



Bowdoin

Bowdoin College Museum of Art  
www.bowdoin.edu/art-museum



## Portrait Personalities!

Sometimes we forget that portraits are paintings of real people. At some point in their lives, the people pictured on the walls of this gallery hired an artist to paint their portrait. These people had *unique personalities*, some of which you can guess from the way their portraits look.

Look at the portraits on the walls and think about what these people would have been like if you could meet them. There are lots of clues in the paintings that help tell a little bit about the people in them. What can you tell from the way they are dressed? Objects may tell you something about what a person did. What is the setting telling you?

Think about these questions and which people would fall into each category below. Put at least one person in each category.



Most Friendly

Which person looks most friendly? Who do you think would be the nicest person?



Most Familiar

Which person looks most familiar to you? Does anyone here look like someone you know?



Richest

Who do you think was the richest person? Who looks like they have the most money?



Like to Meet

Which person here would you like to meet? Who looks like someone you would like to talk to or get to know?



Run Away!

Who would you NOT want to meet? Is there someone here that you would run away from if you saw them on the street?

