

Activity Idea

All About Frida

Recommended for Adults

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) was a Mexican artist, best known for her portraits, self-portraits, and her nature-inspired pieces. She was born in Coyoacán, Mexico to a German father and Mexican mother. In 1925, she suffered severe injuries due to a tram collision and this would cause physical impairments and illnesses for the remainder of her life. Art became a therapeutic channel for her to cope with her mental and physical pain.

Kahlo first married fellow artist, Diego Rivera (1886-1957), in 1929. Rivera played an influential role in Frida's life and encouraged her work and introduced her to prominent artists and political figures. Her work was also heavily influenced by famous Renaissance masters as well as Indigenous Mexican culture. She often played with realist themes mixing surrealist elements. One of the most famous and beloved artists of the world, she is viewed as a feminist icon. Her life and work have inspired numerous books, films, and modern-day culture.

Self-Portrait with Monkey (1940).

Self-Portrait with Monkey depicts Frida's resentment and anger over her recent divorce from Diego Rivera. Frida saw her pets as the children she would never have and often turned to them for companionship and comfort.

Movies:

Frida on Hoopla - tinyurl.com/wkbzbnb

Frida Kahlo on Kanopy - tinyurl.com/wzsynox

Books:

Frida by Barbara Mujica Hoopla - tinyurl.com/qwbhr2b

Frida Kahlo by Gerry Souter on Hoopla - tinyurl.com/w6sr2gf

Museum:

La Casa Azul (virtual tour) – tinyurl.com/uee474l

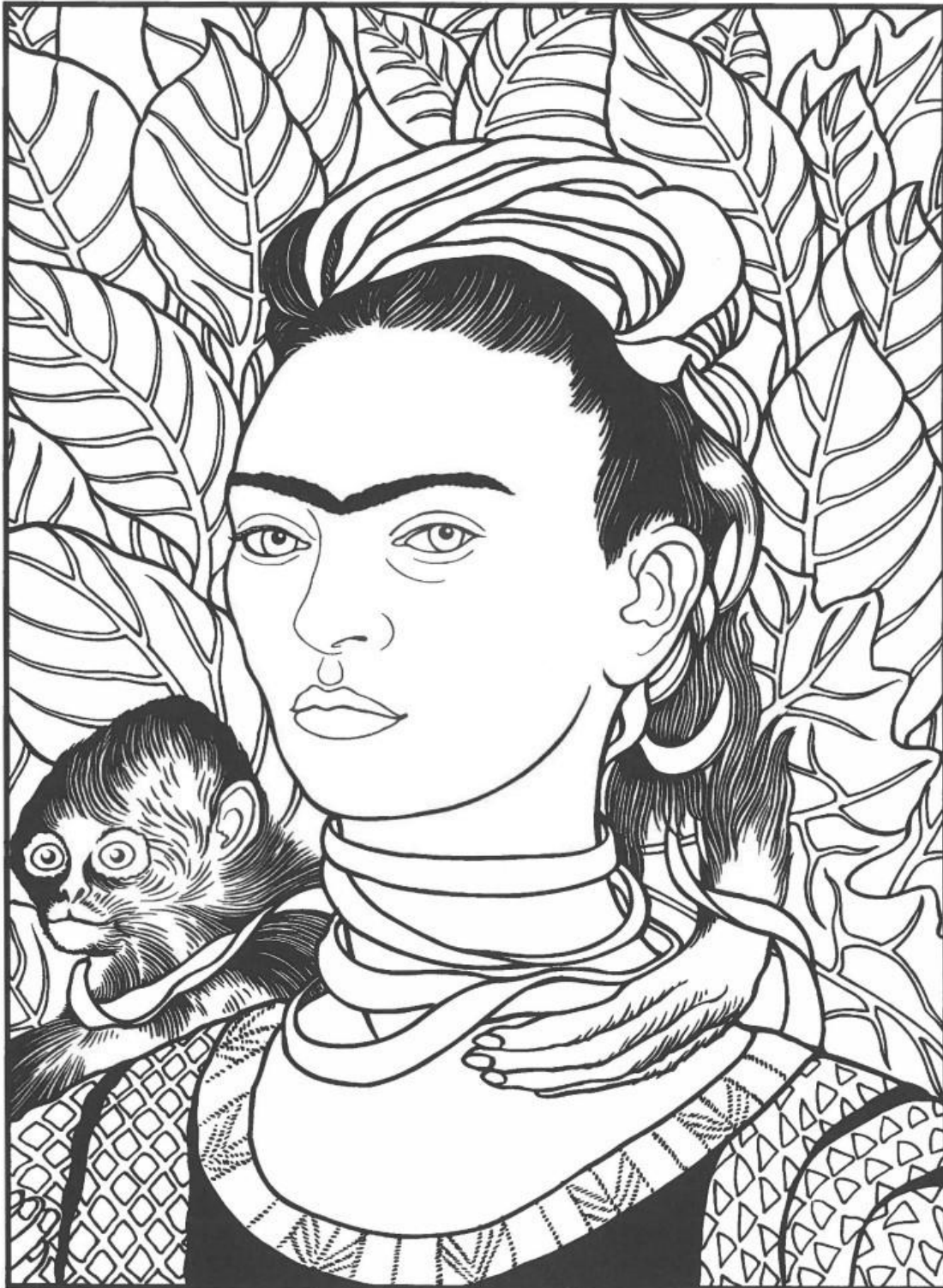
Research:

"Frida Kahlo Becomes Associated with Surrealism" (Gale Ebooks) - <https://tinyurl.com/vz7jnx>

The Faces of Frida (Google Art & Culture) - tinyurl.com/yboh94yy

Activity:

Try creating your own artistic masterpiece in the style of Frida Kahlo, color the image on the next page or create your own self-portrait. Share your self-portrait on twitter and tag @LACountyLibrary.



25. **Frida Kahlo.** *Self-Portrait with Monkey*, 1940.