

## “Paul Klee Chalk Portraits”



**Objective:** Create portraits based on Klee’s *Senecio* using chalk.

### Materials

- 12” x 18” black paper
- White school glue
- Colored chalk

### Motivation

- Read [Getting to Know Paul Klee](#) by Mike Venezia.
- Show students images featuring Klee’s work and have a group discussion about the observations.
- Compare and contrast traditional portraits with the style seen in Klee’s [Senecio](#).

### Step 1: Practice Drawing Faces with Geometric Shapes

Have students practice drawing multiple faces that have been abstracted using lines and shapes. Discuss and explore the principle of balance when considering placements of lines and shapes. Have each student choose one sketch to enlarge to a final paper.

### Step 2: Draw and Add Glue

Have students draw their geometric faces in pencil, making sure they fill most of the page. Then, have students go over the pencil lines with the white school glue. Let the glue dry.

### Step 3: Color with Chalk

Have students practice chalk blending techniques and color choices prior to adding color to their final pieces. Discuss color families and color schemes at this time.

Have students fill in the shapes on their final portrait. Students can use a damp paper towel to clean up the negative space around the portrait.

**Tip:** Remind students to create a balance of large and small shapes in their faces. Areas that are either too large or too small may be difficult to color.

**Tip:** Have students keep damp paper towels by their workspaces to prevent major traffic congestion around the room.