Creativebug Live: Vision Boards with Creativebug

Chapter 1 - Make a vision board with Courtney and Liana

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(lively music) - Hey everybody, it's Leanna from Creativebug and we're here live. - Hi. Courtney, here. - Yay! So Courtney and I, dynamic duo. We haven't been on a live shoot together in- - It's been a while. - Almost exactly a year. - Yeah, since we did this last January. - Yes! So for those of you who were with us last year when we did our vision boards, welcome back. I hope that you made a vision board and everything manifested. - For 2023, but now we're going in 2024. - Yep. - Or we're in it already. - And this is one of those classes I would say that we could just teach over and over and over because I think there's so many different ways you can approach a vision board. And it's also something you don't just do once. - Yes. - And you never make it again. You actually get to do it every year. - Yeah, and I think every year we have kind of a different approach, right? It's like how do you wanna approach the year? Maybe that also manifests in the way that you create or put together your vision for the year. - Yep, like I think the first year we did it, probably five or six years ago, we sat down with a stack of magazines and it was very organic. We just kind of flipped through and ate snacks and made a very focused effort to cut out pieces and glue them together and make collages kind of real time. And last year was actually really focused. - Yes. - We did a lot of pre-planning in advance to kind of think like maybe what are some of the main goals for the year? What are the visuals we wanna bring? And I know pulled some inspiration ahead of time. We actually have our boards from last year here. We're gonna do a quick review. - [Courtney] Yeah, let's revisit 2023. - [Leanna] Okay, talk to me about your board for 2023. - I remember when I made it, I was surprised by all the purple, 'cause historically I'm not a purple person, but I have to say that these plummy tones are still resonating. I still am enjoying them. I was focused on my trip. I was planning a trip to go to Paris and London, which I did with my friend Alicia. It was amazing. So I got to visit Q Gardens for the first time. Spent a lot of time at the British Library, so that came to fruition. And I think some of these things really are still like peaking my interest and my curiosity, but I think they've evolved a little bit. So I think the colors might change a little bit. And some of my focus might change for 2024. - Now, do you have anything from last year that you're gonna rip off and put on for this year? - That's a good question. I'm not gonna probably rip anything off, but I'm pretty sure I printed this picture out again because I really do wanna focus on getting my kitchen. I live in a very old house and we haven't remodeled it or anything. So it's like, how can I add some like new life into this kitchen or make it more functional or what have you. So there might be some things that get repeated in like an updated way. - [Leanna] Okay. - [Courtney] For the next one. What about you? How did last year turn out for you? - [Leanna] Okay, last year I segmented my life into three sections. There was the crafting section which had a lot of knitting and sewing in it, and sort of a style, like my overall look I was going for. And then I had kind of like my creative space, and then I had my garden section and I just moved. - [Courtney] So you've been in your house a year now? - One year. And I have to say, I was more successful on this side than this side. I shouldn't say successful, right? It's not about like- - Yeah. - Checking everything off the list. Okay, so I'm gonna get out of that mindset, and you should too, if you're there. I would say I was probably more productive. Is that safe to say? - Well, just more of these things kind of came to pass. - Yep. - These can be like the long vision. I do feel like something can be kind of like on the short vision and then on the long vision. - Yes, exactly. And I will say I enjoyed our yard. I enjoyed dreaming about it and

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kind of watching where the sun hits and planning out what we wanna do with the garden, but when you've moved somewhere and you're gonna live there potentially for the rest of your life, you take your time. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Leanna] So I took my time. A lot of knitting happened. I did make a friend or two, new friends in a new space. - [Courtney] In my new community. - [Leanna] And these colors did appear in my life over and over and over again. And I bought some Birkenstocks. - [Courtney] Look at that. So some like big picture things, some very finite specific things happened. - Yes. - Okay, so for this year's vision. - All right, get outta here, 2023. - It was a good year, thank you. - Woo, blank slate. - Yes. We have some watercolor paper. You can use like poster board. And what did you bring with you? Like I have some magazine tears. - [Leanna] Yep, I do as well. And I also have things. If you are a person who like kind of collects things, like maybe you tag things on Instagram that you like to look at for later or you just, you know what you wanna make. - Yes. - It's helpful, I think, to pull the images into a folder, like on your desktop or on your phone in a folder. And then you can always pull them into like Google Sheets. Sheets is that the presentation? Google Slides or PowerPoint and you can get them in like a really nice layout like this. - [Courtney] That's nice. - [Leanna] Different crop sizes and things like that. - [Courtney] So that's, I mean, even if you didn't wanna do a board and you had like a binder or a folder, that's like a nice visual presentation. - [Leanna] Totally. Yeah, you could just stick these up on a bulletin board. