Inspired by Ron Stokes’ “Mother Tree and Sons”

About Ron Stokes
(1932-2018)
Ron Stokes was born in Milwaukee, WI on October 10, 1932. He graduated from Rufus King High School with the class of 1950 and attended UW Milwaukee, where he received his Bachelors of Science and Masters of Fine Arts degrees in Art Education. Ron was drafted into the United States Army during the Korean Conflict where he served from 1953-1955. He then taught art in Milwaukee and Manitowoc Public Schools for 32 years. Ron became an extraordinary teacher, not only of art, but of life beyond the arts. He shaped, influenced, and inspired many students over the years. He also owned and operated Gallery East in Manitowoc for 32 years. His work has won numerous awards and hangs in many public and private collections, including the Rahr-West Art Museum.

Share your project with us! Send a photo of your finished project or yourself working to: rahrwest@manitowoc.org or use #rahrwestartkit when posting online!

By sending us your photos, you grant us permission to share them on social media or use them for promotional materials for the Rahr-West.
Check out the community mural “Goggle of Frogs” located under the 8th Street bridge, just to the west of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum. This mural was also inspired by Stokes’ “Mother Tree and Sons”.

**Supplies Needed**

- Yellow Construction Paper
- Pencil
- Q-Tips
- Brown Crayon or Marker
- Tempera Paint
- Round Items of Various Sizes (bowls, lids, cups, jars, etc.)

1. **Draw** just the tree trunks, not the branches, with the brown marker or crayons.

2. With a pencil, lightly trace a circle for the top of each tree or shrub and add a sun or moon, if you would like.

3. Draw the branches, keeping them within the circles you have traced. Be sure to draw different sized branches and use small ones to fill in the circles.

4. Add grass and/or flower stems to the bottom of the page with the marker or crayon.

5. Once you are happy with the branches and foreground, use the Q-tips to add dots to the tops of some or all the trees and shrubs. You can even add tiny dots to the grassy area to look like flowers.

6. Using the Q-tip like a brush, paint the sun or moon.

Your own beautiful version of Ron Stokes’ “Mother Tree and Sons” is complete! Stand back and admire your beautiful creation!