

THE ARTIST'S STATEMENT WORKSHEET

From the information you assemble we will create a three paragraph Artist's Statement to include in your portfolio.

Step 1: *On a separate sheet of paper answer **all** of the questions asked on this worksheet. You may use one word answers or short sentences but try to be brief, direct, and thorough. Keep the answers in groups by heading such as: Why your artwork is important or interesting, why you create your artwork, and who you are as an artist. Fill out the following questions but do not restrict your thought to these questions. If there is more to your work than is asked in these questions continue writing; the more you have to work from, the better.*

What makes your work important? *These are the main "whys" about your work: Why should a person look at them? Why is it important for a gallery to show your work?*

1. What imagery or ideas do you use in the artwork in your portfolio that is unique?
2. How did you use art media differently from the way other artists have in the artwork in your portfolio?
3. Why is the meaning of your work in your portfolio unique or important for other people to understand?
4. What is interesting about the subject matter you've chosen for your artwork?

Why do you create the things you do? *The questions here are intended to encourage thought about the personal reasons for creating the important "whys" listed above.*

1. What made you want to draw or paint the ideas and images you see in your portfolio?
2. If you've used the art media in a unique way, how did that happen? Why?
3. Why did you choose the meaning in your artwork? What personal reasons do you have for them?
4. Why do you think you addressed the subject matter of your artwork the way you did? Why were your approaches so different from those of other artists in your group?

Who are you as an artist? *The questions here fill in the background that may have inspired the personal responses to the questions in the previous section.*

1. When you think of your artwork what music or TV shows does it resemble?
2. In your personal life, what do you do differently from your friends or family?
3. When you think about the personal reasons you have for the meaning of your work, what other things in your life do you have similar feelings for?
4. Describe the personality of one of your friends that you agree with frequently on things. How are you're the same and how are your different?

Step 2: form your answers into complete and readable paragraphs. Create a topic sentence from the headings under which the questions were answered. The Paragraphs you create should be understandable and relatively seamless. Have a friend read them out loud and listen to hear whether or not they “sound right.” If something does not sound right, change it.

Step 3: remove the headings and rearrange your paragraphs into this order:

1. *Who you are as an artist*
2. *Why you create*
3. *Why your work is important*

Then craft “transitions” from paragraph to paragraph. These are one to two sentences at the end of a paragraph that make the change between subjects/paragraphs smooth and readable.

Step 4: Write a rough draft that is double spaced and title the page “Artist’s Statement.” Your name should appear at the top of the page along with the date.