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Leanna] If you just know what you wanna make. - [Courtney] I just did Pinterest and then printed them and cut them out. - [Leanna] Yeah. - Also, I don't know if you can hear Charlie coughing. We thought I'd be coughing 'cause it's the cold season, but Charlie is coughing. - Charlie needs a cough drop. - Yes. - I apologize for coughs if you can hear that. Okay, so I have my Pinterest images. You have your other images. I also did some photocopying from this book I'm loving. I bought this, I think, in 2022 maybe. I can't remember, but right when it was published, "The Art of Repair". And I like this. I'm sort of using this as like both a for my life, but also mending, like both things, like in a more metaphysical way, but then an actual literal approach. - [Leanna] Okay. - [Courtney] So I photocopied some quotes from that and I have those cut out. - [Leanna] Oh, I love that! - [Courtney] Yeah. And then we also wanna talk a little bit about taking the approach of a more and less list. - [Leanna] Yes, absolutely. So I think that's actually where we're gonna start today. - Yeah! - So, I don't know if you all have done this. We certainly did not invent it. But I think it's a really fun way to look at how you want to approach your year, is saying what you wanna do more of, what you wanna do less of. And this could be like very finite. It could be I want more Birkenstocks, I want to eat less Cheez-Its. - Yes. - I mean it really like- - Right, it could be specific or it could be more like lofty ambitious goals kind of a thing. But I do find that this approach is better than being like go to the gym or whatever. - Yeah. - I love, we were kind of talking about this prior and you said like more movement and I felt like oh that feels really powerful and achievable and that can have a scope. Like on one day it can be small amount of movement, but on another day it could be a big amount of movement. And you don't have to physically go to the gym to have movement, which I love. I love that way to approach these goals. - Yes, so I went a little bit more philosophical, open-ended, open to interpretation on mine. And we're gonna just start by writing these on the boards. I'm actually gonna use two different colors for mine, so I can keep 'em straight. - [Courtney] Are you going to write both your mores and your lesses or just your mores? - I'm gonna write both my mores and lesses and then I'm gonna cover up my lesses. - Oh, I love that. Okay, cool. - And then I might have to write 'em on the back so I can just remind myself. So I am going to be doing more. Let's see on my more list. I'm gonna start over here. - [Courtney] Okay, I'm gonna go big. Oh, it's hard to say this, though. - [Leanna] Do you need a darker marker? - [Courtney] I need to go slower. - [Leanna]

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More! I have more awe. - [Courtney] Ooh, I love that. Mine is more making. - [Leanna] Well, that one's obvious. - [Courtney] Obvious. I feel like I could put that on every year. - [Leanna] I have more flow. - [Courtney] Ooh, that's nice. - [Leanna] And these are like looking for more moments when I'm like in the zone, like in that creative zone. So, sort of making. - [Courtney] Mine's more making, less buying, 'cause I do love to shop and I'm not gonna not shop, but I'm gonna try to curb it. I need more patience. I feel like I want more patience. Hopefully, I'm spelling these things. - [Leanna] I like that you're moving across the paper, too. - [Courtney] I'm gonna just do it all over 'cause I'm gonna cover it all up. - [Leanna] Okay, I want more connection. - [Courtney] Ooh, I love that. Mine's more laughing, less frustration. - [Leanna] Ooh, nice. - [Courtney] I have a 4-year-old, so I feel like these things can happen in equal measure. You can be frustrated, but you can also laugh, so I'm gonna try to lean into the more laughing. - [Leanna] Okay, I have more movement and more seeking. - Oh, that's nice. These feel very like doable because they can be so scaled, right? - They can be anything you want them to be. - I love that. - And I do have specific things in mind, like with movement, I know I wanna do more hiking, more barre, more weightlifting, things like that. More swimming, you know? And for connection, I know I wanna be creating more art with my kid. - Oh, I love that. - But I also wanna be going out and seeing people. - I'm also stealing the more movement, 'cause I really like that. But mine's gonna be like stretching, not barre. I think, let's see if there's something else I want. Oh, more letting go of things. And then under less, I'm ready for less. - [Leanna] Less, okay. I have less ambivalence. - [Courtney] Okay. - [Leanna] So, I want to care more and not just roll with things quite as much. - [Courtney] Okay. - As I typically do, 'cause if you know me, I roll with things. - You are, you're very agreeable, diplomatic. - Probably too much. This is the year. - This is the year you're gonna take control. (Leanna laughing) - Okay, I said mine less buying. - [Leanna] Okay, I have less should haves. - [Courtney] Oh, like regrets? - [Leanna] Or