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### **Introduction**

**Dream Big!** is an arts and literacy enrichment program designed to encourage children in 2nd and 3rd grade to think about their futures and envision their grandest desires. Through art instruction, art history and stories of Bronx luminaries, children are infused with a sense of pride in themselves, their culture, and the Bronx.

Now in our 11th year, Dream Big! is available to all as an original series of 9 fun and imaginative videos. The program can be incorporated into summer programming with accompanying resource guides for educators, or as individual episodes available on our website. Videos may be viewed separately, sequentially or individually. The entire series will be available for viewing and distribution on Monday, July 27.

### **Awesomely You, Cool Together**

This year's theme, **Awesomely You, Cool Together**, celebrates the diversity, perseverance, and uniqueness within all of us, the similarities we all share, and the magnificent potential we have as a group when we dream big together.

### **Content**

Episodes highlight stories by and about Bronx luminaries **US Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor**; actor and author **Sonia Manzano**; Bronx artists **Dr. Valerie Capers**, **Edwin Torres**, **David Gonzalez** and **Ricky Flores**; Mexican artist **Frida Kahlo** and collage artist **Henri Matisse**.

The 10-12 minute videos include literacy, history, and arts instruction and give children an opportunity to create their own self-portrait compositions at home with their caregivers. Families are encouraged to upload their finished artwork or videos to the Museum's website and share their big dreams with the world in our first-ever online Dream Big! exhibition.

### **How to participate: Premiere Training July 22nd**

If you're interested in incorporating Bronx Children's Museum's Dream Big Arts Enrichment Program into your summer curriculum free of charge, please contact Nicole Wallace, Director of Education at [nicole@bronxchildrensmuseum.org](mailto:nicole@bronxchildrensmuseum.org). A sample video, training, and a resource guide are available for your consideration.

## **Awesomely You, Cool Together! Video Series**

### **Video 1: Dream Big Read Aloud - Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx**

A Museum-led read-aloud of “A Judge Grows in the Bronx” by Jonah Winter, including a discussion about the early life of Sonia Sotomayor and how she overcame adversity growing up in the Bronx to become a Supreme Court Justice.

### **Video 2: Let’s Meet: Justice Sonia Sotomayor**

In this biopic, you’ll hear from the U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor all about her early life growing up right here in the Bronx.

### **Video 3: The Art of Frida Kahlo: Creating a Self-Portrait**

An introduction to the life and work of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and a demonstration of how to create a self-portrait using drawing materials.

### **Video 4: Dream Big Read Aloud - Just Ask! Be Different. Be Brave. Be You! by Sonia Sotomayor**

A Museum-led read-aloud of “Just Ask: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You” by Sonia Sotomayor, including a discussion about the many differences that make each of us special and unique.

### **Video 5: Let’s Meet: Dr. Valerie Capers**

In this biopic, you’ll learn all about Dr. Valerie Capers, a Bronx native and renowned jazz pianist who overcame many difficulties to become the first blind person to graduate from the Julliard School of Music.

### **Video 6: The Art of Henri Matisse: Creating Collages**

An introduction to the life and work of Henri Matisse and a demonstration of self-portraiture using collage materials.

### **Video 7: Dream Big Read Aloud - A World Together by Sonia Manzano (Read by the author)**

An author-led reading of “A World Together” by actor and author Sonia Manzano, including examination of photographs by Bronx photographers Ricky Flores and David Gonzalez, and a discussion of the role of community in shaping identity.

### **Video 8: Let’s Meet: Sonia Manzano**

In this biopic, you’ll hear from *Sesame Street* actor and children’s book author Sonia Manzano about how she worked hard growing up in the Bronx to accomplish her dreams of being on television.

### **Video 9: The Art of Edwin Torres: Creating Photographs of My World**

An introduction to the photographic work of Bronx photographer Edwin Torres and a demonstration of an at-home photography activity families can engage in.