Practice in Assessing Visual Arts Portfolios

Prof. Donna Kay Beattie
What components you want to require in a portfolio?
What components you want to require in a portfolio?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research skills</th>
<th>Reflective skills</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Schedule of work</td>
<td>• Reflections on artists/ art movements &amp; their own work</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mindmaps</td>
<td>• Evaluation of final work</td>
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<td>• Resources and materials</td>
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<td>• Connections with artists/ art movements</td>
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<td>• Time-line of artists’ works</td>
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<td>Art making skills</td>
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<td>• Personal artist statement</td>
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<td>• Studies (e.g. composition/ techniques/ media)</td>
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<td>• Picture of the final work</td>
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<td>Affective skills</td>
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<td>• Personal opinions/ feelings</td>
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<td>• Any kind of personalized notes related to art (e.g. Record of exhibition)</td>
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</table>
Strategies of assessment

Which skills of the portfolio will you use these assessment strategies?
Strategies of assessment

Which skills of the portfolio will you use these assessment strategies?

- Checklist
- Teacher interview
- Check off
- Formative strategy
- 1 – 3 rating scale
- Analytic rubric
- Holistic rubric

- Discussion
- Observation
- System of assigned points
- Self-assessment
- Critique
Matching the component of students’ portfolios with the appropriate assessment strategies

We are addressing the validity of assessment!
Creating a scoring rubric

Domain to be assessed

Assessment criteria

Indicators

Description of level achievement
Portfolio Holistic Scoring Rubric

&

Portfolio Analytic Scoring Rubric
# Activity 1

## ANALYTIC SCORING RUBRIC

### VISUAL ARTS MAKING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>1 Very Low</th>
<th>2 Low</th>
<th>3 Basic</th>
<th>4 High</th>
<th>5 Very High</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Develop themes of personal feelings or ideas, social-related issues, or ideas for problem solving through the use of observation, experience, imagination, technology, and other skills</strong> (Criterion)</td>
<td>Descriptors</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Theme or problem</strong> (Indicator)</td>
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<td>• choice of theme/problem</td>
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<td>• development of theme/problem through observation, experience, imagination, technology, and other skills</td>
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</table>
### ANALYTIC SCORING RUBRIC

**VALUES AND ATTITUDES RUBRIC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open-mindedness</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>(Indicator)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Respect, appreciate, and</td>
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<tr>
<td>demonstrate an open mind</td>
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<td>toward the artistic</td>
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<td>expression of others</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Open-mindedness</strong></td>
<td>Expresses little interest in or desire to understand the art expressions of peers or of professional artists. Does not seek out, unless required to do so, art expressions to research that are uniquely different or challenge his/her way of thinking. Does not always show respect for other students’ artworks. May write about such works from a very narrow mind-set.</td>
<td>Sometimes will select art expressions, very different from own or from other cultures and regions of the world, to research and relate to own work. Is usually supportive of others’ artistic expressions, offering thoughtful comments.</td>
<td>Appears very enthusiastic and willing to study artistic expressions from other cultures or regions of the world of that are very different from own. Accepts many different forms, styles, and media of visual creations, seeks to explore their meanings, and makes meaningful connections to own art expressions and life. Is always very respectful and interested in visual creations of peers.</td>
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- Respect, appreciate, and demonstrate an open mind toward the artistic expression of others
Building a good assessment rubric with descriptors

We are addressing the reliability of assessment!
Activity 2

Step 1: Discover the **domains** to be assessed altogether

Step 2: Develop the assessment **criteria** and **indicators** in group

Step 3: Try to write down the **description of level achievement** for ONE indicator that your group have developed.
Creating: media
Creating: Techniques
Creating:
Elements of principles - Composition
Creating: Use of visual elements - Colour
Creating: use of visual elements – values & tones
Creating:
for theme development –
Applying resources
Creating: Observation
Creating:
applying art appreciation into art making
Creating: Context
Creating: *Craftsmanship*
Creating: Layers of meaning
Creating: Final piece
Art appreciation & criticism
Appraising:
Choosing resources to write about art
Good examples of art appreciation and criticism
My “CAN” Product

This year, my school participated in the “Hong Kong Youth Arts Festival 2004”. The theme of this year is Pop Art, its aim is to infuse the characteristics of Hong Kong into it. In response to the theme, we made a series of CAN products, imitating the renowned Pop Art artist Andy Warhol’s Campbell’s soup.

My theme is ”Can bomb”. Since there were many different incidents happened recently in Hong Kong, those include the incident arisen from the Harbour Fest, the Article 23, 1 July walk-out, education reform, and financial deficit. The people are discontented the mechanism of society.

The concept of these two pieces of work was to record the general public’s discontent with the Hong Kong government, and make use of bombs to express the emotions.