just like, oh I should've used today to do this thing, you know? - [Courtney] That is hard, holding yourself accountable for time that's already passed. - [Leanna] Exactly. I want less age awareness, like just stop thinking about it. You are how you feel and it doesn't matter what age you are. - [Courtney] I love that. That's an excellent approach. - Get over it. Aging is happening. Less obsessing, so like really useless kind of repeating the same thought over and over in your head and it's not actually helping you solve anything. So, getting a little more quiet around those things and less dread. Those kind of go hand-in-hand. - [Courtney] Oh yeah. I feel like they have some anxiety components. - [Leanna] Oh they do. - I definitely, a lot of these things are resonating. I'm not writing my less on mine, but- - Well, I am planning to take all of these and then just cover them up. - I love it. - Because I don't wanna focus on them. I'm aware that these are things that I want less of and I don't need to look at them every day. - [Courtney] Yes, that's perfect. I'm gonna put the year here, too. - [Leanna] Ooh, that's a good idea. I like it. - [Courtney] 2024. - So what's your strategy for getting started? - You know, you could sort of just lay things out until it feels like it has a good flow. Flow is one of your words. And then glue it down. But I tend to like place a few things, but then start gluing pretty quickly because I want to commit. I just wanna commit and move on. - [Leanna] Well, I'm going with my Purl Soho wallpaper. - [Courtney] That is gorgeous! - [Leanna] This actually came in the mail yesterday. I just got a yarn order. - [Courtney] In a perfect time. - [Leanna] And I thought, oh this is the most perfect poster to make its way onto my board. So, it obviously won't fit, so I'm gonna pick kind of the color palettes that are working for me and just use this. This is like such a metaphor for me that this is gonna be like the foundational backdrop. - [Courtney] I love it. - [Leanna] Of my year. - [Courtney] I do think starting with the bigger elements works better 'cause then the little things can fill it in. - [Leanna] Yeah, we'll be doing some layering here. - For sure. So I think my kitchen is gonna continue

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to be of interest this year. Let's see, where do I wanna start? I also have this photocopy of my daughter's art and I was like looking at some of the images and I feel like there's a lot of green so I might just glue this whole thing down. - [Leanna] So, I saw this on the table and I thought it was done by a famous artist. - [Courtney] No, this is a Louise Bourgeois. No, it's actually a Luca Mackin. - [Leanna] A Luca Mackin. Okay, I'm gonna cut out Purl Soho. - [Courtney] Do it. - [Leanna] I don't need a brand name exactly to show up on my vision board, but I am liking how those colors go together. - So beautiful. We're using this Scotch. It's called the craft glue stick. Now it's called permanent glue stick. It's gone through a few rebrands, but this is my favorite glue stick. It's very wide and goes on really smooth. - [Leanna] Okay, give us a glue lesson, too. I see you're going onto the paper and not onto the surface you're gluing onto. - [Courtney] Always glue the smallest object. This is a bookmaking rule from the center out, 'cause it helps you not get it caught and do wrinkles. But I'm not being too precise. This is not like a bookmaking project. - Okay, and if we haven't said it already, which I don't think we have, if you have questions or anything you wanna share with us during this event, we love to hear from you. We are live. Cobrina is here in the studio. - She's moderating for us. - She's sitting on the floor right over there and she's gonna hop in anytime if you guys have questions. - [Courtney] I love this Halloween image 'cause I'm a big Halloween person, but I like this big "do". So I'm gonna just cut out the word do. I may, not glue it down yet, though. - Ooh, do. That is awesome. Yeah, one thing that I think we both have reached for this year, is like poetry and words, as well. In the past I've kind of looked for headlines, I think, in magazines to pull out, but I'm definitely feeling more like I want an artist's words to speak to me this year. - [Courtney] I love that. - [Leanna] Yeah. Though I do like this "get inspired". I'm gonna take that. - Books are also something that I need to focus on this year. I just love books so much, I can't even tell you. It's to the point of obsession. I love buying them. I find inspiration in them. I look at all of my books constantly. But I do think I'm at the point where I need to really figure out how they fit into the house in a way that does not feel chaotic and overwhelming. My partner literally asked me, "When is it enough bookshelves?" And I was questioning if he was serious or not and if he actually knew me at my core. But there is a kernel of truth to that. So for his sake, trying to figure out how to not make them feel overwhelming. Although I was chatting with East Bay Kate on Instagram and she's like, "Oh, we just stacked them on the stairs "and my husband's like onboard now." - [Leanna] Oh! - [Courtney] So I was like, ah, I wish I had some stairs to stack my books on. - [Leanna] Stair stacking. - I also feel like pink and green were coming up. I know the color of the ears that peach, Pantone peach. But I feel like mine's eking toward a slightly blusher tone. And I love this image. This is like a maximalist ruffles and pleats