

Emerging Visions

High School Expanded Lesson Plan

1. Broken Dreams Notebook

Challenge:

Fill a journal with clippings from newspapers, journals, magazines, and doodles to visually tell a narrative of your dreams. This is a very open-ended project that allows students to be creative in the way they approach their thought process.

Questions:

What is a visual journal and how do you approach it?
What are some important dreams and aspirations you have?
How would you visually show these themes in this journal?
Discuss why you chose certain images and what they represent.

Initiating Activities

Have students spend some time looking through and cutting out of magazines, newspapers, and journals. Have students arrange them in a way to tell a story. Students can try to interpret one another's dreams and aspirations in a discussion using the questions listed.

Media

Mixed media
Collage
Drawing

Inspirational Artists

Paul Klee
Salvador Dali
Henri Matisse
Willem de Kooning

2. A Colorful Place

Challenge:

Create a drawing of an abstract place that is important to you. Students will choose a category of colors (monochromatic, analogous, complimentary, etc.) and use this color scheme to convey a certain mood that represents the place.

Questions:

How does an artist use color to convey a mood?
What are the different ways we sort colors?
What makes a place special or memorable?
How could you create a place in an abstract manner?

Initiating Activities

Have students create a list of important places. Students should then draw a symbol and color that first comes to mind when they think of this place. Students can then share their drawings and colors to compare with the choices made by other students.

Media

Watercolor
Watercolor pencils
Oil or acrylic paint
Oil pastel

Inspirational Artists

Andre Derain
Hilma af Klint
Grant Wood
Salvador Dali
Piet Mondrian

3. Wood You Stand for This

Challenge:

Create a work of art relating to the theme of social and contemporary issues painted on a wooden canvas.

Questions:

What are some social issues that interest you?
How do you think painting on wood could be advantageous?
What are the qualities that make an artwork about a social issue impactful?
What are the benefits of learning about students' different beliefs about a social issue?

Initiating Activities

Have students write down social issues that they believe strongly in during these times. Have students share with their table why they came up with their list. Have students discuss how they could represent this social issue as a way that will draw in many viewers.

Media

Acrylic paint
Oil paint

Inspirational Artists

David Banksy
Veer Munshi
Andy Warhol

4. Scale Back Your Drawing

Challenge:

Students will mimic Moira Dryer's *Untitled* (1991) painting which features a card drawer pull. Students can paint or draw in a subtle almost hidden spot where they will include a detailed picture of their choice. The artist will draw on a smaller scale than they are used to in order to contemplate whether or not size matters when creating a masterpiece.

Questions:

When viewing a work of art, do you think about the size of the artwork?
Do you think that size adds value to the work?

Can a very small work of art be impactful to the viewers?

What kind of picture would you draw on a smaller scale?

Initiating Activities

Have students write a list of places for which they could draw a small detailed picture. Determine how small the drawing will be and create a list of drawing exercises for students to practice creating artwork on this scale.

Media

Color pencil

Pen

Watercolor

Paint

Inspirational Artists

Grant Wood

Andre Derain

Gustav Klimt

5. Color, Space, and Illusion

Challenge:

Create an abstract work of art that plays with the ideas that Moira Dryer was trying to convey in *Green #129* (1985). Just as Dryer did, students should think about who they would give this painting to and inscribe it on the back.

Questions:

What is abstract art?
How can an artist manipulate space and colors to create an illusion?
Who do you have in mind that could have inspired this piece?

Initiating Activities

Give students a drawing exercise with the task of drawing an object in an abstract manner. Students should practice drawing abstract techniques such as distort, magnify, explode, simplify, multiply, etc.

Media

Watercolor
Paint

Inspirational Artists

Wassily Kandinsky
Mark Rothko
Willem de Kooning
Georges Braque

6. Installation Photo

Challenge:

Create an installation of an important event, memory, or dream. Students can arrange objects and items in a way that creates a unique space for their installation. This could easily be a 3D sculpture lesson or a photography lesson.

Questions:

What comes to mind when viewing Moira Dryer's Norma Kamali suit?
What would you include in your installation to portray a memory you want to keep alive?

Initiating Activities

Have students think of objects that might have personal meaning to them. Students can play around with the juxtaposition of these objects to create meaning. Have students share their ideas with one another and give each other feedback.

Media

Mixed media
3D art
Photography

Inspirational Artists

Marcel Duchamp
Dorothea Lange
Sarah Ann Loreth
Jeff Koons