



## 2019 Monster Drawing Rally - part 5: the Youth Drawing Rally

### SPEAKERS

Lucas, Blair, Reid, Rachel Roy Crittenden, Henry, Emma Ganger-Spivak

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Rachel Roy Crittenden 00:05


This is the Portland Art Museum podcast, the channel between the Museum and you. Our goal is to amplify community voices through conversations and personal stories. And we're here to facilitate respectful dialogue, debate and the free exchange of ideas. To participate submit your idea at [pam.to/podcastidea](https://pam.to/podcastidea). We invite you to connect with art through your own experience, voice and personal journey. relevant links and transcripts for each episode are available at [portlandartmuseum.org/podcast](https://portlandartmuseum.org/podcast).





00:43


I'm Rachel Roy Crittenden, Cafe and Art Pub Lead, as well as the Program Manager and Coordinator for the Monster Drawing Rally. This year, the Museum celebrated Monster Drawing Rally for the fifth time inviting a record of 100 local artists of various ages, disciplines, backgrounds, and stages of their careers to volunteer to donate their time and talents to this unique project and support of free youth and educational programs at the Portland Art Museum. Artists each participate in a one hour drawing shift to produce as many or as few works as they wish. Each piece is then sold for a flat rate of \$35. And all funds raised support educational programs at the museum. In addition to raising funds for public programs, MDR is a chance to connect artists directly with each other with the museum and with nearly 2000 members of the community which the Museum's program serve. The program has become a beloved community event where art lovers come together to listen to music, eat good food, and witness the vibrancy of Portland's art scene

and action, all while building their own art collection. This year for the first time ever, we added a drawing round specifically for young artists 17 and under. This round is identical to standard drawing shifts, but is 30 minutes rather than the full hour. Because of the fast pace and size of this event, it can be really difficult for attendees to stop and get to know one another. When planning for the event this year, I really wanted to find a way to represent the voices of the artists who have so generously donated their time and talents and also open up the forum to hear from the community at large. The result: The Portland Art Museum Podcast set up an outdoor podcasting studio in the museum courtyard, a place where anyone could sit down and talk about who they are, their relationship to MDR, and what art means to them. The interviewer that you'll meet in a moment is Emma Ganger-Spivak, a student intern here at the Museum who along with other ongoing projects in the learning and community partnerships department has been assisting with the production of the Podcast this summer. Her efforts spearheading this series represent the culmination of her podcasting work. What you're about to hear is the fifth episode in the series featuring this year's youngest attendees, some of whom participated in Monster Drawing Rally's first ever Youth Drawing Rally . To start with here is my little brother Reid, who participated as an artist in the young drawing round. I don't know what he's about to say in this interview, but he's a real character.

 Reid 03:15  
I'm Reid and I'm an artist in this event.

 Emma Ganger-Spivak 03:20  
So I hear you participated in the youth rally. Can I ask how old you are?

 Reid 03:23  
I am 11 years old.

 Emma Ganger-Spivak 03:24  
Have you ever done anything like this before?

 Reid 03:26  
Yes.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 03:27  
Ooh, can you tell me more?

R Reid 03:28  
Well, we went at we camped out on the Angels Stadium once and then we get we got to draw things there. And like the people from the stadium yet to came over sounds really cool. Yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 03:45  
So have you already drawn today? Are you coming? You're going

R Reid 03:48  
I have already drawn. I'll try to draw for round three, if there's any extra spaces.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 03:54  
Well, um, can I ask? Can you just talk a little bit about the experience of drawing? Did you draw a lot of things or just one thing? What kind of things did you draw?

R Reid 04:02  
Okay, I drew like a volcano with smoke coming out. I don't Well, I only drew one thing. And in this smoke, there are patterns, lines, circles, all sorts of shapes. There was an eye in the middle, so it felt like it was staring into your soul. So it creeped a ton of people out.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 04:22  
That's cool. Is that like the kind of art that you normally do?

R Reid 04:25  
That's the kind of art that I normally do.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 04:27  
Do you have a particular medium that you like to use?

R Reid 04:31  
no, not really. Not really.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 04:32  
What do you use today?