and flowers, which I love all of this a lot, so I'm putting this right in the center of my board. - [Leanna] Love that one. It's so odd that I'm like drawn to these purples. This is like you last year. Courtney and I have always had a kind of aversion to purple. - [Courtney] Oh no, but just in a kinship to things, yeah. - [Leanna] For whatever reason, everybody loves purple. Purple's great. If you love purple, don't listen to us. - [Courtney] Yeah, you do you. - [Leanna] Okay, but I am really liking these textures here from this magazine. I do think that kind of identifying the palette that's speaking to you is a powerful way to approach the year. It is aesthetic, but there's more to it than that. - But also if you have a lot of imagery and it seems overwhelming and you're not sure where to narrow it down, using the color palette is a good way, a good place to start. - Yeah, so I am layering things in the background here that I think are a nice backdrop. I also have on here, this is a pirate map that I made with my son. - [Courtney] I love that. - [Leanna] I think it speaks to a couple of my themes. I think it speaks to seeking - [Courtney] Yes. - [Leanna] And connection with him. - [Courtney] And treasure. - [Leanna] And treasure. Wait, was treasure one of

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mine? I'm not sure if it was. - [Courtney] No, but I like treasure. - [Leanna] So I might find a way to work this one in too. - [Courtney] Treasure comes up a lot in our lives, in my life at home. But I feel like with your son, treasure is a thing. - [Leanna] Oh, treasure's a big thing. He likes treasure. So big, big, big thing. - [Courtney] I literally have bins of stuff in my studio that's labeled treasure and it's just like, I dunno, random fun little things I love. Yeah, pink and green is coming up. - [Leanna] Now I did, this is something I wanted to talk about, as well. I pulled this image of wild flowers because I know maybe I'm not gonna plant a huge garden this year, but I know I wanna have some California poppies and some wild flowers in there. Now, this image is like not really, it feels a little like yellow-toned compared to everything else I'm pulling. And it might make it in. We'll see how this shakes out. But I might also, I grab some paints and I might also just paint some of my own. - [Courtney] Yeah, that's a nice thing about using the watercolor paper, or you can use a mixed media paper. Just gives you the flexibility. You can paint right on the paper if you want. I really wanna do some mending, like actual real mending. I have all the fancy tools and all the pretty threads and the box to put it in. I just need to like get to it now. So maybe I'll put the word do on this mending image. - [Leanna] Love it. - [Cobrina] We do have a good question on the board from Phil. - [Together] Phil! - [Leanna] Happy 2024. - [Courtney] Oh my gosh! - It's been forever, Phil, what's up? - [Cobrina] As you're both moms now, do you do something similar with your kids? If so, what is their more of? - That's a great question. Phil's asking now that we both have children, because we've been at Creativebug forever, and then Leanna became a mom and like 10 months later I became a mom. - She was jealous. - Do we do this with our kids? I tried kind of broaching the subject on January 1st about what do we want more in our life? Know that my daughter really took the bait, as you will. And collage, I've tried doing collage. Luca's really into making art and painting and she loves to collaborate, but we haven't done a lot of cut up pictures and collaged them yet. So it may not manifest in this way, but we'll see. What about Caleb? - If I were to do a more or less with him, I'm sure it would be like more Lego, more pirates, less tofu. I mean really, we're not quite at a deep level of metaphor yet, but I think that he would absolutely love cutting things out of a magazine and gluing them down. And I do think it's fun to have these conversations. They say some really weird things at this age, but that's kind of half the fun of it. - [Courtney] It is, that's true. - Yeah, I think really any age is a great time to sit down and do this. And kids of any age could also kind of flip through. Maybe it's not a magazine. Maybe it's "Highlights," maybe it's a different kind of Ranger Rick or something. - Something. - Who knows? But kind of identifying what speaks to them, 'cause I think that's really what you're doing. - I mean, Luca last night she did, I had pulled magazines knowing that we were gonna do this and there was like a Christmas, Halloween, some kind of magazine and she's like, "Mama, this is a really fun magazine. "You should look at it." And we looked at it together and it made her think about what she wants to be for Halloween next year and how we should decorate the house. - [Leanna] There you go. - So she did like project sort of to the next, a future Halloween season. - Yeah, 'cause they have no shortage of opinions. - Yes. - And desires and all of that. It's sort of like putting it in a framework. - Yes. - [Leanna] And helping them get their thoughts organized. - [Courtney] I might steal your color palette outta here. Gosh, it's totally true. - [Leanna] You just took my reds! - [Courtney] I know, but- - [Leanna] I love it. - [Leanna] That's great, that's great. - I think pink is definitely emerging. I was also thinking, I used to be just like to my core, a tea-drinker and then I started drinking coffee when Luca was born like every single day. And I'm like, I should bring more tea back into my life. So this little picture is to represent that. - [Leanna] Oh, oh, I like that. - [Courtney] I think this kitchen image from last year might also make it back on here. - [Leanna] Do it! - [Courtney] Send more mail. This is on every

