

Module 5 - Brainstorm of possible connections to teaching practice

Joy2Learn Artist: Hector Elizondo, Theatre

Masks:

- Tragic/Comic masks, use masks as a theme, explore the use of masks throughout Greek culture and in theatre specifically, create masks based on facial expressions and emotions students want to portray
- Have students create masks based on expressions and universal facial expressions
- Have students explore theatrical masks from various cultures and create a narrative/ monologue that goes along with the character mask they create

Connection with history:

- Analyze a literary or historical text to determine a theme or main idea.
- Make predictions based on historical events and recurring themes.
- Create works of art that borrow elements from history, have students explore a historical event and create work that communicates the essence of that event
- Have students search for the stories behind pieces of visual art, music, theatre, dance, etc. and find the connections—how is the same story communicated both visually and musically? Create a piece that communicates the story using the symbols and content but in a new way.

Critique:

- Use the prompts, What do you hope to achieve? And What do you hope to communicate? As prompts for critique.
- Self-reflection as prompts for critique. How do I relate to this character? What can I do to make this role believable/convincing?

Creative Conventions:

- Utilize the process described by Elizondo and have students work through the steps of preparation, communication, utilizing symbols and deepening understanding. This can be done through searching for inspiration and context, and follow the process (depending on media) to create a new piece of work.
- Challenge students/ guide them to find the simple truth behind works being reviewed, analyze the context, and create a piece of work that is authentic without copying. Base this piece on universal human themes.
- Explore word play through use of symbolism, imagery and metaphors.
- Create and present a soliloquy that incorporates poetic writing conventions.
- Analyze the lyrics of a modern pop song. Does it make use of poetic imagery? Is it written in prose or rhyme?

Working with Characters:

- Create a piece of work that exemplifies a hero or a villain.
- Choose a historical character and create a modern day version of them. Think about the symbols, expressions and contexts they would live in today.

- Create a self-portrait that exemplifies the aspects of self that support a healthy self-esteem.
- Create a character (or perhaps a political cartoon) that explores manipulation and “being led by the nose”
- Show a visual transformation of yourself or others that focuses on how a person can transform themselves into someone new
- Create a piece that focuses on the communication of comedy- explore the ways you can display sarcasm and humor visually, etc.

Integrating Music:

- Explore how the musical language of a theatrical/poetic text sets the emotional tone of a play.
- Select/compose an instrumental soundtrack that can be used to reinforce the tone of a theatrical/poetic text.
- Create a soundscape using instruments, props, voice and movement that portrays a theme, character, plot or scene.