James Aponovich, a New Hampshire native, is well-known for his elaborate still life paintings. They contain impressive detail and are often set in a landscape, such as Castello Nuovo: Still Life with Day Lilies and Watermelon. The flowers in this painting hold a prominent place in the center of the canvas. Their lush colors that are echoed in the tablecloth and the flanking food. What other details can you find in the painting?

More examples of Aponovich’s work can be found [here](#).

In honor of Mother’s Day we will be making a paper bouquet of flowers. It will make a lovely handmade gift for any mother or maybe just a special person in your life.

**Activity:** Paper Mother’s Day Bouquet

**Materials:**
- Tape (or glue)
- Construction paper (or magazines)
- Pencil and eraser
- scissors

**Directions:**
- Trace your hand onto a piece of construction paper and cut around the pencil lines.
- Take a long thin strip of green paper and roll it to create your stem shape. Tape or glue the end so that it stays.
- Use a small strip of paper that is a different color than your flower for the stamen inside. Wrap this around the stem and tape in place.
- Wrap your handprint flower around the stem and stamen. You can then put the flower into a vase or container to give to your person of choice.
- Repeat the steps until you feel satisfied with your bouquet.

**Tips:**
- Experiment. Maybe you will make your stamen long and curly. Maybe you will use more than one handprint to create your flower. Maybe you will keep your fingers together.
- Try different colors of paper to create a colorful bouquet.

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