For this year’s New Art in the Neighborhood artists, the restrictions of the pandemic provided an opportunity to hone foundational drawing skills and lean into creative approaches to narrative. Using cartoonist and author Lynda Barry’s book *Making Comics* as their guide, they immersed themselves in drawing, storytelling, and collaboration. Through Barry’s insights, methods, and exercises they learned the practice of creative routine and active, sustainable art making. Special guests Sarah Paulsen, Dan Zettwoch, and former CAM Director of Education Tuan Nguyen also introduced different techniques and approaches to utilizing comics as an art form.

Established in 1995, New Art in the Neighborhood is the Museum’s flagship education program, providing St. Louis-area high school students with pre-professional art instruction and opportunities to work with contemporary artists from around the world. This free, in-depth program provides twenty participants, ages 14 to 18, with more than fifty hours of studio time each semester, immersing them in contemporary art and ideas in order to develop a greater critical awareness of art history and their own art-making.

Audio Tour
Visit camstl.org/audio on a mobile device to hear directly from Learning and Engagement.
Tuan Nguyen is an artist who works across sculpture, installations, drawing, and painting practices. He received his MFA in Painting from the University of Washington and has exhibited nationally in Los Angeles, CA; New York, NY; Seattle, WA; and St. Louis, MO. Nguyen lives and works in Seattle. He was the CAM Director of Education from 2009–16.

Sarah Paulsen is an artist, filmmaker, and community organizer. Paulsen holds a BFA in visual art from the University of Missouri, Columbia and an MFA from Washington University in St. Louis. She lives and works in St. Louis, where she teaches art and animation at Marian Middle School, St. Louis Community College, and University of Missouri, St. Louis. Her work was featured at CAM in the 2018 Great Rivers Biennial.

Dan Zettwoch is an illustrator, cartoonist, and printmaker. He earned his BFA in visual communications with an emphasis in illustration from Washington University in St. Louis, where he teaches in the Sam Fox School's MFA in Illustration & Visual Culture program.

2020-21 New Art in the Neighborhood participating artists: Kimmeran Cade, Keteyian Cade, Emma Deaton, Saskia Dentman, Samiah Elmore, Isabelle "Izzi" Jackson-Cameron, Atticus Jones, Finn Kanak, Audrey Labeaume, Cozette Mothershead, Margaret Nigh, Kailee Templemire, Noah Weihl, Katherine Welch, Chelsea Zuckerman.

New Art in the Neighborhood: Making Comics is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Jason Vasser-Elong and José Garza, current and former Museum Educators, respectively.

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