Create images of hot air balloons floating through dynamic textured backgrounds, as inspired by the tradition of Pysanky Ukrainian Easter eggs and the hot air balloons we see flying through the air. Use symbols to send messages such as love, friendship, and good health.

**BONUS:** How to discuss art at home

**Teaching Artist:** Cindy Imhoff-Bruininks, MFA
Materials You Will Need

Two sheets of either construction paper or copy paper

A Pencil, Crayons, and Pens, color is optional

Scissors

Glue or tape

Pysanky symbol sheet

Balloon Outline Drawing
Step 1: Create a background
Place a piece of paper onto a surface and color to create a pattern. You can use crayons, pens, or a pencil. Here we are using crayons.
Here we are using a pencil.
Explore surfaces in your house or yard, or go for a walk. You will be surprised at all of the different textures that emerge.
Step 2: Create the balloon
Using a pencil, draw your hot air balloon. You can use this simple guide as an example.
Follow these steps:

1. Draw a circle.

2. Draw two lines that will hold the basket.
3. **Draw your basket.**

4. **Draw a simple shape that will become the bottom of the balloon.**
Optional step: Draw over your balloon with pen and erase the pencil lines
Step 3: Choose images from “Pysanky symbols”
Think about what you want to say. Use this guide or find even more symbols online. Be creative: repeat a symbol to make a pattern! Mix and match!
Step 4: Choose your composition

Cut out and glue or tape your balloon onto your background. Be playful with the placement of your balloon. You can place it in the middle of the paper or have it going off of the page. Experiment with different locations on the paper before you glue it down.
How to Have a Critique (A Discussion about Artwork)

1. Hang a selection of work on the wall or arrange it around a room. If you like, invite multiple artists to participate.
2. Curate (choose carefully) what you will display or hang. Consider arranging it by:
   - Media (What it is made of),
   - Time period (when it was made), or
   - Subject matter (what it is about).
3. Make sure everything is at a comfortable viewing height for most of your audience and label it if possible.
4. Invite trusted friends to view the work quietly. Give them a cozy semicircle of chairs or pillows to sit on afterwards.

Share with them The Rules of Critique:

❖ Don’t give opinions, make observations. Rather than “I like” or “I don’t like,” say “I notice,” “I observe,” or “I see.”
❖ Encourage polite questions about the choices that were made and the thoughts that went into them. No rudeness allowed.
❖ If you’re not sure what someone is talking about, ask them to point it out or explain it in a different way. Some things are tricky to put into words, but the more we practice, the better we get at it.
❖ If you want to compare something, focus on things that are similar or different, not “better” or “best.” Everyone likes different things, and nobody else in the world can make artwork quite like you.

After the critique is finished, have some refreshments & think about what you learned. Be proud, sharing your work takes guts!
Pysanky Symbols

Stamina
Four corners of the world
Life, fortune

Defence protection
Love, caring & friendship

Fulfillment of wishes
Good health
Prosperity

Loyalty
Patience
Wealth prosperity