Recipe Zine

Do you have a favorite family recipe for a food you love to eat? This fun, easy activity will help you preserve it in a cool work of art that you can share with friends and family members for years to come!

This activity was designed by Narrated Objects, a Los Angeles-based creative collective and frequent USC PAM collaborator. It was first featured as part of Free Second Sunday@PAM in August 2019.
What is a zine? Pronounced as “zeen” (just like the end of the word magazine), zines are homemade publications that can be about anything! You can make recipe zines, poetry zines, art print zines, and even comic zines. They are typically made using easily accessible materials like paper and are reproduced in small quantities to be shared with friends/communities.

Questions to Inspire Your Artwork:
- What is your favourite food?
- Do you have any recipes in your family that you would like to keep a record of?
- Where did it originate?
- Who in your family do you associate this particular food with? What is their story?

Supplies Needed:
- White paper
- Construction paper and/or old magazines
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Dried foods, such as rice, beans, dried noodles, salt, pepper, or sugar (if they are part of your recipe)
- Any other craft supplies you have on hand for extra decoration, such as yarn to make “noodles”

Instructions:

Step 1
Make the cover by folding the construction paper in half.

Step 2
Draw or cut out all or some of the ingredients in your recipe and, if applicable, glue or tape onto the cover. Be creative! You can layer different pieces on top of each other, use actual dried foods, or create the ingredients from craft materials. Don’t forget to include the title of the recipe somewhere on the cover!
Step 3
Add white paper (or any color you like) to the inside. If your recipe is long, you can add more pages and staple or tape them in.

Step 4
Write the recipe, including ingredients and directions, on the inside pages, adding more drawings and cutouts if you like.

Step 5
Gift the recipe zine to a friend or start a library of zines at home! You can make photocopies and share with many people. Ask your friends to make recipe zines too and exchange them for more creativity in the kitchen!

This project was designed by Narrated Objects for the USC Pacific Asia Museum Education Department