R Reid 04:34  
I don't know. I just picked a pen.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 04:37  
You just picked a pen?

R Reid 04:37  
Yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 04:38  
didn't worry about which one? How did you become an artist?

R Reid 04:42  
Well, my brother he was really good at art, and he didn't get into OCSA, so I decided I want or OCSA is a school where I live that's really like, known for its art. And my brother didn't, so I thought I can and I did.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 05:05  
When you think about the future, how do you think art will fit into your life as a grownup?

R Reid 05:09  
I often think that art will probably play a big part in my life, because it's kind of how I express myself.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 05:21  
Do you want to keep doing that? Yeah. Can you just describe the feeling of making art in front of an audience? Was it stressful? Was it exciting?

R Reid 05:31  
It was it was stressful for the most part, but you just need to calm yourself down. And I had five minutes left and I was two thirds of the way done. And I finished fully at the end because I was breathing and stuff. I was like \*breathing heavily\*

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 05:50  
do you usually keep the art that you make? Or do you give it away? Or?

R Reid 05:53  
I usually give it to my family.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 05:58  
usually give it to your family?

R Reid 05:59  
Yeah. And my sister. My sister actually is running this event. Rachel Crittenden.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 06:05  
sounds familiar. So have you been here before? before You were an artist?

R Reid 06:10  
No, I haven't been to the Monster Rally before -- Monster Drawing Rally.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 06:15  
So for our listeners, could you maybe describe what the event is like?

- R** Reid 06:20  
the event feels like really fun and active. There are lots of things you can do. Like if you're not really such a good artist, you could go draw. You could go draw people over there. Because they're like people that are standing still in like a caterpillar, Caterpillar and Mr. Potato Head costumes.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 06:42  
Do you have a favorite artists?
- R** Reid 06:44  
Not really. If we're talking all kinds of art. My favorite is Antonio Vivaldi. On the on the violin,
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 06:55  
this is a musician?
- R** Reid 06:56  
Yeah.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 06:59  
Why is here favorite artist?
- R** Reid 07:00  
Because I love playing his songs from the Four Seasons like spring, summer, autumn, winter, like those.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:09  
So you're a musician too.
- R** Reid 07:10  
Yes.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:11  
That's awesome.

R Rachel Roy Crittenden 07:13  
In the next interview, you'll hear Blair share the experience of drawing in front of an audience for the first time, her Favorite artistic subject matter, and her hopes for her future as an artist.

B Blair 07:29  
My name is Blair and I'm just havin fun at this art museum.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:40  
and I heard you are drawing right and our youth rally?

B Blair 07:43  
Yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:44  
Have you ever done anything like that before?

B Blair 07:48  
Maybe I don't really know? I think I have.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:53  
Was it exciting? Was it a little nerve wracking?

B Blair 07:56  
It's exciting. Yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 07:59

How old are you, Blair?

B

Blair 08:01

six and three quarters?

E

Emma Ganger-Spivak 08:03

Gotta be specific. So when you were drawing today, did you do lots of drawings? Or just one?

B

Blair 08:11

I think three.

E

Emma Ganger-Spivak 08:14

Do you remember what you drew?

B

Blair 08:15

I drew a unicorn. And I drew a tree and I drew like a party. Party stuff.

E

Emma Ganger-Spivak 08:38

Is there anything that you usually like to draw? Like, what do you draw a lot of unicorns, a lot of trees or all sorts of things?

B

Blair 08:44

I usually draw like colors and stuff for unicorns?

E

Emma Ganger-Spivak 08:49

Do you have a favorite medium that you like to work with? markers? pencils?

B

Blair 08:54

I usually work with markers like this.



E Emma Ganger-Spivak 08:58  
So how did you decide that you want to be part of this event today?

B Blair 09:03  
I just I, I do a lot of art. And it makes me really happy. So I just whenever whenever I need to do or want to do art, I do it.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 09:20  
That's awesome. So when you think of your future and being a grown up, how do you think art will be a part of your life?

B Blair 09:28  
Well, I'll probably like drawing owls or maybe people's faces or stuff.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 09:37  
So do you think you're gonna keep wanting to make art as you get older?

L Lucas 09:43  
Yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 09:46  
Do you have a favorite artists?

