

Narrative Painting

Grades 11-12

Connection to California Standards:

2.1 Solve a visual arts problem that involves the effective use of the elements of art and the principles of design.

4.1 Articulate how personal beliefs, cultural traditions, and current social, economic, and political contexts influence the interpretation of the meaning or message in a work of art.

4.2 Compare the ways in which the meaning of a specific work of art has been affected over time because of changes in interpretation and context.

Overview:

Students will be given a list of “Identity questions” in which they would select one to reflect on write a response, accordingly. They will then complete a collection of images that respond to the question. With the image collection, students are asked to use the images as inspiration to create a layout that communicates their story within a painting.

Learning Objectives:

After completing the lesson, students will be able to:

- Reflect on themselves and their experiences relating to the idea of identity
- Associate images with personal writing
- Articulate how the images they choose illustrate the moments in the story that they wrote
- Create compositional structure of a work of art that is reflective and communicates content of their personal writings
- Understand the nature of symbolism and how they work
- Identify how each of the elements (symbols) reflect the narrative they are going to paint
- Reflect and utilize their sketches and small exploration painting to create a final narrative painting

Materials:

Pencil, Eraser, List of “Identity Questions”, scissor, plastic bag, magazines, acrylic paint in paint cups, trays, sponges, brushes, rags, buckets of water, Smocks, Canson paper, Canvas

Topic Question:

If you were allowed to use words, what types of words would help you convey yourselves the best? From these words, what moments in your pasts’ do you think of? (Students are asked to write about an identity question they chose.)

Association:

From our writings, what have we discovered about ourselves? Remember, our goal for this project is to create a narrative painting. What does narrative mean? What do you think your narrative painting will be about? Why is it important to collect images to illustrate our paintings?

Visualization:

Today I would like you to think about how you would use these images to create a narrative painting. (We have gathered the images, pulled our moments, mood, and color from your writings.) Why you decided to choose that image? How does it relate to your personal writing? How might you approach converting your layout into a final sketch? As you are creating the final sketch, you may realize that there are some other images that you could like to include. What do you think you would do next?

Transition: When you are working on this project, remember, I would like you to pull out all the images and write what that image is symbolizing. How and why it relates to your story? I would also like to you take a look at color and how that changes the mood or tone.

Reflection:

What were some challenges you faced during this activity?