FAMILY ACTIVITY!
PAINTING AND POETRY

In the Midst of Something Splendid: Recent Paintings by Colleen Randall

This activity card is recommended for children 6-12 and adults to use together while looking at, thinking about, and talking about art in this exhibition.

Painting

Colleen Randall is an abstract painter, which means she doesn’t paint representational images of recognizable objects and living things but instead uses paint and color to express her feelings and ideas.

Spin around and look at all the colors and marks in her paintings. Now find your favorite painting and move closer (but not too close!). Discuss with a family member:

- How would you describe the colors? Textures?
- What do you wonder about the painting?

The titles of Colleen’s paintings are often inspired by poems. Look on the wall labels to see some of the titles.
Word Bubbles

You can even do this activity together with a family member – take turns adding words!

Write three **adjectives** (describing words) to describe this painting. Think about its colors, textures, and marks.

Write three **verbs** (action words) that remind you of this painting. Imagine movement and sounds that could come from this painting.

Write three **nouns** (person, place, or thing) that remind you of this painting.

Poetry

Rearrange your words to write a poem! You can add little words in between to connect the words from your boxes, but remember, poems don’t need to have full sentences. One line of a poem could even be made up of just one word!