25,000 buttons,

3,500 rosaries,

scrabble tiles,

pop tops,

soda cans, etc.

1 artist:

CLARE

GRAHAM

**Environment:** Clare grew up in a working-class family where he had limited means and four siblings. He had to share and scavenge for things that he could call his own. He looked around his environment and used his surroundings to adapt to his situation. At a young age, he started collecting objects in large amounts. Draw the environment you grew up in. Think about what part of it resonated most with you and write one to two sentences describing why.

**Motto: Clare’s mission motto is, “To awaken people to the potential in garbage.”** Do you have a motto? If so, what is it, and how is this motto expressed through your work motives? In the space below, draw one recyclable object that you don’t think you’ll be using anytime soon.

Now take the same object drawn previously and briefly sketch it in shape at least 5-10 more times below. When complete, what do you notice? Do you think it is possible to make a sculpture out of what you drew if you were given the same materials in real life? What if you were given more than 10 of this object? What are the possibilities?

**Space:** Clare’s entire studio is essentially a grocery market space. If you had this same amount of space, what would your space be filled with? List some materials, objects, etc. Then, make a brief sketch of how you would organize your space and where things would belong.

**Collections:** It’s evident that Clare developed an obsessive collection of anything of everything. Have you ever had an extensive collection? (Ex. Bags, rocks, stickers, etc.) What did you do with them back then? What if you were given 100x the amount of the largest collection you ever had, could you manipulate the material creatively? Draw an abstract sculptural form of what your past collection could be today below.

**Critical thinking Corner:** We often hear the comparison of Quality vs. Quantity. But since learning about Clare, it seems that quantity can be quality work. In fact, Clare’s studio space of work can be compared to a museum exhibit. Has Clare inspired you to look at collections of objects and recyclable material differently? If so, how? In the space given below, you have the choice to sketch out or list down new or existing ideas for future reference. Best of luck!