

Summer Assignment

For IB Art Students Graduating in 2011

Objective: You will begin the process of keeping an Investigation Workbook by making a personal and critical response to a piece of artwork.

Introduction: You live in the only city (I know) where great museums are free. All you have to do is take the Metro to town and wander the Mall. This summer you will visit an exhibit. It is your choice; you may go to downtown DC, or anywhere you happen to be. You will be researching at least one object and making a proposal for a piece of personal artwork based on that object. You should plan on filling about 20 pages in your IW. An example is provided.

The Problem:

Personal Response

Select a piece of art that interests you. It may be a painting, sculpture, installation, artifact from the past, etc. Consider selecting something from a culture you are unfamiliar with, or perhaps something from your own background (personal significance). Explain why you selected the piece. Don't just say you liked something, say WHY. Provide an illustration – a photo if possible; if not, a sketch.

Facts for Viewing

Research it. Where does it come from? What do you need to know to fully appreciate what you are looking at? Give the work an historical context. Be detailed, and cite your sources.

Ideas Worth Pursuing

What questions does the artwork raise? Is there a cultural context that has meaning beyond the one object? How does the artwork relate to its culture? Did the work fit into a movement of art, or did it influence others?

Activities Worth Doing

Make a proposal for a piece of art that you would be interested in doing, based on what you researched. Would you borrow the theme? Style? Materials used? Let your thinking be expansive: don't just go with a simple solution. This very well may be your first assignment in the new school year. Sketch your ideas & begin to make plans.

Bring your completed work to school on the first day. Please refer to the Introduction to the Investigation Workbook, and feel free to contact me over the summer if you have questions. Have a parent sign the form below and return it to me at our meeting on May 28 at lunchtime. At that time, you will receive your journal (workbook).

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My child received a journal (Workbook) for the summer assignment. We understand that there is an assignment for the summer, and that it is due on the first day of school.

Signature of Student - date

Signature of Parent - date