



Designing a fantastical world using repurposed holiday cardboard boxes and paper goods can evoke a great deal of merriment and fun!

Whether on your own or with your family, here are a few suggestions to help you transform common materials into something extraordinary.

Visit *Winterfest: An Exhibition of Arts and Crafts* on view at the AAM from December 18, 2020–February 21, 2021 or take a look at Veit Laurent Kurz's *Window I-IV (AOA Series)* (2018)

If you are able to visit in-person, pay close attention to first impressions, the artist's choice of materials, and how you interact with the space.

## AAM Winterfest

## Cardboard Challenge

What do you notice? What about the scene looks familiar to you? What looks unfamiliar?

How would you describe the overall mood of the exhibition?

Now it's your turn to create. You'll need a few tools: a pair of scissors or a rotary cutter, an assortment of tape, glue, and crayons or markers.

**Step 1:** Go on a household hunt for materials to use like cardboard boxes & wrapping paper, ribbons & bows, and packaging materials. Consider including a variety of found objects such as corks, buttons, yarn, and paper tubes. What else can you find around your house to repurpose?

**Step 2:** Good ideas take a while to formulate, so take some time to brainstorm. Think about the types of environments, spaces, and styles of architecture that interest you.

Sketch the plan for your world on paper or talk out your vision with a family member. Consider working collaboratively—together, you can make something greater than any one person would have realized!

**Fun fact:** Did you know Veit Laurent Kurz collaborated with his curator friend Saim Demircan and a team of talented AAM staff worked behind the scenes to realize his plan?

**Step 3:** Get to work on your world!

Try cutting, folding, perforating, layering, and stacking the cardboard to create a variety of shapes and forms. To flex or curve the cardboard, cut the flutes (wavy structure sandwiched between the two pieces of cardboard). Stand them up or maintain angled sides for triangular supports!

**Step 4:** Take an image of your completed world and tag us on our AAM Instagram. We'd love to see what you've made!

**For additional inspiration:**

*Not a Box*, Antoinette Portis  
*If I Built a House*, Chris Van Dusen  
*Out of the Box*, Jemma Westing  
*The Art of Cardboard*, Lori Zimmer  
*Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood*, F. Isabel Campoy

**Aspen Art Museum**  
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Admission to the AAM is FREE courtesy of Amy and John PheLan

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