By studying art, we explore the unconscious/implicit biases that affect our decisions, choices, and beliefs about race, gender, age, etc. We apply our own experiences, thoughts, and feelings into our interpretations of artwork. What we learn may be at odds with our stated values. Those with different life experiences may interpret the same artwork very differently.

Nancy Richner, MAT Museum Education
Museum Educator and former Director of the Hofstra University Museum of Art

Catherine Bangeranye, PhD
Assistant Professor and Assistant Dean, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

R. Ellen Pearlman, MD
Associate Professor and Associate Dean for the Advanced Clinical Learning

Nancy Richner will guide us through a close examination of several works of art during which we will examine, along with Dr. Catherine Bangeranye and Dr. R. Ellen Pearlman, how recognizing differences in the way that we and others perceive the same works of art can help us identify and acknowledge our biases, a first step in seeing ourselves and others more clearly.

Optional: Take an online Implicit Association Test (IAT) before participating in this program. Project Implicit is a non-profit organization and international collaborative network of researchers investigating implicit social cognition – thoughts and feelings that are largely outside of conscious awareness and control. The results are confidential to you, and you need not share them at any time, but you might find the results interesting, and may wish to discuss how this exercise made you feel.

Take IAT