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vision board because I love sending mail, but I go in fits and spurts of doing it. I don't know, I love this image, I love the detail, but I also was like, ooh, more glam in my life. I mean, I don't need to chandelier, but I'm really into lighting more candles these days. - [Leanna] Oh, yes. - [Courtney] So I was gonna put that somewhere. - [Leanna] Okay. That is a great idea. - Also, we have this Creativebug, this legacy Creativebug set piece that has been retired from the set that was like early, early Creativebug that now I have. And it's been sitting waiting to be repainted for the last two and a half years. And so this is to represent just paint the dresser and put it in Luca's room. - [Leanna] Just do the thing. - [Courtney] Just do the thing instead of just having the thing sit there. - [Leanna] Okay, now this is not pretty. - [Courtney] What is it? Are you gonna sing that? - [Leanna] I have joined a choir. - [Courtney] This is amazing. - Sort of a weird thing that I've done this year and we are doing Mozart's "Requiem" and every time I look at the music book sitting on my desk, I am like so filled with joy. - Oh fun. - Even though it's the "Requiem" and it's like a funeral mass, basically. But it's, first of all, I love the design of the book, but just knowing that I'm learning this really challenging piece of music. - It's amazing. - It's cool, so even though it's not the most attractive thing, I'm still gonna put it on there. - [Courtney] I mean, it kinda looks like my board, but yes, I think it's good. (Courtney laughing) - [Leanna] Would you like that? - [Courtney] No, I am not going to be singing anytime soon. A little unknown fact about Leanna, for those live folks who are watching, she used to be in a band. Actually have her album in my car. It's like one of the few CDs. - [Leanna] Oh really? - Yeah. So she's capable of doing it. She may not be telling you that. It's been a while, but you're capable of doing it. - Thank you. I am doing it. - You're doing it. - There will be more music in my life this year. - I love that. - And in fact, on the complete opposite end of that, I actually have a photo here from when I saw the Pixies play this last year and it was like the most fun concert ever. And this is just like a reminder that I want more live music. - [Courtney] I love that. - [Leanna] In my life. - [Courtney] Bookshelves. - [Leanna] And Courtney needs more bookshelves. - [Courtney] Oh, I love these two images. Okay, I have to explain these. About that joy and just reveling in the everyday, I just love this image of this painted dog enjoying the breeze. - [Leanna] Oh yes! - [Courtney] And I feel like I need that. I need to laugh more and be less frustrated and just let myself sink into the joyous moments. So this is gonna go on here. And also, it's a more evocative picture, but I really wanna design myself a book plate 'cause I have just like a massive library and I love books and I want design my own book plate, so this is a historic book plate design. - [Leanna] I love that. - [Courtney] I have some yellows popping up, too. I feel like it's mustard and also green. But where are they all gonna fit? - [Leanna] So I've decided I'm moving my creative projects into my grid here. - [Courtney] Oh okay, so you're still taking a sort of one side approach to another side approach. - [Leanna] It is a little bit structured. - [Courtney] I'll try not to glue my things onto your paper here. - [Leanna] I can't help myself. - [Courtney] Mine is not like that. I appreciate that you have that in you. Also, this is like I need to hug my partner more. So I'm putting that on there. - [Leanna] Oh, yours are so lovely. - [Courtney] It might tell you something about where we're at. (Leanna laughing) We need more hugging and less logistics. More hugging. - [Leanna] Okay. - [Courtney] I might need to trim this down to just one. - [Leanna] Now do I want this poem, this haiku large or not? I sent this. - [Courtney] Oh yeah, I've got my words, too. - [Leanna] I sent this to Courtney last week. - [Courtney] Oh it's so good. - [Leanna] This haiku I read. "Barns burnt down, now I can see the moon." - [Courtney] I love it. That's so powerful. - [Leanna] I was like, I think I need to burn some barns down. - I love it. I also have some words here. I'm gonna share them, as well. These are all from "The Art of Repair" book by Molly Martin. I love this book. I highly recommend it. And these are, she's talking about literal mending and darning, but I feel like they could be used for larger

