Collage Masks

This lesson is adapted from Foreman’s Maskwork.

Introduction

This is an easy way to make an asymmetrical full face mask by using the collage technique. It could be a nice counter to the above symmetry masks to reinforce these geometric concepts and how we create objects that represent them. You may want to show students an example so they have a visual picture of what they are going to create.

Materials

Magazines
Construction paper or card stock for the base of the mask (this should be at least large enough to cover the student’s face)
Glue
Scissors
Elastic or string

Procedure

1. **Draw the face shape**: Draw a large face onto the card. Make sure the face takes up the entire card. Cut out the face. This will be the base of the mask.

2. **Add the feature**: Have students go through magazines and cut out all of the photographs with large faces or facial features.

3. **Create the mask collage**: Then, have students begin to create their mask by placing the cut out features onto the face. Tell students not to glue anything on until they are sure that is how they want the pictures placed. Students can create a more ‘traditional’ face or they can use different facial parts to represent different things—for example, eyes could become the nose. Students can also use other images to create things like hair, a hat, a crown see examples below. This is a great opportunity for students to ‘think outside the box’ and exercise their creativity.

4. **Seeing and breathing**: Cut slits in the mask through which the wearer can see and breathe. These can be cut underneath the eyes and nose they’ve created.

5. **Wearing**: Attach the elastic or string to the mask so that it can be worn. Students could also glue a wooden stick to the mask and hold it up to wear it.
Examples of Collage Masks

The following scanned visuals are taken from Foreman’s *Maskwork* (pp. 73)

*Arts Activities*