

“I AM” PHOTO QUILT



Objective

- To practice close looking and active engagement with the images displayed in the “I AM” photo quilt.
- To investigate how visual clues can reveal more about the social and historical context of a person or place in an image.
- To create an imaginary narrative inspired by the image investigated.

Directions

Locate the large hanging photo quilt in the rear of the exhibition near the far left gallery wall. Vietnamese American families who live in Orange County generously donated many of these photographs, and these pictures document special memories and events for each of these families. Select one photograph in this quilt and take a moment to look closely.

Explain why you choose this photo.

What do you see? List all of the details that stand out to you.

What is the person/people in this photograph doing? Describe the activity shown in this image.

What might the body language of the person/people in this image say about how he/she/they might be feeling?

If this photograph was taken in the past, are there any clues you can use to guess when this photograph was taken?

Can you tell where this photograph was taken in Orange County? What are the details that helped you locate the settings?

Extension activity: Find a family photograph, or take your own photograph that captures a special memory. On a separate sheet of paper describe all of the details that stand out to about the setting of this photograph. Who are all of the people shown in this picture? How old are they? What is the location, and why is it special to your family? If the image is a self-portrait, what was happening in your life at this time?