



Explore More is a self-guided program for kids and families normally taking place in our gallery. The Home Edition is designed for families to enjoy virtually!

*About **Fleeting Moments***

Tephra ICA is pleased to share *Fleeting Moments* featuring the work of Amanda Outcalt (b. 1985, Raleigh, North Carolina). The artist explores connections to moments and experiences using extremely detailed illustrations of large animals such as bears, bison, and elephants. Outcalt uses the intaglio printmaking technique (etching) in which an image is incised or cut into a copper plate surface with lines holding ink. The inked plate is rolled through a press onto a sheet of paper and the image, with all of its details, is transferred to the paper. Outcalt then adds embellishments to the print such as embroidery, gold leaf, and watercolor.

Amanda Outcalt, currently living and working in Washington, D.C., graduated in 2008 with a BFA in Painting and Metalworking from East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, and she pursued a K–12 Art Education License at Old Dominion University, in Norfolk VA. Since 2017, Outcalt has traveled the country participating in prestigious juried art festivals and winning awards of distinction at 22 of the 31 shows she participated in, including the 2019 Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival presented by Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art. Her work has been included in group shows at The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Virginia Beach, VA.; and the Charles Taylor Art Center in Hampton, VA., among others.

[Read More About *Fleeting Moments* for Inspiration Here](#)

Activity 1: A-Z Animal Emotions Journal

Amanda Outcalt uses illustrations of animals to represent emotions and make connections to moments in her life. For example, an elephant might represent memory while a hippopotamus might represent feelings about the body.

Let's make an A-Z Animal Emotions Journal! You will need: 14 sheets of paper, a stapler, pencil/pen, and colors (optional)



1. Fold the 14 sheets of paper in half together. Staple the pages together at the middle fold. You now have a journal with 28 pages (a front and back page, plus one page for each of the 26 letters in the alphabet).

2. Open the cover to the first page and draw an "A". Think about an animal that begins with A and a corresponding animal. For example- A for Alligator. What emotions do you think about with an alligator? Snappy, annoyed, lazy? Try to depict these in your drawing of the alligator. Alternatively, you can think of an emotion or life event that begins with the letter (ex. A for Awkward and then draw an animal which is awkward like a newborn giraffe).

3. Continue the alphabet, with a new letter on each page. Add details to the animals to make the emotions more pronounced, such as a happy hedgehog with a big smile, wearing a birthday hat and music notes to depict it singing.

Activity 2: Scene of Contrast

Take a look at Amanda Outcalt's work entitled Hope During the Storm (2020). You will notice a large and heavy camel with weights attached to its body. It seems to be going very slowly. There are also grey rainclouds depicted above the animal with more weights being showered down. The storm and weights might depict a heavy feeling like sadness or loneliness. This is contrasted by the glittering birds that encircle the camel. The birds might represent hope for better days ahead of the sadness someone is currently experiencing.

To create a Scene of Contrast, you will need the following: A sheet of paper, pencil/pen, colors, glitter/other materials to decorate (optional).

1. Think of two contrasting emotions that can be felt. Examples could include excited/nervous, angry/empathetic, happy/jealous. Try to think of animals that might correlate to these emotions. For example, you could choose a monkey to represent excitement and a rabbit to represent nervousness.

2. Choose a scene for your emotive animals. Add details to help deliver your message of contrasting feelings. For example, this could be a theater before a school play. On one side of the stage, your excited monkey could be hopping up and down with excitement, shaking his



arms, while on the other side, your rabbit could be crouched down, hiding its eyes behind its floppy ears.

3. Choose a name for your artworks. Examples of Amanda Outcalt's work include *On the Rise* and *Relishing the Rain*.