

# MAKE A STATEMENT!

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HOW TO WRITE A SHORT ARTIST STATEMENT

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: WHY?

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- Why? What is the point?
- I'm an artist not a writer!
- Provide background information
- Start a conversation (artist/audience)

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: WHO?

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- Who is the audience?
- Who should understand your statement?
- **Do NOT** use pompous, confusing language
- **DO** use proper art terminology as appropriate (*principles and elements of design, composition, subject, theme, etc.*)

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: **WHERE?**

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- Artist statements may appear beside your work at art shows
- Be in your portfolio
- Be sent with an application for school, for a show, competition, etc.
- Used during a critique

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: DON'TS

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- **Don't** tell your audience what to think. You are starting a conversation, not giving all the answers
- **Don't** compare your work to other artists (unless they were important inspirations for the piece.)
- **Don't** write something that is long and confusing

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: DOS

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- Do use “I” (first person)
- Do keep your statement short and easy to read
- Do make your statement personal

# ARTIST STATEMENTS: HOW?

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- 3 clear stages for a simple artist statement structure: **Introduction and Inspiration; Materials and Techniques; Intent and Resolution (How did you accomplish this?)**
- In point form, start noting down key points for each of the stages
- Then write your points into full sentences and a paragraph
- Edit and get feedback

# STRUCTURE:

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## **Stage 1: Introduction and Inspiration**

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## **Stage 2: Materials and Techniques**

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## **Stage 3: Intent & Resolution**

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