

## VOCABULARY

**self-portrait symbolism surrealism still-life**

**GreaterRestonArtsCenter (GRACE)** is a non-profit arts center whose mission is to nurture and develop contemporary visual arts in our diverse community. GRACE runs the GRACE Art program along with many other educational programs and exhibitions. We are located in the Reston Town Center. Please stop in and see us!

For more information about GRACE programs, please call us, join our email list or visit our website.

Today in **GRACE Art**, we learned about **FRIDA KAHLO**. **Frida Kahlo** was born in Coyoacan, Mexico in 1907 and died in 1954. She was a painter who mostly painted self-portraits, portraits of friends and family, and still-lives. Her work features brilliant colors, symbolism, and themes of Mexican culture. Kahlo was influential to the development of Mexican art and culture after the Mexican Revolution. Kahlo was married to a famous Mexican muralist named Diego Rivera. Both Kahlo and Rivera wanted to express the unique qualities of Mexican culture, myth and rituals before the Spanish conquest brought Spanish customs to Mexico and were concerned for Mexican peasants, and advocated better conditions for them and expressed this in her art. Kahlo suffered from many injuries during a tragic bus accident when she was 18 years old and she learned to paint from her bed while recovering from these injuries. During her life she had many surgeries due to her injuries from the accident and her paintings frequently included symbols that represented both her physical and emotional experiences. She was sometimes considered a surrealist painter because her paintings had a dream-like quality, but Frida disagreed, saying, "I paint my reality."

### READ MORE...

*Frida Kahlo, Mexican painter*, Kristen Woronoff  
*Me, Frida*, Amy Novesky

*Frida*, Jonah Winter (Spanish)

*Una niña llamada Frida Kahlo*, Gustavo Sáinz (Spanish)

### LEARN MORE...

[www.fridakahlo.it](http://www.fridakahlo.it)

[www.artcyclopedia.com/artists/kahlo\\_frida.html](http://www.artcyclopedia.com/artists/kahlo_frida.html)

[www.artchive.com/artchive/K/kahlo.html](http://www.artchive.com/artchive/K/kahlo.html)

<http://www.museofridakahlo.org.mx/esp/1/el-museo/multimedia/visita-virtual>

<http://www.fridakahlofans.com>

**SEE MORE...**

**Washington, DC**

National  
Museum of  
Women in the  
Arts  
Smithsonian  
Archives of  
American Art

**New York,**  
**NY** Museum  
of Modern Art  
**San**

**Francisco,**  
**CA** Museum  
of Modern Art

**Mexico City**  
La Casa Azul, Museo Frida Kahlo

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