The Teen Advisory Board recommends that you check out these three artists who each made their own way in the art world. As you are looking, take time to notice what you see and how each artist is unique. We’ve outlined questions for you to consider as you examine each artwork and encourage you to take your time and discover what makes you curious.
David Rubens Piqtoukun: Bear in Shamanic Transformation
Gallery 4

1. What do you notice about how the form changes as you walk around this sculpture?

2. How do you think this piece communicates the ideas of transformation and self-expression?

3. Find another work of art in this gallery that contains multiple perspectives. How are these perspectives conveyed? How do these works give us a glimpse into the beliefs and traditions of native cultures?

Ray Beldner: E. pluribus unum
Gallery 21c

1. When you look at this portrait, what do you observe about the dollar bill that you may not have noticed before?

2. How does the artist’s use of materials change the way we view George Washington?

3. Compare this portrait to others on this wall and to the portrait on the dollar bill itself. What can we learn about George Washington—

as a historical figure and/or as an individual—from this work of art?

Willie Cole: Five Beauties Rising
Gallery 17

1. Without reading the label, what similarities and differences do you notice among these five works? What do you think these objects symbolize?

2. How does the artist use the ironing board as a symbol for the women of the Antebellum South? What visual evidence can you find that emphasizes various meanings?

3. Find the prints by Claes Oldenburg and Ruth Asawa. How do these artists use common symbols to emphasize important concepts? Do their approaches differ from Cole’s, or are they similar?