



Artist: Sean Chandler (Aaniiih, pronounced “AH-AH-NE-NIN”), from his exhibition, *The One Defined to Be No One* on view at MAM through August 14, 2021.

Artwork: *When I thought you wouldn't make it that far*

Age range: The whole family!

Create: Art inspired by *When I thought you wouldn't make it that far* using simple materials found in the home.

When I thought you wouldn't make it that far, 2021, oil, paint stick, and pencil on canvas, approx. 48 x 48 inches, courtesy of the artist

Materials: Chandler uses oil, paint stick, and pencil. You can use any kind of paint – look for water based -or crayon, and pencil. See if you can find a LARGE piece of paper. An old sheet, or lots of brown paper bags flattened and taped together will work too. Use a paintbrush or your hands.

Alternative idea: work with sidewalk chalk and water on the smoothest cement surface you can find outdoors.

Prompt: Movement and using the body is a big part of Chandler's process. Some of the paintings are as big as whole walls! Chandler uses a bison head and skull as a repeating motif because of the cultural importance of the bison in Aaniiih culture, as well as the US government's eradication of the bison - a primary food source of Indigenous peoples. He also depicts baseball cards and other contemporary pop culture images, as well as abstract shapes. Begin to imagine some symbols you might like to use in your art. This piece was created in 2021. Maybe you want to choose images that describe your experience of the pandemic and how you made it this far.

Instructions:

1. **Choose your work area and materials.** If you have paint, be sure you put down newspaper or an old sheet underneath your work area. If you have chalk and water, find your outdoor surface. Locate the largest work area you can find.
2. **Choose your symbols or images, at least two, that can repeat.** Think about making the images in different sizes, or colors. Go back and forth between paint and pencil.
3. Step back and look at your work. **Don't be afraid to paint over something.** Artists change their minds and edit all the time.

4. **Use your whole body to paint.** Circle your wrists and elbows and shoulders, hips and knees. Use your entire arm to make strokes. Stand up. Use both hands.
5. **Enjoy the process.** There is no one “right” way to make art. Use your imagination. Make images no one else could even think of. Let yourself be curious about the gliding of the paint or crayon or chalk and the mixing of the water. Do what feels right in your body.
6. **Share your art** using the hashtag #saturdayswithMAM and tag us @missoulaartmuseum.