

Nick Cave: Meet Me at the Center of the Earth

TOP TEN ART-MAKING TIPS FROM SAM'S STUDIO CLASSROOM



#1: Be inspired.

Visit the Seattle Art Museum on a [school tour](#) to see Nick Cave's furry, beaded and dazzling [Soundsuits](#) on display. View the [invasion videos](#) to watch what happens when these creations appear out in the community. Answer the [Call to Action](#) and let your imagination run wild.

#2: Get informed.

Visit the [Nick Cave microsite](#) to view images and learn more. Download the [Educator Resource List](#) and Educator Resource Guide for related project units, State & National learning standards and full-color images. Got a question? Email a SAM Educator at trc@seattleartmuseum.org.

#3: Pass it on.

Intrigued? Inspired? Excited? Share these resources with your friends, peers and students and encourage them to make their own works in response to Nick Cave.

#4: Imagine it.

What would your [Soundsuit](#) look like? What materials, colors, textures, shapes and sounds can you use to transform yourself into someone or something new? Imagine who or what you might become on your journey to the [center of the earth](#).

#5 Create it.

Your wearable art creations can range from a simple mask to an elaborate cape or costume. Here is a short list of some objects to re-imagine or embellish: wrist bands, socks, headbands, sunglasses, hats, tee-shirts, capes, and masks.

#6: Transform it.

How can you make something ordinary into something extraordinary? Take a tee-shirt and turn it into a cape, transform an old sleeve into an armband, make a paper plate become a mask. Take something humble and make it magnificent.

#7: Reuse, Recycle, Recreate.

Turn leftovers into lifesavers and transform discarded materials into amazing works of art! SAM's studio supplies include fabric scraps, feathers, buttons, ribbons, afghans, sweaters, vinyl and fur – most of which has been donated or scavenged from thrift stores and closets. Ask students to donate their own materials or purchase your own at vendors like:

- Creation Station: creationstationinc.com
- Goodwill: goodwill.org
- Pacific Fabric & Crafts Outlet: pacificfabrics.com

#8: Stitch it all together.

For older students, provide needles and thread to stitch their creation together. Search YouTube for lots of basic sewing tutorial videos (try searching by "Basic sewing" or "How to stitch". For younger students, fabric glue works best. Sticky Velcro can also be a good alternative particularly for fashioning the work together.

#9: Mash it up!

Nick Cave is a dancer, teacher, sculpture, fashion designer and more who brings together a diverse range of disciplines. Follow his lead and get interdisciplinary! Cross art disciplines and ask students to sing, dance, perform or parade in their suits. Connect the processes of experimenting in the visual art with other disciplines such as science or math. Looking for more guidance? Download SAM's interdisciplinary [Educator Resource Guide](#).

#10: Perform it.

Join us for the [March to the Center of the Earth](#): Community Night Out on May 5, 2011. Invite your students, friends and family to parade their creations from Occidental Square to SAM downtown for a community celebration of creativity, imagination and Nick Cave. For more information visit www.seattleartmuseum.org/exhibit/interactives/NickCave/beinspired.html.