

# Desktop Sonia Romero

## Material Exercise:

In this print, Sonia Romero reflects upon a phenomenon known as colony collapse disorder, which is marked by the disappearance of bees from their hives. Sonia Romero explains in her statement that because bees play a major role in food production, this phenomenon is a big threat to human food systems.

Perhaps one of the most recognizable characteristics of *Bee Pile (Found 'em)* is the density of the bee swarm. Romero achieves this effect by layering different tones of similar colors with muted one receding into the background. This activity will use the same principles of this printmaking technique using material to substitute color mixing.



### McNay Connection:



**Sonia Romero's Bee Pile (Found 'em)**

### Depth and Meaning:

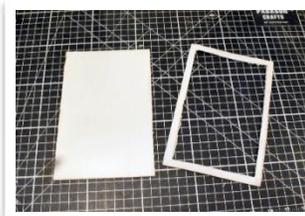
Depth is defined as the perceived distance between the foreground and the background in a work of art. Artists use tools like perspective lines and changes in color to create the illusion of depth. Depth can also be used to expand the work's conceptual ideas. In Sonia Romero's artwork, the bees fading into the background make the pile look bigger. This effect illustrates the metaphor for colony collapse disorder. Bees literally disappear before our eyes.

## Suggested materials:

- Cardboard
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Paper (Construction paper works well)
- Scissors
- 2 pieces of Wax paper
- Acrylic Paint
- Glue

## Instructions:

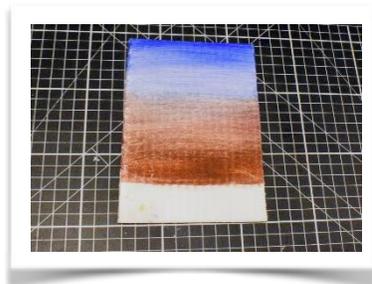
1. Cut two squares of the same size from cardboard, then cut a window in one of them with a 1" margin. These will be used as a backing and frame of your piece. (Check YouTube for Drawing tutorial)



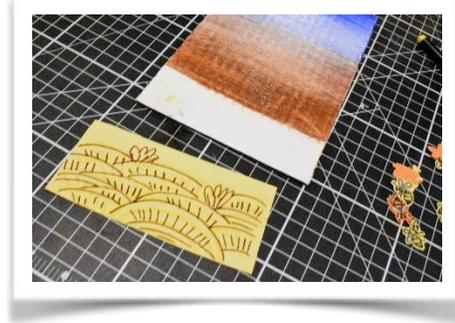
2. Draw, color and cut several paper bees using markers, colored pencils and construction paper.



3. Paint the background of your artwork on paper. Consider that you will layer the wax paper on top, so try to avoid muted or light colors.



4. Draw the foreground of the piece on a separate sheet of paper and cut out the outline.



5. Glue the wax paper on the background by applying glue to the edges, then glue the bees to the wax paper. Repeat this step one more time. Keep in mind that there should be more bees in the first and second than in the final, since they will fade.



6. Lastly, glue the frame on top of the piece to have a completed image!

