

MAKE A STATEMENT!

HOW TO WRITE A SHORT ARTIST STATEMENT

ARTIST STATEMENTS: WHY?

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

ARTIST STATEMENTS: WHO?

- 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?**

- 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

- **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

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

ARTIST STATEMENTS: HOW?

- 3 clear stages for a simple artist statement
- Refer to your handouts!
- Start answering key questions in point form
- Then write your points into full sentences and a paragraph
- Edit and get feedback

STRUCTURE: *HANDOUT*

Step 1: Introduction and Inspiration

Step 2: Materials and Techniques

Step 3: Intent & Resolution