B Blair 09:49  
Well. It's not. I don't really know her very well. Julz Nally.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 10:03  
what kind of art does she make?

B Blair 10:05

I kinda forget. Because it has been a year ago.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 10:14  
So does anyone else in your family make art? Or is it just you - the first artist?

**B** Blair 10:18  
Willy does a lot of art. He's my brother. And he's really impressive for for just a five year old.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 10:27  
So you're from an art making family.

**B** Blair 10:31  
Yeah. My dad doesn't do art, but he does mow the lawn a lot.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 10:37  
Would you consider lawn mowing and art form?

**B** Blair 10:40  
A little.

**R** Rachel Roy Crittenden 10:44  
Here is a several time MDR attendee and artist in his own right, who's here to support his little brother while he draws in the youth rally for the first time.

**H** Henry 10:56  
My name is Henry and I am here at the Portland Art Museum's Monster Drawing Rally because my little brother was a drawer in the junior round. And yeah, we came to support him.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 11:08  
That's really cool. Can you tell me a little bit about what it was like seeing your brother up there? You making this? All right?

**H** Henry 11:13  
Yeah, it's really cool. Because I've been here for the I've been watching for the past couple of years. And finally seeing my brother do it. It was very interesting to see the difference between someone I know doing it and someone I don't know doing it.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 11:28  
That's really cool. How's the city? been here a couple times?

**H** Henry 11:30  
Yes.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 11:31  
Do you have any, like favorite memories or stories about other times you've been here things that stuck out to you.

**H** Henry 11:36  
Um, I just like all the different people, they have different ways to draw and make art like, I remember one time someone brought this hot knife and they were carving into wood. And that was very cool.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 11:50  
That's really cool. Have you or any of your family members bought art here before?

**H** Henry 11:53  
I think we have bought art a couple years ago and it's amazing. Yes.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 11:57

Is it in your house?

**H** Henry 12:01  
I think so. Yes.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 12:02  
That's awesome. So do you have a favorite artist?

**H** Henry 12:08  
I like Vincent van Gogh a lot, um, for his backstory, like when he cut off his ear or whatever and sent it to his friend that was? I like that story. Yes.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 12:22  
Is there something about the way his art look the looks that appeals to you as well?

**H** Henry 12:25  
Yes. The way he uses the shapes in his are like Starry Night I like because you can see circles and lines and curves. It's just very amazing.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 12:36  
It's really cool. Can you tell me a little bit about younger brothers art?

**H** Henry 12:39  
Yes, my younger brother. He has this cool style. And he kind of draws. It looks like scales on a paper. And then so he'll draw the scales all around the paper. Then right in the middle, he will put this emblem like this year, he put a grave with a peace sign on it and it looks really cool.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 12:57  
That's cool. Do you make art?



Henry 12:58

I do not really make art, no.



Emma Ganger-Spivak 13:01

But you're here to support your brother?



Henry 13:02

I'm here to support my brother.



Emma Ganger-Spivak 13:03

That's awesome. And how old are you? And how old is your brother?



Henry 13:06

I'm 11 years old and my brother is eight years old.



Emma Ganger-Spivak 13:09

That's awesome. Okay, so how would you, now that you've been here a couple times, How would you explain monster drawing rally to someone who's never been?



Henry 13:19

Well, I just texted my friend. And I told her it is this big community event where artists from all around get together and draw art and do what they love. There's food and drinks and it's it's a great experience.



Emma Ganger-Spivak 13:40

Could you talk a little bit about the role that art plays in your life in a general way? I know that you're not an artist yourself. But you have a family member who is and you enjoy seeing art.



Henry 13:50

Yes, I actually am an artist in a way actually. I dance and so I create art with my body. And

I think that's the largest way art connects in my life. Also colors. I love different colors and contrasts.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 14:06  
That's awesome. What kind of dance do you do?

**H** Henry 14:08  
I do ballet, tap, hip hop, jazz. Yes. Very.

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 14:17  
That's really cool. I'm running out of questions. Okay, I guess my last question, can you just describe the atmosphere today like how it feels here.

