



ARTPRIZE  
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## **Origami by Kumi Yamashita**

ArtPrize 2012: 7th Place Public Vote Winner

*Origami* consists of 99 colorful sheets of 9x9" origami paper creased by hand and fixed to the wall. When the installation is lit from the side, the shadows reveal the facial profiles of 99 citizens of Grand Rapids. Artist Kumi Yamashita believes that the paper-folding art of origami symbolizes the essence we all share. Using just a square sheet of paper, one can come up with an infinite number of shapes. This illustrates how we all may look and live differently, but once unfolded, we all share a common shape.

Origami is a traditional Japanese art form that teaches the creation of paper sculptures entirely by folding. By repeating and manipulating basic geometric shapes such as squares, rectangles, and triangles, complicated three-dimensional creations come to life.

## **Creative Challenge: Cootie Catcher Commonalities**

A "cootie catcher" is a paper toy adapted from Japanese origami that has been used to entertain kids across the world. The folded paper form fits on your hand and is often used as a fortune-telling device between friends. Use this template to get to know someone new:

- Think of the 4 things that are most important to you. Use one word and a drawing to represent those things in each of the 4 blank boxes on the corners of the paper.
- There are 8 triangles in the center of the paper, write in 8 questions to get to know your participant. Inquire about some of the things that are important to you.
- Fold the page into the geometric form and try your game out with a new friend. As you land on questions let them answer first, then share your answer to reveal what you have in common despite your differences.

**Bring this card home with you. COLLECT ALL 12 cards by completing ArtPrize 10 Creative Challenges!**

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# Card #4

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