

Vira Scheibner, St. Augustine Skyline, 1930

LIGHTNER MUSEUM LEARNING

## IMPRESSIONISM + COLOR

We are going to look at colors, how we see them, and the ways we can mix them to create a work of art. By exploring an American Impressionist painting at the Lightner Museum-St. Augustine Skyline painted by Vira Scheibner in the 1930s-we will explore how the artist used color to create her painting.

GOALS

We will learn some vocabulary to identify color schemes, explore Scheibner's techniques and create our own version of her painting, St. Augustine Skyline.

## BACKGROUND

Originally from New Hope, Pennsylvania, Vira Scheibner moved to St. Augustine in 1921. Scheibner's painting of the St. Augustine skyline is made up of many small brushstrokes. The dots and dashes of paint create a pattern of complementary and contrasting colors.


COLOR WHEEL

COLOR SCHEME
A color scheme is the group of colors chosen by an artist for a painting.

An illustration showing the relationship between primary, secondary, and tertiary colors

PRIMARY COLORS Red, blue, and yellow. They are colors that cannot be mixed from other colors, and serve as the basis of all other colors.

SECONDARY COLORS

TERTIARY COLORS

COMPLEMENTARY COLORS

SPLIT
COMPLENTARY COLORS

Colors that are created by mixing two primary colors together. i.e. green, orange, and purple (violet).

Created by mixing one primary and one secondary color together.

Colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel, for example, yellow and purple (violet), red and green, or orange and blue.

Created from three colors. Start with one color, find its complement and then use the two colors on either side of it. For example, the complement of yellow is violet (purple) and the split complement of yellow would be red-violet and blue-violet.


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## COLOR AS EXPRESSION

Vira Scheibner was inspired by color and light and their relationship with the landscape. Today we will explore how color can change the look of a landscape.

First, let's talk about color! What colors do you see in the painting above? Is there more than one of each color, blue...light blue...purple? List as many colors as you can find.

ACTIVITY 1
For this activity, all you will need are a box of oil pastels and the St. Augustine Skyline coloring sheet.

To begin:

1. Grab a box of oil pastels or crayons and dump them out onto a table
2. Organize the pastels into single color groups...reds together, blues together, greens together, and so forth
3. Arrange the pastels into the three color groups we learned about: Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary. Use the examples in the color wheel to help match the colors
4. Use each of the color groups to color separate panels of the St. Augustine Skyline image. Which colors do you like best?

ACTIVITY 2
Make your own picture of the St. Augustine Skyline using colors different than those used by Vira Scheibner. While Scheibner used oil paints, use any available art materials, including:

- Oil pastels, paint and brushes, colored pencil, markers, or crayons
- Sketch book, paper or canvas
- Water for diluting paint and/or cleanup

1. Begin selecting or mixing colors-don't forget about white and black-to create a color palette for your version.
2. Sketch out the main components of the drawing-the water, the buildings along the water's edge, and the towers of the Ponce de Leon Hotel in the background.
3. Select colors from your palette for different features and begin applying color to your sketch. Bring your view of the St. Augustine skyline to life!
4. Take a photo of your picture and post online with the hashtag \#lightnermuseum.

PANEL 3


PANEL 2


PANEL 1

