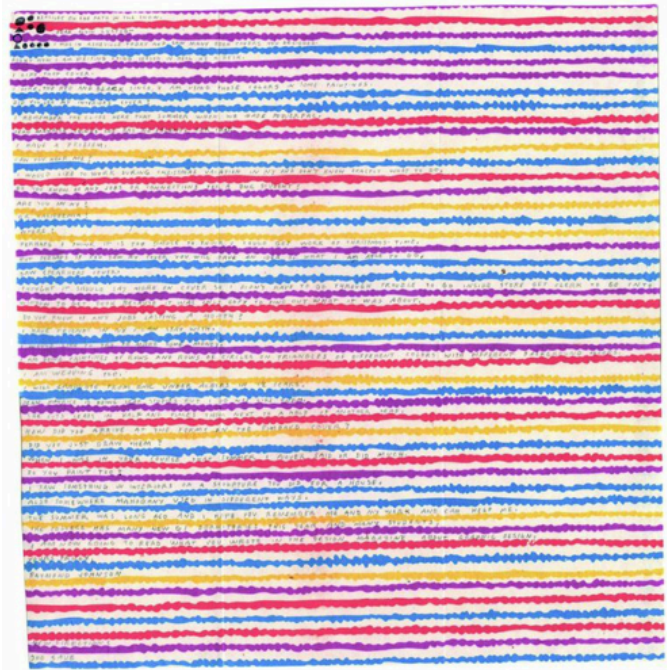
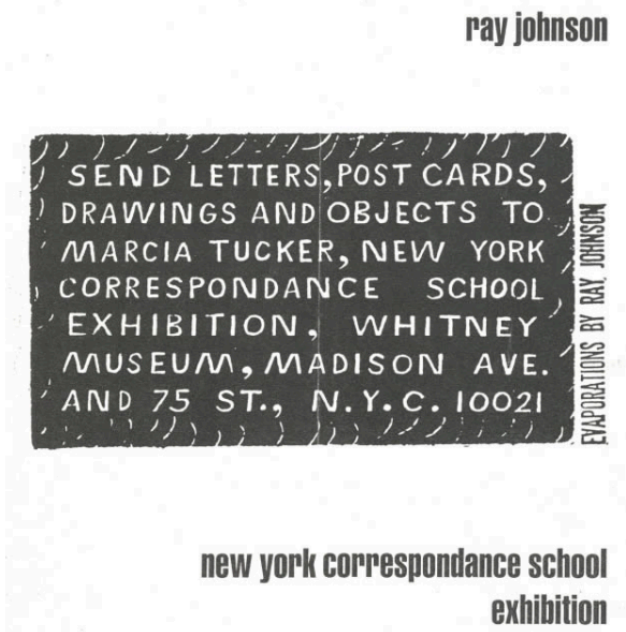


<p>Grades 3-6</p>	<p>Lesson Name: Mail Art</p>
<p>1st Quarter</p>	<p>Major Concept: How do we as artists transform something mundane into something special?</p>
<p>Visual Art NCES</p>	<p>4.V.1.2 Apply personal choices while creating art. 4.V.2.2 Use ideas and imagery from North Carolina as sources for creating art. 4.V.3 Create art using a variety of tools, media, and processes, safely and appropriately. 4.CX.1.4 Explain how place and time influence ideas, issues, and themes found in art. 4.CX.2.2 Apply skills and concepts learned in other disciplines, such as math, science, language arts, social studies, and other arts, in the visual arts.</p>
<p>Essential Questions</p>	<p>1. How can circumstances influence the art we make? 2. How can we use art to transform the ordinary into something special?</p>
<p>Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy for NCES Courses</p>	<p>Remember- Reviewing letter writing, punctuation, and handwriting skills. Understand- Learning about the BMC community, Ray Johnson, and mail art. Apply- Students apply personal choices to their artwork. Analyze- Discussing how the creative atmosphere of BMC led to Ray Johnson creating the NY Correspondence School. Create- Students will create an original piece of mail art that they will exchange with a mail art penpal.</p>
<p>Lesson Details and Facilitation</p>	<p>Before Lesson: Reach out to other art teachers and find a willing collaborator for mail art, hopefully someone who is located a good distance away and has students similar in age. At least a month or more beforehand, collaborate with a home based language arts teacher to write friendly letters to their new art penpals.</p> <p>Day 1: Briefly discuss Black Mt. College and all of the famous instructors and students who attended. Highlight how it became known as an oasis to creativity. Then talk about artist Ray Johnson and that he used creative letters to stay in touch with his former BMC professors and friends- look at some examples. Explore how Ray Johnson was a pioneer of mail art and how his NY Correspondence School grew out of his need to keep in touch with the BMC community. Look at some current examples of mailart on the internet. Ask students to think about what they want to do with their letter. Do they want to rewrite it using markers or dip pens? Do they want to use the computer and type it up using interesting fonts? If time students can start creating their paper or typing their letter.</p> <p>Day 2: Students will have the entire class period to create and convert their friendly letter to mail art.</p> <p>After Lesson: Mail letters in one big packet to coordinating teacher. Distribute and discuss corresponding letters.</p>
<p>Materials</p>	<p>Different papers, stamps, paint, magazines, newspapers, pencils, markers, scissors, glue, computers, and friendly letter- already written</p>

Vocabulary	Mail Art, Correspondence, Collage, Visual Language, Communication, and Multimedia
Integration Cross Curricular	Students can write a friendly letter in language arts class and then type it up in technology where they could print it off
Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Art of Graphic Design: Alvin Lustig, Josef Albers, Ray Johnson, and the 1945 Summer Session By Julie J. Thomson 2. Ray Johnson and the Road from BMC Into—and Out of—New York by Michael von Uchtrup 3. ASU's Black Mountain College Page 4. MoMA's Ray Johnson Page 5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mail_art
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If agreeable to all coordination teachers, this could become a year long project with students composing and mailing off one letter each quarter for a total of 4 letter exchanges. • Students could scan their letters and the ones they receive in return to create a digital portfolio as a record of their mail art project. • At the end of the project, possibly set up a skype session with the other students so they get to meet face to face. • After the initial letter, other ideas such as “black out” letter writing could be tried.



<http://www.blackmountainstudiesjournal.org/volume-6-alma-stone-williams-race-democracy-arts-and-crafts-and-writers-at-bmc-summer-2014/6-4-julie-j-thomson/>