# ACTIVITY GUIDE

# Use this while in the galleries, then take it with you to continue to explore at home!

Kelly Akashi, Cultivator (Hanami) (detail), 2021. Flame-worked borosilicate glass and lost-wax cast bronze. 9 x 10 x 4 in. Collection of Sonya Yu

## **REFLECT & RESPOND**

Look closely at the artwork pictured above. You can find this piece on the large center pedestal in the first gallery. What's going on here? What do you see that makes you say that?

How would you describe this artwork in three words? Do these words have similar meanings or are they more like opposites?

What materials do you notice? Observe and try to guess before reading the label.

The title of this artwork is *Hanami*, which means "flower viewing" in Japanese. When you practice hanami, you usually look at cherry blossoms—just like many people in Seattle do every spring! Cherry blossoms only last a few weeks before they wilt and fall. In this sculpture, Kelly Akashi made the cherry blossoms out of glass. Why do you think she used that material for these blossoms?



### WRITE A POEM

Another Japanese tradition is haiku, a type of short poem that does not usually rhyme. Like Kelly Akashi's sculptures, these poems are often about nature and may link two very different things, like fragile glass and strong bronze. Many haiku poems are made up of three separate lines. Each line has a specific number of syllables, or the smaller sounds that make up words. Spend time viewing an artwork and then write a haiku about it!

5 syllables:	
7 syllables:	
5 syllables:	

### DRAW AT HOME

Find something that changes. It could be a plant, the light coming through a window, or even a family member! Act like Kelly Akashi and notice and record what's changing by drawing what you see. You may only have a few hours between your drawings, or you may have to be patient and wait days or weeks!

DATE: TIME:	DATE:	TIME:	DATE:	TIME:

Once you've finished your drawings, take a moment to reflect and respond. What's going on here? What do you see that makes you say that? What changed? What stayed the same?

*Kelly Akashi: Formations* is organized by the San José Museum of Art and curated by Lauren Schell Dickens, Chief Curator. The presentation at the Frye Art Museum is organized by Amanda Donnan, Chief Curator and Director of Exhibitions.

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