**Visual Culture Museum Assignment**

**\*Remember to take selfies!**

**Some useful information:** You will line up to get a FREE ticket (if you are under 30) to the Permanent Collection. Check your bags and coats at the FREE coat check. Bring something to take notes on and a pencil. Usually you may take pictures, but NO FLASH! Make sure you record the artist's name and the title of the work.

**For the assignment you need to find objects made in the 1950s.**

**Q. How do you know if something was made in the 1950s?**

A. In the museum, next to every object, there is a card with the artist's name, a title, the materials it is made of, and the date it was made.

(There is also often a date it was acquired by the museum and the person who donated it. Make sure you don't mix up the two dates! You'd hate to claim that an ancient Greek vase was made in 1955, just because that was the year it was donated!)

**Q. Where to look?**

A. Some parts of the museum are going to have more things from the 1950s than others. You can pretty much skip the Mediterranean Archaeology collection, Pre-Columbian Art, European Painting from the Middle Ages to the Belle Époque, and International Contemporary Art.

That means that you will want to focus on Decorative Art and Design, Quebec and Canadian Art, and also Modern Art. All three of these are in different sections of the museum. Look at the website before you go to orient yourself.

**The Assignment:**

EVERYONE DOES THIS PART:

Hunt down things that were made in the 1950s and take photographs of them—MAKE SURE TO TURN OFF YOUR FLASH! Collect at least ten different objects. \*If you don’t have a cell phone, draw your own version of the art.

THE CHOOSE:

OPTION ONE—Pick two different objects, do further research on them, and then write a paper comparing them and discussing your findings. Make sure you find two sources for each. Include a bibliography. Include the ten pictures you took.

OPTION TWO—Create a little "Guide to Art and Design in the 1950s" using examples from the MMFA. You can do this on paper, or as a website if you like. Use at least six images and explain each one briefly. Include a bibliography.

Happy hunting!