



**OGDEN MUSEUM  
OF SOUTHERN ART**  
EDUCATION DEPT

**Ogden After Hours  
O-riginal Art Activity:  
Landscape Postcards**

**Inspired by Robert J. Onderdonk**



Robert J. Onderdonk, *Bluebonnet Scene with Girl*, 1920, Oil on canvas, Roger Houston Ogden Collection

Located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

Onderdonk was an American painter and art teacher, born in Catonsville, Maryland. He is known as the “Dean of Texan’s Artists” for his contributions to the canon of Texas painting.

Write a postcard to your friend about your holidays.

**Supplies List:**

Pencil, Eraser, Markers,  
Postcard and envelope

**Instructions:**

**Step 1:** Imagine you are on vacation, what is the view from your bedroom window? What does the landscape look like? What colors, trees, people or buildings are there? Use a pencil to draw the landscape on the front of the postcard. Color it with markers.

**Step 2:** Next, write a letter to your friend describing the landscape on the inside of the postcard. Use these art vocabulary terms to describe what you drew to your friend.

The **foreground** is the part of a scene that is nearest to and in front of the viewer.

The **middle ground** is the middle distance; what is between the foreground and the background.

The **background** is the part of a scene that lies behind the foreground and middle ground that appears most distant from the viewer.

**Step 3:** Decorate the envelope with memories of your trip. Mail your postcard to a friend!

