This activity highlights three portraits from the Spencer Museum’s collection. A portrait is a picture of a person. Portraits can offer clues about the personality of the sitter. A self-portrait is picture of the artist made by the artist. Take a look at the facial expressions and clothing in these portraits. What do they tell you about the people shown? What kind of mood is created in each portrait?

Look closely at the portraits above. Click on the painting titles or search the Spencer’s collection online to learn more about the artworks.

- What words would you use to describe their expressions? Do they look happy or sad?
- What do the clothing and surroundings tell you about these people?
- Try making different facial expressions. Notice how your eyes and mouth change as you do.

INSTRUCTIONS
For this activity, you will need:
- A portrait template or a plain sheet of paper
- Colored pencils
- Small mirror

Practice making expressive faces in the mirror and use the pencils to draw what you see or you can make a portrait of a friend or family member.
Spencer Museum Art Cart: Express Yourself

All About Me Book

A portrait of me!