

Art and Writing Activity

“Como la Flor” Writing Prompt



Since April of 1996 when Nation Poetry Month was launched by the Academy of American Poets, the month of April has been a celebration of poetry and writing that reminds us of the importance of poets and their work as well the imperative role that it plays in our culture.

San Antonio Poet Laureate Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson shared a writing prompt inspired by the current exhibition at the McNay *Selena Forever/Siempre Selena*. Take a moment to listen to Selena's song and make a creative written response. Make sure to use Andrea's Hashtag #Andreavocabsanderson and the #McNayFromHome hashtag to share your poems!

1

LISTEN

listen to “Como la Flor” by Selena.

2

REFLECT

Get Inspired and reflect on the prompt.

3

WRITE

Enjoy your creation and share with others.

McNay Connection



Eric Montoya's Wisteria. 2008

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Natalia Gontcharova's curtain design with a Spanish motif

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Georgia O'keeffe's Pink and Yellow Hollyhocks .1953

Suggested materials:

- Paper (All types of paper works, even a journal)
- Writing utensil

OPTIONAL

- Flowers
- Book
- Tissue paper (Napkins work as well)
- Colored pencils/Markers/Paint

Instructions:

1. Begin by listening to *Como La Flor* by Selena. Think about how it sounds, even if you don't understand the words. Draw an emoji that matches the way the music sounds. Follow the lyrics in English or Spanish. What is Selena comparing a flower to?
2. Start your "*Como la Flor*" Poem by thinking about the title of the song- "*Como La Flor*". Make a list of what plants or flowers need to grow and bloom.

How are you like a flower? What's your favorite flower? Use your list and write four lines about how you bloom or how you are like a plant/flower.

3. Follow up by looking at other works of art in the McNay Collection inspired by flowers or blooms. Using three words describe them to someone else. Use these words to finish your poem.

OPTIONAL

4. To decorate the paper for your poem, think about adding pressed flowers. To do so, Place two pieces of tissue paper in the middle of a book, (The heavier the better!) Then place your flower between the tissue. Mind you, some staining could happen, so use as much tissue as you think is necessary. The pressing process usually takes about a week to completely flatten the flowers.
5. Decorate and draw flowers on your paper. A border is a simple way to make your page look nice! I used watercolors for a cool and quick effect.



Find useful links to the song and the lyrics here:

[Selena "Como La Flor" Video](#)

[Selena "Como la Flor" Lyrics, Spanish and English](#)

["Selena Forever/Siempre Selena" Exhibition at McNay Art Museum](#)

