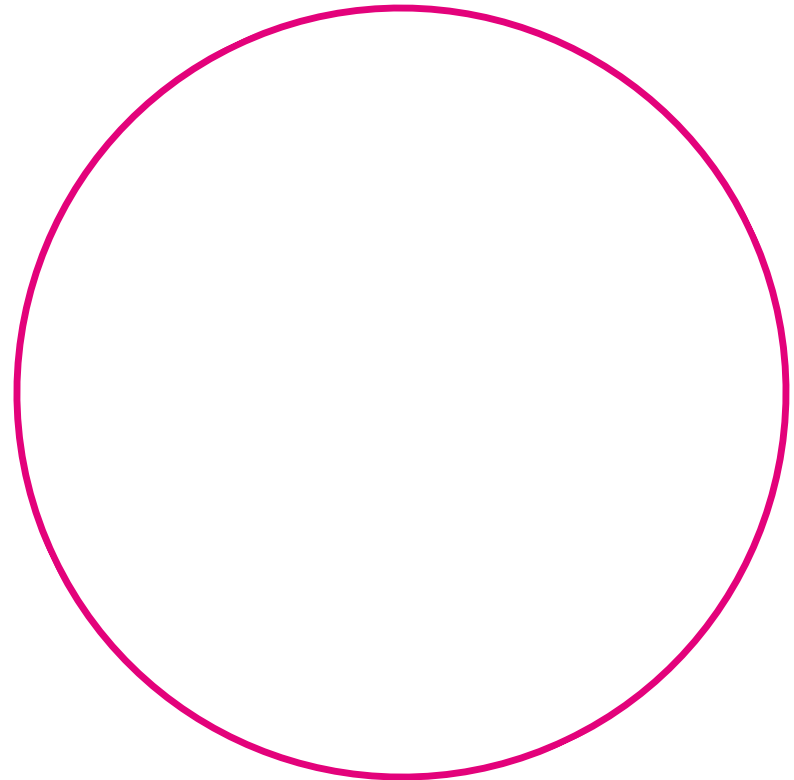
EMOTION 1

COLOR 2

EMOTION 2

Create a **gradient** out of your two colors in the space below:

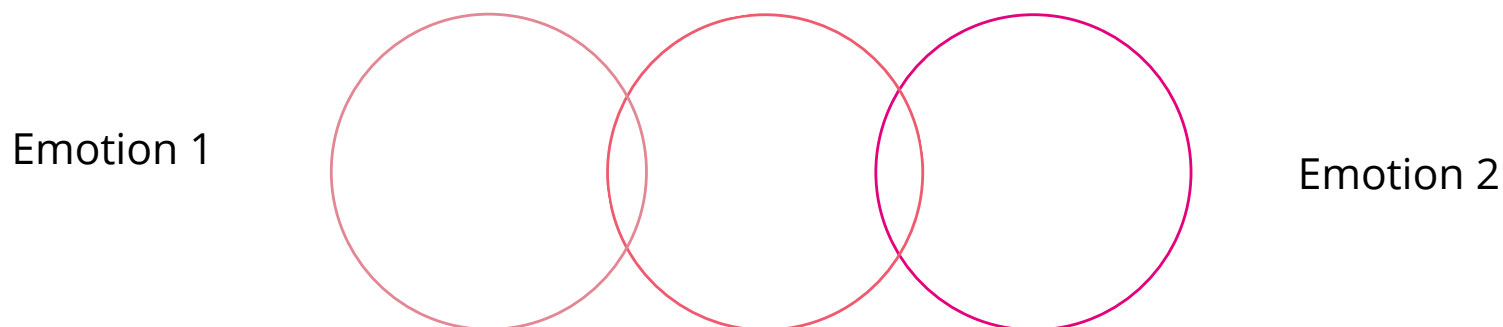
Color 1



Color 2

Now write the emotion you associated with Color 1 in the top circle, and the color you associated with Color 2 in the bottom circle.

In the middle circle, write an emotion that is somewhere in between the two.



Visit oxyarts.oxy.edu to access our archive of past activity guides, and video and online lessons that you can follow along with at home!

**To learn more visit oxyarts.oxy.edu/education
or follow us [@oxyarts](#)**

This exhibition and related programming are made possible by generous support from the Kathryn Caine Wanlass Charitable Foundation.