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concepts in life. "Nothing lasts, nothing is finished and nothing is perfect." So that's gonna be like more of my letting go. "To everything there is a season." I feel like I've had a lot of conversations since I had Luca and we've been in this pandemic era of like, is this the new normal? Like what is normal? What lulls and fits and spurts to your creativity are linked or not linked to motherhood or your job or the state of the world? So I feel like I am in a different season and like what is that season? - Good question. - I think it's percolating, but we'll see. And then I love this, too. This is on the more making, less buying. This is Sylvia Plath. "Perhaps we find ourselves wanting everything. "It is because we are dangerously near to wanting nothing." So there's like some mental health things in there. So I feel like these things are the words that are resonating with me right now. - [Leanna] And Courtney also wants everything. - I want everything. I mean very specific things. When was it you did the Marie Kondo? - Oh, like years ago where you have to pick up everything and ask yourself if it brings you joy. - Right. - And Courtney looked at me and said everything brings me joy, all of it. - I don't have anything in my house that doesn't bring me joy, that's not my problem. - She wouldn't get rid of a thing. - I'm not like holding onto things that I don't love. I just love a lot of things. I love worn things and antique things and things with drawers. I know there are other people like that out there. I know you. - [Leanna] Oh yes. - [Courtney] Oh boy, my images are so big. I'm trying to figure out how to fit all this on the page. - [Leanna] I know. Is it starting to take shape for you? Oh yeah, look at all the greens coming through on yours. - [Courtney] A lot of greens, a lot of this like oaky gold, which that's no surprise. This is a very, but the green was a surprise. So last year the purple was a surprise. It's not that I'm not a green person. I love green. My birthstone is an emerald. But I was surprised that this shade of green is coming up so much. It's just an interesting observation. - [Leanna] Totally. - [Courtney] But also the yellow is still circling. I may need to make a smaller version of her to fit her on. So maybe she gets paper clipped and then I print out a smaller version and attach her later. Okay, I'm gonna try to glue some of these things down now. - [Leanna] She's going for it. I feel like maybe my treasure map isn't working. I can't decide. I'm gonna try it without. Sometimes you have to make hard choices. - [Courtney] This is true. - [Leanna] But I do like these two together. - [Courtney] Ooh, that's pretty. Oh that's some of that same kind of- - [Leanna] Yellowy golden ocher. - [Courtney] I think I've got some good things happening. - [Leanna] I'm making room. - [Courtney] My little joyous pup here. - [Leanna] I know. - [Courtney] He's so cute. - [Leanna] Okay. Okay, and I couldn't decide this image here, I love it, but it also kind of stresses me out. - [Courtney] I also clipped out! This is a reoccurring ad in whatever magazine this is. I also clipped this out different. - [Leanna] The same exact one? - [Courtney] Yeah, with a different picture. Where is it? This right here. - [Leanna] Oh yeah, they do good ads, whoever it is. - [Courtney] Who is it? - [Leanna] It's California Closets. - [Courtney] Of course. - [Leanna] Who knew? - [Courtney] I mean, I would love one of their closets. - [Leanna] But I like the statement, too, "Make room for all of you". - [Courtney] Yeah, no, this is the thing. The words are what's resonating. - I know. Good job, California Closets, the official sponsor. - No, no. - Of Creativebug vision board. - We should have called them. - California Closets, will you come give me a free closet? - Yes, please. - [Courtney] I'm gonna take that out, too. I just love this image of the holding hands. I should have glued this down first, but I don't have room for it now. - [Cobrina] Phil has a comment for you, Courtney. He says don't be restricted to the page. Go off the edges, Courtney. - Oh! - Phil's saying don't bound yourself by the edge of the page here. You're so right. - Love it! - Well, my dog is sticking up a little, but it's true. But you know what? So in the office, my vision board from last year is taped to the back of Leanna's computer so I can see it every day. So I can't go too far because it wouldn't be flopping over her computer. But I do love that approach, Phil. Thank you for the

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reminder. - [Leanna] I think Phil needs to come teach vision boards next year. - [Courtney] Yeah, Phil. Come out here. - [Cobrina] On that subject, where do you keep your vision board during the year? - Okay, so I told you where mine is. Where do you put yours, Leanna? I think you mentioned in the beginning, but would you remind people? - I put it right next to my desk at work. And it's something that I do. I look at all the time while I'm working and I look at it. I mean, honestly it's not there right now 'cause I brought it in to show you guys and this morning the office felt empty. I was like something is wrong in this room. - Oh, interesting. - The vision board wasn't there. I'm just so used to seeing it. Oh yeah, I needed a bigger one. And it's just, it really, I don't know. - [Courtney] It grounds. - [Leanna] I'm gonna miss it. - Yeah, it like grounds your space, I think. You know what's interesting, though, in my studio I have a new little studio. It's very, very small and I don't, it's like the whole room is a visual cue. I don't have like a place where I put up tears or images. It's like the whole room is filled with like color and texture and pattern in objects. - Yeah. - But I wonder how my work would change if I put up like a proper vision board for my like creative practice or for artwork or something. - It genuinely, for me, it was very practical this year when I was between projects to think, what do I wanna make next? Oh yeah, I put this on the vision board. - [Courtney] Yeah. I think a lot of people get stuck with choice. It's nice to have something to