Lesson Idea

All About Me—Self-Portrait

Grades K-5 (adaptable to all levels)
Model Performance Assessment: V.T101 All About Me—Self-Portrait

Standards
ART.VA.II.EL.5 – Know different purposes of visual art to creatively and aesthetically convey ideas.
ART.VA.II.K.5 – Express thoughts and ideas through the creation of artwork.

Learning Targets
Student is able to use various techniques, and materials to create a self-portrait that expresses their individuality.

Lesson Description
Student will begin by brainstorming who they are and what defines each of them as a person. Student will create a self-portrait with pencil, which may later be further developed using colored media, collage, or created digitally. Student should include the things and/or people that are important to them within the picture. Finally, student will reflect on their completed pictures, describing what they have expressed/communicated in their artwork.

Adaptations
Online: Students could answer question about person attributes, upload image of product, and share an audio or document file with their reflection. Alternately a video conference could be held allowing artist to share and discuss their process, product, and reflection with each other.

Mail: A two-sided worksheet could be provided that would include instruction and space for brainstorming, portrait creation, and reflection.

Phone: Students could describe their self-portrait and the elements they chose to use.

Reflective Questions
1. What were the five important things you chose to include in your self-portrait? What prompted you to choose them?
2. What do these items tell us about you?
3. What would you change if you were to do this again?
4. Were you pleased with your self-portrait?

Resources:
Art of Education: Portraiture Lessons
Why are Portraits so Important in Art History?
Recommendation: Search for How to Draw a Portrait handout or video tutorial.
Note: If student does not have access to traditional art materials, consider creating work digitally.

— Offered by Amy Lynne Pobanz

Michigan Arts Education Instruction & Assessment: Advancing Creativity in Education
Lesson Idea

Artist Research and Artwork

Grades 9-12 (adaptable to all levels)
Model Performance Assessment: V.T418 Artist Research and Artwork

Standards
ART.VA.IV.HS.4—Use knowledge of art and design history to inform personal artwork.

Learning Targets
Student is able to create informed by the style, genre, or media used by a historically significant artist.

Lesson Description
Student will research an artist of their choice and create artwork that is informed by the style, genre, or media used by the artist who was researched. This creative endeavor is designed so students will be inspired by famous artists. It is not meant to have students simply replicate a master work.

Adaptations
Online: Students could upload image of final product(s) and share an audio or document file with their reflection. Alternately a video conference could be held allowing artist to share and discuss their process, product, and reflection with each other.

Mail: A worksheet could be provided that would include space for research, artwork creation, and reflection.

Phone: Students could describe their artwork and process.

Reflective Questions
1. How was your artwork informed or inspired by a historical artist?
2. In what ways is your work similar to the artwork created by your selected artist and in what ways is it different?
3. What would you change if you were to do this again?
4. Were you pleased with your work?

Resources:
www.nga.gov/collection/artists.html
www.metmuseum.org/toah/works/
Introduction to Art History (Kahn Academy)

Note: If student does not have access to traditional art materials, consider creating work digitally.

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