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## Shaun Peterson, *Grandmother*

2009, inkjet print, 24 in x 30 in, Gift of Sandy and Laura Desner in honor of Tacoma Art Museum's 75th anniversary, 2011.12

Look closely at Shaun Peterson's *Grandmother*.

**Discuss with a partner:**

What stands out to you in this artwork? What do you notice about the mountain, the land, and the sky? What do you think each element in this artwork could symbolize? How would you describe the style of the artist?

**Reflect:**

Why do you think the artist titled their artwork "Grandmother"? What story do you think the artist is telling us?



**Shaun Peterson**, also known as **Qwalsius**, is a Native American artist of the Puyallup Tribe. Peterson began sketching at a young age with his grandfather, critiquing and encouraging depth in his design. He worked as a sculptor shortly after high school and trained with Native master

carvers in wood, glass, and metal. Peterson also paints, works in digital media, creates screenprints and public artworks. He brings a contemporary style to Coast Salish art through every medium he uses!

Photo courtesy of Tacoma Art Museum

### Suggested materials:

- Construction paper
- specialty papers
- glue stick
- scissors
- colored pencils and markers

*use whatever you have at home!*



Prototype by TAM Educator Vanessa Harriss

## Home: Torn Paper Landscape

What does “home” mean to you? What images and ideas come to your mind when you think of home?

1. Take several sheets of different colored construction paper and tear it into various sized pieces.
2. Lay out the design of your landscape based on your ideas of home, using these torn papers. Start from the background and work your way forward to the foreground or front of your picture.
3. Glue down your finalized landscape design.
4. Add more embellishments and detail to your artwork.
5. Share your artwork with a friend and your ideas about what home means to you!



## Learn More!

Shaun Peterson, *Thunderbird*, 2010, inkjet print, 15 in x 13 in, Gift of the artist, 2010, 2010.10

Shaun Peterson’s work is grounded in Coast Salish stories that have been handed down. His work also talks about contemporary issues that he hopes viewers think about when looking at his work. Peterson mainly

works with Puyallup and Coast Salish communities as a crucial way in preserving culture and history. His public artworks are important for him to share his voice and his art in a powerful and influential way.