

Let's face it, we've all been through a range of emotions over the past several years. The pandemic brought uncertainty and created challenges for many people. And while many parts of those challenging years are in the rear-view mirror, most of us are still dealing with the lingering effects. In this activity, we'll use art to make sense of the various emotions we've experienced over the past several years.

Emotions are complex physiological and mental reactions to environments, circumstances, and interactions. Emotions are heavily tied to our senses and processing them can require multiple parts of the brain to work together. Because the arts engage our senses and stimulate multiple parts of the brain, engaging in the arts can help us process our emotions.

Think about the last few years. Circle or highlight the emotions that you associate with the pandemic. Write in any emotions that aren't listed.

ACCEPTANCE	CONTENT	FRUSTRATION	PENSIVE
AGITATION	COURAGE	FURY	REGRET
AGONY	CURIOSITY	GLEE	RELIEF
ALARM	CYNICISM	GRATITUDE	RESENTMENT
AMAZEMENT	DEJECTION	GRIEF	RESIGNATION
AMBIVALENCE	DELIGHT	GUILT	RESTLESSNESS
AMUSEMENT	DEMORALIZED	HAPPINESS	SADNESS
ANGER	DISAPPOINTMENT	HELPLESS	SATISFACTION
ANGUISH	DESPAIR	HOPE	SELF-PITY
ANNOYANCE	DISBELIEF	HOPELESS	SENTIMENTAL
ANTICIPATION	DISCOMFORT	HUMILITY	SHAME
APATHY	DISGUST	IMPATIENCE	SORROW
APPREHENSION	DISMAY	INDIFFERENCE	STRONG
BITTER	DISTRESS	INSECURE	TENDERNESS
BLISS	DOUBT	IRRITATED	TENSION
BORED	DREAD	JOY	TIRED
CALM	EAGERNESS	LONELY	TOLERANCE
CAREFREE	EMPATHY	LONGING	TRUST
CARELESS	ENJOYMENT	LOVE	UNCERTAIN
CHEERFUL	ENNUI	MISERY	UNEASY
COMFORTABLE	ENTHUSIASM	NERVOUS	UPSET
CONFUSION	ENVY	NOSTALGIC	VULNERABLE
CONTEMPT	EXASPERATED	NUMB	
2	EXCITEMENT	OPTIMISTIC	
	FASCINATION	OVERWHELM	
	FEAR	PARANOID	

Create a piece of art that represents the feelings you identified. Your artwork can be an use this page to make a drawing or a collage. You could write a short story or a poem. You something using other materials like clay, paint, or found objects. Don't worry if you're no goal here isn't to make something worthy of a museum, it's to dig into the emotions you channel them into art.	can also create t 'an artist'. The

	ing this experience.
How did	I you feel while working on this art piece? What emotions bubbled up during the proces
Look	back at the emotions you identified. Write down any that you are still experiencing.
	se emotions still lingering from your experiences during the pandemic? If so, why do y ey are still hanging around? What steps can you take to address those emotions?