Owing to limited resources, I could only make two cans. These cans have specific explosive areas. I particularly chose the most representational landmarks of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre; and the International Finance Centre, which is the highest building on Hong Kong Island as the targets of explosion.
Appreciation of Frida Kahlo’s self-portrait

Comprehensive feeling

- This self-portrait of Frida Kahlo gives me an impression of arrogant and tyranny of a queen. And the displeasure on her face shows a sense of loneliness. Very often, I also feel depressed and unhappy. So when I looked at this painting, especially Kahlo’s paintings tell us her unfortunate and her inner feelings, it triggered resonance of mine. I remembered one of my friends told me that I gave others the feeling of sadness, I think it is similar to the feelings that are giving out from Kahlo’s self-portrait. It is because I also have unhappy experience and emotion. This work is very impressive, which is especially powerful to those people who feel the same feelings.

Description
Artwork: Frida Kahlo’s self-portrait
Artist: Frida Kahlo, Surrealism
Subject matter:
The artwork is the self-portrait of Frida Kahlo. In the painting, it shows the images of Kahlo, a monkey, a necklace of snake-shape, and the background (of the artwork) is a jungle. Her style is highlighted by her facial images of the connected eyebrow and thin moustache on her upper lip.

Form:
The painting was painted in bright and tropical, jungle colours; the brushstrokes are fine; the style is very unique; the composition is extraordinary, and with a special background.

Formal Analysis
Form:
This is one of Kahlo’s self-portraits, and most of her work is self-portrait. She expressed the pain in her heart, the pain of the torture of her body, the affair of her husband and the grieve of her divorce in her self-portrait. Kahlo was deeply influenced by the Mexican culture, hence she applied bright tropical colours, adventurous composition and bold lines in her painting. Her connected eyebrow was distinctive that represents her strong character.
Media/ Process:
The use of a variety of colours helps to present the sorrow of Kahlo, it is because different colours can express different emotions. Kahlo tried her best to show her good health to other people, but in her paintings she presented the pain of her body and love, and expressed her inner feelings. She was the only woman who vindicated her heart and elucidated the feelings at heart in her work to illustrate the creativity, feelings and art of women. Every painting of hers is close to the authentic record of her life, and is able to produce resonance of the viewers. When Kahlo painted her work, she must be expressed the real of hers painfully. She wanted to find herself in the world, and she released herself in her paintings.

Interpretation
The self-portrait reflects the misfortune and painful experience of Kahlo. “Kahlo’s paintings and her life experience is an inseparable entity. The traffic accident in her 18 years old, made her seriously injured, led to the sufferings of her body and soul, made her started her painting on the sickbed. In the paintings, it showed the pain of her body and feelings, and described the truthful feelings in the surgeries. Besides, she was frustrated in love by the affair between her husband and her heart was deeply hurt. Therefore, there were paintings accused the affair between her husband and her sister.

Judgment
I think Kahlo was able to express the real of her in her heart in her paintings. Most people are unwilling to remember the painful experiences, or to record them. They will try to forget them, and to escape from them. For Kahlo, even though she was badly injured, she chose to face the painful experiences, and used her unique style to express the pain in her heart to the others. This is another way to repose her feelings, and it lets others share her inner feelings and understand her pain. I think this is a good work. I like the artist to express her feelings in her painting, because feelings is the most touching thing to others.

Linkage with my creation
This painting inspired me to explore personal styles for my self-portrait, or the characteristics that represent myself in my work, so that people will feel the work is unique and will remember whose the painting is, because the way it was painted is so unique.
must be a very skilled photographer to produce a piece of work in such horrific conditions of the war.

I feel that this photograph is instantly moving. Though I’ve never been shell shocked it has captured the moment so well that I can almost feel it. I can only begin to imagine the thoughts and feelings of McCullin as he took these photos documenting the war, witnessing the infamous atrocities day by day. It has created a deep impression within me and has reminded me all too well of the stupidity and futility of war, too many have suffered.

McCullin has captured the moment that will never fade from my mind.
This photograph has predominant elements of colour and shape in the foreground, highlighting the children. The background has the element of tone and line more predominant so the shapes are especially clear, its all rubbish. The colours are quite realistic though the background has been reduced to simply shades of yellow which contrasts with the two children in front. The red colour of the dress is very dominant and draws our eye to the girl, then the white of the other girl also stands out. The pale background is less significant. The principal shapes are the two girls in front, there are also many inter-relating shapes of the rubbish in the background. This relates very well to the work I am hoping to produce. The theme is similar; injustice in this world. I am also hoping to experiment more, like using mixed media and be a little more adventurous like Biegun has been with her modifications. Her message is dominant and very strong, I am hoping to produce something which like hers can inspire thought and emotion.