refer to and you're like, oh, I don't have to have decision fatigue. It's right here. I already told myself what I want. - [Leanna] Right. - [Courtney] That's nice. - [Leanna] Exactly, like look no further. And yeah, and also my tastes, with crafting anyway, are not fickle. I still have projects that I earmarked from like three, four years ago that I'm like, oh yeah, I'd still wear that, that still resonates with me. - [Courtney] Well, like long vision, short vision, I think. - [Leanna] Yeah, yeah, exactly. - [Courtney] I don't know how you say that. - [Leanna] But this year I really wanna get out the sewing machine again because I have been able to find time to knit because as everybody in this room knows, I knit through every meeting and I am in a lot of meetings and so therefore I get a lot of knitting done. But you can't really sew during meetings on a sewing machine. - No, it's too noisy. It's too noisy. - Little bit noisy. But I wanna get back into that. And that's another thing too, is learning how to do the things that you wanna do when you have a kid around. - Yes, you have to relearn. - You do. And I think it's very easy to get into the mindset of like, well, I can't do that because I have a young kid. - This is a good point. I feel like I find myself doing this too, where Luca's now at the age where she can do a puzzle by herself or she'll paint by herself. And then I'm just like sitting there waiting for her to need me or to step in. But occasionally I'll just like quietly get a book and start reading it or looking at it or something, like a cookbook so that I'm not immersed fully. I can pop out if needed, but. - Yeah, and I've started doing that with exercise. I've started doing that with art making and it's like, you have a few choices. You can be with me while I do it. - Yeah. - And you can do your own thing or you can go over there and do your own thing. - Yeah. - [Leanna] Or you can sit with me and I can help you do it. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Leanna] And then I'll do it kind of poorly, my own version of it, but it's better than not doing anything. - Right, no, totally. - The point is like just stop using- - The excuses. - Having a kid as an excuse to not do something. - [Courtney] No, it's totally true, yes. - [Leanna] I just need to get past that. - I think for me, part of that is also just I find myself exhausted, and so then I'm like the easier thing is to just sit here and be here if I'm needed as a mom, but I should. But then once you build a habit, I don't think it's tiring. - Right. - It's more like, oh I've recreated, I've restructured how I do this thing. I gotta do that more, as well. - [Leanna] Gotta do it. - [Courtney] Okay, that kitchen, I think she has to get smaller, that one. - [Leanna] All right, I might be ready to start gluing some things down. I just wanna make sure I have some pockets here to paint. - [Courtney] Oh yeah, your flowers. Oh yeah, this is another thing I forgot. I had this downstairs in my

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studio and it's from many years ago, but last night I had a conversation with my friend Alicia and we're gonna do a show, a collaborative show together about painting flowers and then cutting them out and doing some things with them. So this is like a literal cutout of a flower I'm gonna add. - [Leanna] I love it! - To remind myself that this is a goal. I do think it's too, for me, creatively, since I feel like I've been in this sort of weird space for the last year or a few years about painting or what is my creative practice, I do feel like having your sights on some kind of goal helps you get there. I mean this seems obvious, but I don't know. Just having that chat with a friend and saying like, oh let's do this thing. It was like, oh, now when I go to sit down to a desk and I'm like, I want to paint something, I want to be creative, I have something in mind. And that's also what the vision board does, like you were saying. I'm ready for the project. What is the project? And then you're like, oh yeah, that sweater. - [Leanna] Because that is half the battle. - [Courtney] Right, the decision-making. Did I glue that? This is glued. Now I'm like, what did I glue down? - [Leanna] Yeah, for a minute when I was contemplating what my board was gonna be this year, I thought about doing it set up like a clock. - [Courtney] Oh, interesting. - [Leanna] To just like keep time in mind. - [Courtney] Yeah. That sounds exhausting. - [Leanna] But then it stressed me out. (Courtney laughing) - That sounds exhausting, so nevermind. - Yeah, I feel like, well, speaking to your flow component, I feel like it's more like that. Like I wanna be immersed so that time is lost, you know? Or time doesn't matter. - Totally. - Let's count our time in stitches, knit stitches or marks made on a page instead of with minutes. I like this. - Oh, so many minutes making stitches. - [Courtney] Okay, it's coming together! You guys look! I've like glued down half my images. - [Leanna] All right, do we have any more questions, Coby? Not at this time. - [Cobrina] I wanna ask, do you only use square cuts? - Oh, that's a good question. - This is very gridded. You're very right about this. We're only cutting things out. I think often, certainly when you're finding images on the internet and putting them into a program and printing them out, that's how they come, right? They're a rectangle or square. And that tends to just fit for my brain. I was the editor of the high school yearbook, so