



Barbara Ellmann

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LEARNING ABOUT AFRICAN MASKS THROUGH MASK-MAKING

Workshop Leader: Barbara Ellmann

For Teachers of Grades 4-8

3 hours of instruction time

Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

In this workshop, examine characteristics of African masks from a variety of cultures, attending specifically to use of symbols, patterns, and a combination of human and animal characteristics, and consider what we know about how the masks are used in ceremonies. Then try your hand at using a variety of three-dimensional paper sculpture techniques to create masks that reflect your awareness of these characteristics. Learn ways to engage students in observing, analyzing, and interpreting their own work as well as imagining ceremonies in which their masks might be worn.

BARBARA ELLMANN ALSO OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SERVICES* FOR:

Students

- Workshops in Preparation for Exhibit Attendance
- Written Guides to Exhibits

Teachers

- Workshops in Preparation for Exhibit Attendance
- Written Guides to Exhibits

Other

- Visual Art-Based Curriculum and Activity Design

**Not all services have been designed or presented by the Kennedy Center.*

BARBARA ELLMANN, visual artist, has recently been making public art for the City of New York, two projects completed and a third, for a subway station, currently in progress. Her paintings have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the country and are in the collections of Peter Norton, Leonard Nimoy, Walter Scheuer, and the US Embassy in Kampala, Uganda. As a teaching artist at Lincoln Center Institute since 1980, she has worked in partnership schools, focus schools, and the Teacher Education Collaborative. She has conducted National Educator Workshops and advanced workshops for visual arts specialists. She has trained both artists and teachers and worked at many of the affiliate Institutes here and abroad. During 2005-2006, she worked as a consultant for the Orchestra of St. Luke's, The Juilliard School, The Dalton School, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. She is a museum educator at the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.