Mother’s Day Floral Felt Brooch

With Mother’s Day right around the corner, we’ve been inspired by RAM’s permanent collection artist Jessica Calderwood, and her floral brooch. Calderwood is a sculptor and jewelry artist who works primarily with metals and enamel. Gather your supplies and join us in creating a wearable gift for Mother’s Day, inspired by Calderwood’s whimsical and summery brooch.

Jessica Calderwood
Recede (Brooch), 2011
Enamel, copper, sterling silver and stainless steel
2 1/4 x 2 3/8 x 1/4 inches
Racine Art Museum, Gift of Family and Friends in Memory of Josephine McNeill Lewis
Photography: Jon Bolton, Racine

Supplies:
- Felt
- Fabric Scissors
- Hot Glue
- Cardboard
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Button or Pearl
- Pin Clasp

1. Cut the felt into 3 different sizes of squares:
   - 7 large squares – 3 x 3 inches
   - 7 medium squares – 2 1/2 x 2 1/2
   - 6 small squares – 1 1/2 x 1 1/2

2. Cut each square into a petal shape as shown, with a heart on the top and a flat bottom.
3. Fold each petal in half and use a small dot of hot glue in the crease to hold the shape. Then, fold each corner back, again using a small dot of glue to hold the folds.

4. Cut two circles out of the cardboard, one with a 2 inch diameter and the other slightly smaller. Begin to glue down the large petals onto the larger cardboard circle in a circular motion, evenly spacing each petal.

5. Cover the smaller circle with colored felt and glue it down onto all the large petals. Begin the whole process over again, using the medium petals this time. Then, glue the smallest petals in-between the medium ones. Tip: the smallest petals can only be folded in half once.

6. Finally, hot glue your center piece in the middle of the flower and the pin back onto the back of the felt brooch. Voilà! You have created your own Mother’s Day floral felt brooch that will make a great gift!