everything's in blocks and that just works for my brain, but you could absolutely take a different approach to this. This shape is more organic, right? It's got curves and it's less linear. But you could be making big shapes on the page. You could be cutting out just little details. I think I kind of default to that very structured grid, but that doesn't mean that's the only way to do it. So that's a great question. You should really do what feels inspiring to you and what feels natural. And so, or you could push yourself. Just cut everything out in circles and see what that looks like. It doesn't fit as neatly onto a paper, but that might be where you wanna add some painting like Leanna's doing or some other kinds of elements to kind of fill in those white spaces. I do like to take away all the white space. - [Leanna] I am just kind of feeling out my palette here. What do I have going? - [Courtney] Oh yeah, which colors are popping out for you? - [Leanna] I'm just like loving this golden zone over here. I think it's kind of balancing things out, but also this deep dark blue. - [Courtney] Oh, that's pretty. - [Leanna] It's almost like an indigo or like a blue jean. So I think trying to identify that in a few swatches. - [Courtney] Yeah, that looks nice. We painted on our boards last year. I don't think I'm gonna do any painting on my board this year, but- - [Leanna] You're not gonna have room! - I know, but you know what? You can add to this. So if you're in a week's time or a month's time, you do paint something or draw something or knit something and you like the color, add it to your board. There's no reason why you can't do that. - Absolutely. - [Courtney] I also have this image, like bows and ribbons are all the thing right now, so they're popping up all over, but I do love this type, so I might use that somewhere if it fits. Not physically on the page, just if it fits in the vision. Oh no, I do really love her, but I want her to be a little bit smaller. Let's see what else I've got here.

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Oh yeah, this. Oh, isn't that dreamy? If I could just have one of those California Closets, but also just a house full of built-ins, that's like literally my dream. (Leanna laughing) Can you just put me like in a box full of boxes? And that's like really where my happy place. - [Leanna] I can attest to that. - Yeah. Also, I don't know how I stumbled upon this, but I printed this out, something about Japan has 72 micro seasons, which if you think about that, that's more than one a week. But there's something about that that resonated. And I printed this out just to see if anything, I wanted to include anything. But first peach blossoms. That's so pretty. Caterpillars become butterflies, which last year we raised three caterpillars from eggs into their final swallowtail butterfly and then released them in the yard. I definitely wanna redo that again this spring. That was really fun. - Oh yeah. - First cherry blossoms. This seems more common. First rainbows. That's cute, that's in April. I love that! The worms surface. This is in May, my birthday week. The worms surface. - [Leanna] Oh good, lucky you. - [Courtney] That's pretty funny. Plums turn yellow. I like that. I might pull that one outta there, just in like a weird literal sense. I did have a lot of plummy tone from last year and now I have a lot of goldeny tones, so I like that. This is June. This is my dad's birthday week. Oh no, this is right after his birthday actually. - [Leanna] I like the way this paper feels to paint on. So we're actually working on really large watercolor paper. - [Courtney] It's Strathmore. - [Leanna] So if you think you wanna incorporate more painting, I would recommend. Don't go for the poster board, go for this. - [Courtney] Yeah. - [Leanna] All right. - [Courtney] How are you feeling? - [Leanna] So how do you know, Courtney, when you get to a final place with it? - I think, you know what? I think we're pretty close. There might be some more imagery, maybe let this percolate for an evening and then also go back to some images that I wanted to include but are a little bit bigger than I want to have presence on the board and then add to it. So maybe over a day or two. - [Leanna] Yeah. - [Courtney] But I feel really good with where I'm at with what I prepared. How about you? - [Leanna] I'm feeling really good too. Yeah, I think this side is starting to take shape with inserting some of the crafting projects into the grid of color. And then the over here feels like it needs some cohesiveness. - [Courtney] Ooh, this feels like an adventure. I love this. "We kept the original layout "but turned everything upside down." That's amazing. - [Leanna] Some words of wisdom to keep in mind. - [Courtney] I love it. - But it is kind of hard. I mean, and that is what a life is, is like trying to figure out how you take all of these disparate things that are speaking to you and fit them all together. - Oh my god. - In a way that feels beautiful and meaningful and not too organized. - Yeah. - Curated! - I think that's a good place to end, to wrap it. (Leanna laughing) Well, we wish you a very happy 2024. We can't wait to see your vision boards. Feel free to share them with us. And I think it's nice to stay open. Your vision for the year can evolve. - Yep, maybe you keep adding onto it. Just get your glue stick and keep going. - Yep, sounds good. And we'll see you at the next live. (gentle music)

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