

ELMHURST ART MUSEUM

ART, EDUCATION & ARCHITECTURE

McCormick House as a Home



Exterior of McCormick House (2018). Kendall McCaugherty © Hall+Merrick Photographers



Cover of *ArchiTeenZine* (2018). Designed by Teen Art Council member, Mallori Hecker

Since built in 1952, the McCormick House, designed by famed architect Mies van der Rohe, has been used as a home to four different residents and families: the family of Robert Hall McCormick III and Isabella Gardner, the family of Arthur and Marilyn Sladek, the family of Ray and Mary Ann Fick, and artist Claudia Weber. This significant piece of architecture is often celebrated as a prototype for prefabricated housing that was proposed for the Chicagoland area, however the Elmhurst Art Museum has an additional interest in this house as a home, and how its function has evolved throughout time.

Through research, oral history projects, and other efforts, Elmhurst Art Museum has been able to interpret and share some of the stories of what it was like to live in this iconic house. Through exhibitions, programs, and special events the museum is proud to share this history with our community in tandem with historical context.

This activity invites participants to respond to their own homes through storytelling. Zines have been around for decades as a way to inexpensively disperse information. Short for “magazine”, these self-published projects are easily shared and can be made with things you likely already have at home!

Check out our website for more information and images of *The McCormick House: 1952-1959*, *Assaf Evron & Claudia Weber*, and *The McCormick House - Past, Present, Future*. Share your creations and tag us on social media! #MuseumFromHome

Sincerely,

Joseph Hladik, Director of Education & Grants Administrator



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In the activity you will:

- Experiment with storytelling
- Study the work of Mies van der Rohe
- Learn about personal connections to architecture
- Create your own zine
- Consider what makes a house a home
- Explore your own home



You will need:

- A piece of paper (8.5" x 11")
- Pencil or pen
- Coloring supplies
 - Colored pencils, markers, and crayons work best
- Scissors



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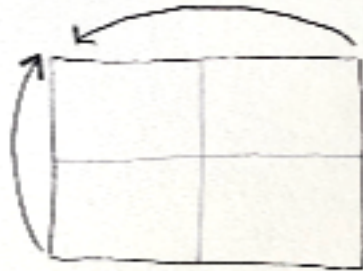
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INSTRUCTIONS

1). Position the paper in front of you as a landscape, meaning the longer edges should be at the top and bottom of the paper.

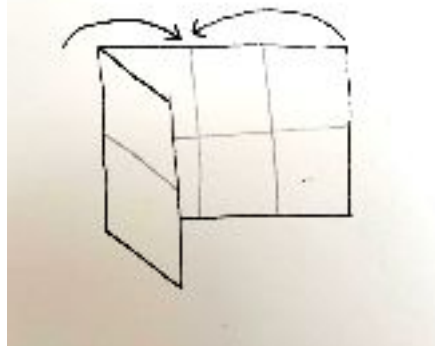
Fold your paper into four sections

- Bring the short edges together and fold in half
 - Then unfold
- Bring the long edges together and fold in half
 - Then unfold



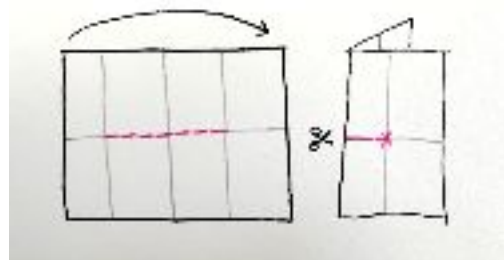
2). Next, fold your paper so that there are 8 rectangle sections

- To do this, take the short edge of the paper on the left and bring them to meet the center fold line you made in step one
 - Once you make a crease, unfold your paper
- Next, repeat this by bringing the short edge of the paper on the right to meet the same center fold line
 - Once you make a crease, unfold your paper



3). Once you have your paper with creases, carefully cut along the **dotted line** pictured to the right

- To do this, fold the paper in half by bringing the short edge on the left meet the short left on the right
- Next, carefully cut until you reach the vertical fold line
 - See image to the right for help
- Unfold you paper once you are done



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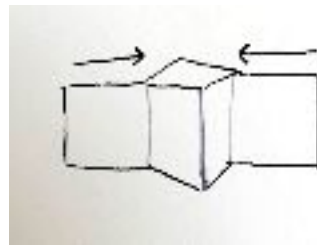
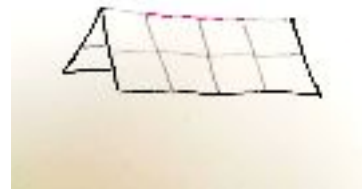
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4). Next, fold your paper in half by bringing the long edge on the top to meet the long edge on the bottom

- You should see the slit that you cut on the top of your paper
 - If cut correctly, it should extend across the top edge of the middle two cells

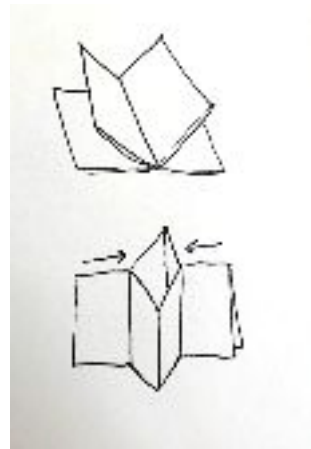
From here, gently push the right and left edges together as illustrated to the right

- You should see a diamond shaped opening where you cut the slit in step 3



5). Continue to push together the right and left sides until you flatten the diamond

- When you look at your paper from the top, it should look like an "X"



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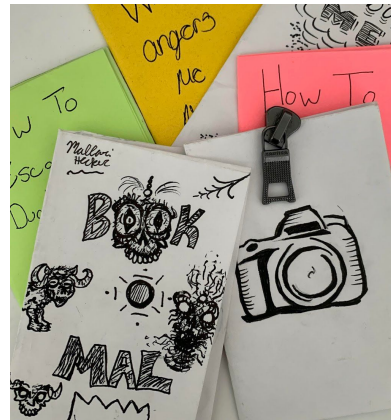
6.) Fold the pages to one side, and you should have a mini booklet to create your zine

Now that you have your booklet, it's time to create your zine! Create a narrative or response to what your own home is like.

- Do you have memories or funny stories that happened in your home?
- Do you have a favorite room or space?
 - Make sure you think of a creative title and cover for your creation
 - Will you use drawing? Text? A combination of both?



7.) Zines are meant to be shared and distributed! If you want to get your message out there into the world, feel free to unfold your zine, scan it, and print off multiple copies for your family and friends!



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Fick Home Interior, view of living room. August 1991



Installation view of *McCormick House: 1952 – 1959*, curated by Robert Kleinschmidt and Ryan Monteleagre. Photo by Jim Prinz (2018)

Check out our website to view the Teen Art Council's published zine, ArchiTeenZine, which is a contemporary response to architecture.

