

## Summer Arts 2: “Design an Album Cover”

### Lesson Plan Objective:

Many of Jamal Cyrus’s artworks focus on music and its connection to history and culture and the influence it has on beliefs. Music has been a way to protest, join together, and change society and can live as a shared archive. One of his longstanding art projects, the *Pride Records* series, was to envision a record label and then create album covers for that label.

Using your favorite type of music and performer, we will create our own music album cover for a single performer or a group. Decide on a name for your album. What kinds of stories does the album tell? Album covers need to be eye-catching. What image would portray the name best? Will the image be abstract or figurative? What kind of lettering do you want to use?

### Approximate Time:

Up to 1 Hour

### Skill Level:

Easy

### Parental Supervision:

Child scissors recommended

### Art Materials:

- Cardstock or heavy paper such as file folders
- Construction paper
- Magazine or newspaper
- Glue
- Child scissors
- Ruler
- Markers
- Pen or pencil
- Any other drawing materials of your choice
- Optional: Textured paper, paint, paintbrush



Image, Installation view, Blaffer Art Museum. Right to left: *Pride Records* (bookshelf), 2021; *Pride Frieze—Jerry White’s Record Shop, Central Avenue, Los Angeles*, 2005-2017. *Pride Record findings—Tokyo*, 2005-2016. Photo: Sean Fleming

### Instructions:

1. Cut out a square shape from cardstock, an old file folder, or heavy paper to use for the cover.
2. We can use mixed media to create our cover. Cut out letters to create a title from magazines, newspapers, or colorful paper.

3. Decide on what else will be on the cover. Draw your own images on separate paper or use pictures from magazines. If available, use textured paper, drawing, or paint to create visual interest for your design. Cut out and arrange everything on the supporting surface square. Do not glue until you are happy with the design.
4. Use markers or other drawing media to add details.

*Tip: To spread glue more easily, put a little water in the glue and mix with a brush on a paper plate.*



Images:  
Sample Albums, Rona Lesser  
*Joyful Sound*,  
*Sound for a New World*  
Rona Lesser