**H** Henry 14:36  
Um, the atmosphere today is like it has been the past couple of years, there's a ton of people, they're getting to know each other. It there's music, there's artists, just, it's just artistic and very fun.

**R** Rachel Roy Crittenden 14:54  
And now for the aforementioned artist himself, here to talk about everything from the feeling of drawing alongside lots of other kids for MDR, to his artistic practice, to his views on modern art.

**L** Lucas 15:05  
Okay, my name is Lucas. And I'm here because I was a in the youth artist drawing round thing. Yeah. And

**E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 15:24  
So is that your older brother that I just talked to you?

**L** Lucas 15:26

Yes.

- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 15:27  
That's awesome. Yeah. So he told me a little bit about your art already. So I have a bit of a preview. But I'd love to hear about it. In your words. He said that you like to make patterns that are kind of like scales, and then with something an emblem in the middle, if you could talk a little bit more about your style.
- L** Lucas 15:42  
Oh, yes. I like more modern. No, not modern. Um like, just like art that's for like, that symbols something. The one I drew today was symboling, like, peace and happiness. Like that. Yeah.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 16:08  
So is that kind of like what you normally make?
- L** Lucas 16:11  
Yeah, kind of also, I just usually do like, a guess like, random stuff, like, know doing art, you never know what you're gonna do? You just end up doing what you do. So, yeah.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 16:27  
Do you remember when you first started making art?
- L** Lucas 16:30  
Um, I think it was. Like when I was four or three, maybe. I just like to paint but I liked to paint. I don't like to anymore. But that was when I was three or four.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 16:55  
And now you're How old are you?
- L** Lucas 16:57

I'm eight years old

- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 16:59  
You're 8 years old. Okay. So when you think about the future and being a grown up? How do you think art will be a part of your life?
- L** Lucas 17:06  
I don't know. I don't even know if it will be a part. But I could. I might. Um, it depends how the rest of my life being a kid turns out.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 17:29  
So have you done anything Like Monster Drawing Rally before? No.
- L** Lucas 17:34  
This is my first time.
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 17:36  
How did it feel being up there?
- L** Lucas 17:39  
It was kind of stressful for the time. And I had a like an older person next to me. And it was kind of like, stressful. I don't know why, but like, a ton of people were coming over to her. And I was like, I don't know what I felt. But yeah,
- E** Emma Ganger-Spivak 17:59  
but I heard that your your brother and your dad are here to support you.
- L** Lucas 18:01  
Yeah. So is my mom



E Emma Ganger-Spivak 18:03  
And your mom, too. That's great. How did you decide that you wanted to participate in Monster Drawing Rally.

L Lucas 18:09  
My dad just asked me cuz he works here. And so I answered. And I was. Yeah, I wanted to do it.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 18:20  
Do you think you might come back next year?

L Lucas 18:23  
Yeah, probably.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 18:28  
So do you have a favorite artist?

L Lucas 18:31  
Um, I don't know the name, but I do. I just don't know the names - I have like a few. A few. But I don't know the names.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 18:43  
Okay, um, well, could you maybe describe the types of art that they make and why you like it?

L Lucas 18:48  
They do really modern art. And I like it, because it's very interesting to see. Cuz it's very different. But yeah. It's not just like any other painting of something. It's different. So yeah.

E Emma Ganger-Spivak 19:13  
It's really cool. So when you make art, do you normally keep it or give it away or sell it?



Lucas 19:19

Well, I keep it so well, I don't really do anything with it. I just like to stay in my room with my sketch book and draw in that. But I don't really do anything with it.



Rachel Roy Crittenden 19:37

Thank you for listening to the Portland Art Museum Podcast. For more information about free youth programs that the monster drawing rally raises money to support, visit [portlandartmuseum.org/learn](http://portlandartmuseum.org/learn). This is the fifth episode in an ongoing series produced from interviews we gathered at the Monster Drawing Rally podcast studio. Make sure to subscribe to the Portland Art Museum Podcast, so you'll be sure to catch them next episode in which you'll hear more of the many voices of Portland's arts community. This episode was produced by Jon Richardson and Emma Ganger-Spivak. Thank you to Blick Art Materials for sponsoring this event and Mark Orton for providing interstitial music. Finally, thank you the listener.