

# Art Activity

## Create your own Fabric SLAB!

**Take & Make:** Fabric SLAB Collage

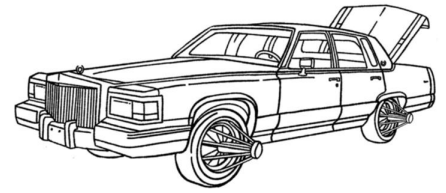
**Ages:** 8+

**Collection:**

**Culture/Region:**

**Subject Area:** Fine Arts, Visual Arts

**Activity Type:** Hands-On Activity



Designed by Alex Teschel, StudioTwoThree, 2021

## Create your own fabric SLAB inspired by car culture in the South!

SLAB, an acronym for “Slow, Loud And Banging”, is a style of car that emerged in Houston, Texas from African American neighborhoods in the early 1980s. SLAB culture was popularized by southern hip-hop hit singles like Mike Jones’ “Still Tippin”, Chamillionaire’s “Ridin’”, and more. The style of slow and chopped rap over heavy bass is commonly amplified through the sound system in SLAB cars. A SLAB is a product of assemblage and personal expression and usually includes custom speakers in the trunk, decked out rims, neon signs and candy-colored paint. Most of all, a SLAB has “Swangas”, distinctive, custom cone-shape tire rims that extend beyond the wheels of the car.

In highlighting the significance of Southern car culture, particularly as an outward projection of black culture and identity, the museum commissioned a SLAB by rapper Richard “Fiend” Jones.

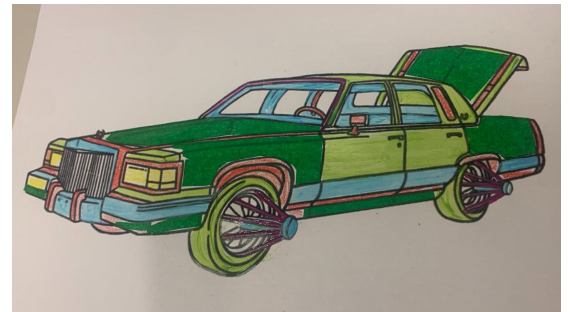
Now it’s your turn to create! Follow the directions below to design your own fabric SLAB car using the printed template created by Studio Two Three. Learn more about Studio Two Three by visiting [www.studiotwothree.org](http://www.studiotwothree.org) !

## Materials:

- Fabric with SLAB car outline (This can be found on the event page)
- Assorted colored felt (If felt is not available, feel free to use other materials noted below)
- Glue
- Scissors
- **Optional:** Acrylic paint
- **Optional:** Paint brush
- **Optional:** Recycled shirts or other fabric scraps, glitter, construction paper, or other paper scraps

## Creating your own Fabric SLAB:

1. Print of the SLAB car template found on our family day webpage. Cardstock, or a sturdier paper works best.
2. Cut out pieces of colored felt to create your car design. If felt is not available, you can also use paint, construction paper, tissues paper, paper scraps, and other recycled materials. Experiment with different sizes and shapes. You may also use old shirts or scrap fabric.
3. Arrange your felt pieces on your SLAB car outline to create your customized SLAB design. Remember this design is yours - customize it however you like! Feel free to overlap pieces of felt to create whatever shapes and patterns you want.
4. Once you are happy with your design, use the glue to secure each piece of felt to the printed template base. Make sure to place the glue on the back of your felt and gently press it down. Be careful not to use too much glue to avoid the glue soaking through the paper.
5. Once your design is dry, set your customized fabric SLAB-inspired art out on display! Where would you drive your SLAB? Who would ride with you?



## On View at VMFA!



Richard FIEND Jones (a.k.a. International Jones), (American, b.1976), **SLAB**, 2021, 1990 Cadillac Brougham d'Elegance with custom accessories, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts purchase  
Photo: Travis Fullerton © Virginia Museum of Fine Arts