Visual Journal

What is a Visual Journal?

A visual journal is similar to a sketchbook.

AP Art students will use this as on opportunity to search for an idea that might be used as an Essential Question later in the portfolio.

“Inspiration exists, but it needs to find you working.”- Pablo Picasso.

There is a lot of freedom with the ideas that you use. Think of this as an opportunity to collect pictures, writings and drawing that interest you. Right now you might not know why.

Why do Artists create Visual Journals?

The creative process is often not linear. A lot of artist will collect ideas and wait until they can see how the piece could fit together later. The visual journal is an opportunity to capture some of these ideas.

Feel free to alter, reduce, simplify and rearrange images, text and drawings in your journal.

What goes in my Visual Journals?

Direct observation drawing.
Text. Traced, hand-drawn, or cut out.
Collaged elements from found sources such as books, magazines, or other printed source.

What are the requirements for the Visual Journals?

Complete 6 pages of creation and bind it together in a book/codex format.

Visual Journal

What materials / techniques should I explore in my Visual Journal?

Use any medium that you choose.

How do I join the pages together to turn individual pages into a Visual Journal?

Students can be creative with how the pages are bound together. Research book binding to see ideas.

Prompts

IDENTITY

- Who am I?
- When I was Younger
- When I Grow Up
- My Biggest Fear
- My Journey
- My Greatest Joy
- When I'm Alone
- My Biggest Dream
- Some Day I Will
- How Others See Me

IMAGINATION

- Invent an object.
- Imagine that you have traveled to a different time period. Draw what you see.
- Be creative with letters.
- Be creative with numbers.
- Draw yourself in an imagined environment.
- Pretend you've been sucked into your favorite book.
- Listen to your favorite song and imagine what it looks like.
- You have swapped bodies with someone else. Now what?
- You come across a magic mirror. What does it show?
- You have discovered life on Mars…

Visual Journal Prompts

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ART SKILLS

- Create a drawing of a chair.
- Make a creative drawing of kitchen items.
- Draw your closet in one or two-point perspective.
- Choose an element of art to highlight.
- Choose a principle of design to highlight.
- Create a monochromatic entry.
- Create a piece using only a ballpoint pen.
- Make an entry that starts with a blind contour drawing.
- Draw the same object 10 times in 10 different ways.
- Create an entry that includes a portrait of someone you admire.

SEASONS/CELEBRATIONS

- My New Year's Resolutions
- A Page Filled with Love
- The Importance of Art Education (YAM)
- April Fools! Create an entry that tricks the eye.
- On My Spring Break
- My Summer Plans
- Back to School
- Scare Your Art Teacher!
- I'm Thankful For
- Traditions

ART HISTORY/CONTEMPORARY ART

- Create something inspired by prehistoric art.
- Create something inspired by the art of the Renaissance.
- Create something inspired by Surrealism.
- Create something inspired by Pop Art.
- Create something inspired by your favorite artist from history.
- Create something inspired by your favorite contemporary artist.
- Combine two contemporary artists' styles to create something new.
- Create something inspired by a piece of 3D art you love.
- Create a page of sketch notes about an artist from history.
- Put your own twist on a famous artwork.

AP Art