Video Worksheet: “Medici Godfathers of the Renaissance”
Program #1: “The Birth of a Dynasty”

Preview Questions: Discuss with your partner.
1. What do you already know about the Medici family and the Renaissance?
2. Where is Florence, i.e. Firenze?
3. The Renaissance starts in the quattrocento—what century is that? What are the years for this era?
4. What does the title The Medici: Godfathers of the Renaissance suggest about the family?
5. How does a family become rich and powerful?

While Watching: Use the list below to fill in the blanks. Use each term once.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Albizzi</th>
<th>arches</th>
<th>artists</th>
<th>bricks</th>
<th>classical</th>
<th>manuscripts</th>
<th>General Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>manuscripts</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>Cosimo</td>
<td>Donatello</td>
<td>gears</td>
<td>heresy</td>
<td>Brunesleschi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>columns</td>
<td>John XXIII</td>
<td>Pater Patriae</td>
<td>patronage</td>
<td>perspective</td>
<td>pope</td>
<td>power &amp; prestige</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>republic</td>
<td>buildings</td>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>bribing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The Renaissance begins when Cosimo de Medici and his friends search Europe for _________________. Simply reading pagan authors like Socrates and Plato was punishable by excommunication from the church.
2. Popes could excommunicate (throw from the church and damn forever) Christians guilty of ________________, which was believing anything other than what the church preached.
3. ________________, who built the dome of the Florence Cathedral, was both architect and engineer.
4. Brunelleschi used _____________ as supports for first time in 1000 years, creating a revolution in architecture.
5. Florentines came to watch the construction of the dome. One of the things that amazed them was Brunelleschi’s use of the classical orders of ________________, which hadn’t been used since the fall of Rome.
6. Although Brunelleschi examined the construction of the dome of the Roman Pantheon, he couldn’t use the same techniques because of the size of the dome and because the recipe for making ____________ had been lost.
7. Brunelleschi also devised a way to alter the ________________ on pulleys so the oxen could pull the 1700-pound sandstone beams 250 feet into the air and return them to the ground without changing direction.
8. Brunelleschi personally lay some of the ________________ on the dome because what he proposed was so revolutionary that the brick masons were afraid the technique would fail and they would die.
9. Cosimo’s patronage of Brunelleschi helped the Medici family gain _________________.
10. The ________________ banking family, who resented the power of the Medici, had ____________ arrested.
11. Brunelleschi was jailed and forced to stop work on Il Duomo (the dome) when his patron was found guilty of treason against _________________.
12. When Cosimo was finally asked to return to Florence, he had even more power and prestige. The Medici banks became the most important banks in Europe as they collected money for the _________________.
13. Cosimo de Medici’s patronage of Baldesari Cossa paid off when Cossa became Pope _________________.
14. Marcello Fantoni: “Patronage is great for the production of art but totally irrational from an economic view. _________________ is a political strategy… high political competition…”
15. Florence was proud to be the only ________________ in Europe; but the government was often corrupt.
16. Seventy percent of all Renaissance __________________ lived and worked in Florence.

17. Brunelleschi also invented linear ___________________. According to Jeremy Brotton, this invention changed the way we see, creating a modern way of looking at the world.

18. The bronze sculpture of David by __________________ was the first free-standing statue created since ancient Rome.

19. Once Il Duomo was finished, Cosimo organized the ____________________ of Florence, which brought people from all over the world to his city; included were scholars who knew and could translate Greek the ancient Greek texts that Cosimo and his friends had been searching for.

20. When Cosimo died in 1464, the Florentines declared him ____________________, father of the fatherland.

Review Questions: Answer the following questions in the space provided
1. How did Cosimo, Brunelleschi, and Florence contribute to the birth of the Renaissance?

2. What problems do you foresee for the Medici family? Why?

3. In what ways does our society discourage or punish people for thinking, believing, and/or acting differently from the majority?