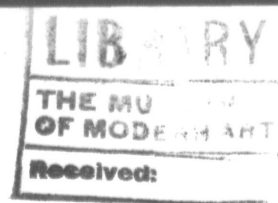


# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

## MUSEUM TO SHOW WORK FROM NEW ART COURSE FOR PARENTS WITH WORK OF THEIR CHILDREN

An exhibition of work from the class, Understanding Your Child Through Art, given for parents in the People's Art Center of the Museum of Modern Art, will be open to the public from May 18 to May 29. Special arrangements have been made for several of the parents to be present during the Press Preview on Tuesday, May 17, between 2 and 4 p.m. for interviews with critics.

The works to be exhibited are the results of a new course designed to help parents understand creative growth through actual participation in creative activities. The parents have undertaken problems similar to those which the children undertake in their own Museum classes. They have done so while studying the child's creative behavior and development under the guidance of specialists in art education and child psychology. The exhibition was arranged in the Young People's Gallery on the 2nd floor of the Museum by Victor D'Amico, Director of the Educational Program. It will be organized in two sections: one showing the work of the adults done during the workshop periods of the course; the other devoted to a grouping of parent's work and child's work, in most cases done at home together.

The parents were provided with the same materials which are offered to children in other classes of the People's Art Center, and the exhibition will include a sample "collage box" containing such diverse materials as sequins, feathers, rabbit fur, colored drinking straws, and sun-flower seeds in addition to the basic paper, wire, wood, and screening. Collages and constructions making use of these provisions will be on view along with color transparencies, clay work and paintings. These have been approached by the parents in the same manner in which children are encouraged to work. The parents have been encouraged to bring ingenuity and imagination to their efforts without the stultifying consciousness of creating "Art." One parent made the comment to Mrs. Moreen Maser, the instructor, that she could not have had the courage to work with such freedom if she had not been aware that she was doing it for her child.

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All of the participating parents have agreed that the experience has helped them understand their children's work and their children. Not all of the children of these parents attend the Museum's classes but in all cases the mothers have worked with their children at home, and the children have felt confident to criticize the adult's work, in many instances making positive suggestions that altered the final result. The juxtaposition of the parent's and the child's work in this exhibition will clearly indicate that both have benefitted from the release of the creative experience, and it will easily be seen that the child has gained assurance in having such an important activity shared by the parent. The Museum feels it has solved an additional problem: that of replacing adult authority and child dependence with equal enjoyment of success in common creative activity.