The work has been made by taking a photograph and changing it slightly on a computer. Stages include capturing the moment on film, then selecting a good photograph, the modifying it to the artist’s liking. Finally she would have developed it. Supporting studies may have included other photographs or magazines of people around the world. I think the actual photograph would have been taken rapidly with in quick succession, then the best one would have been selected. The alteration may have taken a longer period of time. The artist would have needed good photography skills and a knowledge of computer technology.
As shown in the quote above the artist is trying to show us the enormity of the contrast of life within our own world. She is emphasizing the incredibility of a world where such opposite extremes can coexist; a world where a starving child living on garbage and an endlessly blessed child can live side by side. I think that she is making about the injustice of poverty in this world, this is emphasized by the fact that the two children are both girls of similar ages, with many similarities but one tiny difference which changes everything. The work is two dimensional and the subject matter is very significant; it is the centre of the very purpose of the photograph. The subject has been observed and recorded directly with additions implemented. The subject is treated realistically but has also been slightly distorted or digitally altered for effect. Another photograph of a girl in a developed country has been, the juxtaposition is very effective in conveying her message. The thoughts of the photographer are contained forever within the photograph and are quite apparent through careful observation.

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Lucian Freud is an artist with undeniable skills. His work demonstrates an understanding that I admire and only wish to comprehend. Freud, in every piece of work, is able to capture a sense of life. Every person, every face - every inch of skin seems to give off an aura of realism that makes his paintings almost touchable in a three-dimensional sense. This achievement of volume, depth, texture and time is something I wish to attempt to follow. Freud not only captures the human face with realistic vision, but he captures individual human faces with a sense of personality and history. Freud does not concern himself or his paintings with what looks good or what is or should be there, Freud paints with complete honesty. This honesty picks up flaws and perfections about each of his subjects - and it is this trait that makes him exactly
The distinct style that Freud paints in is also a huge factor in the realistic outcome of his paintings. Lucian Freud uses brush stroke to shape and contour the lines formed across his models' faces, this gives the painting its depth and volume that I strive to achieve. The brilliant skin tones that Freud produces are also a contributing factor to the depth Freud creates. He hides nothing from the eye and attempts to alter nothing also - this technique therefore exploits the brilliant colours that can appear on a person's flesh. Freud is also brilliant at captivating and then leading the eye around his work through the use of lighting. Each contrast between shadow and light sets the eye up for another area of the face. It is this journey that brings focus identification with the characters in the paintings.
Appraising:

First Impression
I like this painting because it is interesting and catches attention. The range of shapes it has draws the eye around the whole painting. "Chambard Rooftop" makes me feel sad and there is a slight sense of eeriness. This is probably due to the dull colour scheme and the large areas of blue-black in the painting.

"Chambard Rooftops" by John Piper was completed in 1973. It is an oil painting on canvas. The subject matter of this painting is western architecture. The work is rather busy as there is a lot in the drawing. However, it looks rather flat. Perhaps this is because the painting is realistic but has a sense of abstractness. The distinctive style of Piper can be identified in this painting. How the work is loosely painted and the brush marks are clearly visible are characteristics of John Piper's artworks. There is rather limited colour in this painting, with the main colours being blue-black and creamy white. The colour scheme is rather dull, though the tone is visible.
Appraising: Interpretation
This picture is two chairs that make up together. The name of this sculpture is called "Peter and Mary". I can image that these two chairs are Peter and Mary. It likes two people are connecting together. Maybe it represent they are a pair of lover. They need each other. It like the picture.

Also, is chair. It also show people will rely on other. But it just tell me know that human is not a stronger living things. When you were baby, you need your mother to take care of you. You need the money for your live. You can't live lonely. It show humans are very weak. What will happen when I separate them? Will they fall down? Maybe yes. Also maybe no! Yes... Human is a very difficult to understand. Some of them are very strong. They defeat but they will try again. At last, I want to say... Although you can live lonely, you have some friends to chat, share, it is a good thing in your life.
Appraising: Judgement
Appreciation and Judgment of Pop Art

The history of Pop Art is long and profound which is influential to the posterior. As its name suggested, Pop Art, is ordinary art, which can be created by the elderly and children. Owing to its ordinary, it enables everyone to become an artist and to express their emotions through daily life.

I personally think that Pop Art is an art form for direct expression. The origin of Pop Art was artists made records to represent human beings’ materialistic pursuit and desires after the Second World War. The aim was to present the nature of human beings, from the most beautiful and good side to even the ugly side. That is the essence of Pop Art, “Reflecting the reality, caring for the humanity”. I think this message can be further developed as society changes rapidly. We can use Pop Art to document our responses. We can also use this to record history. For example, making a series of printmaking contemporary movie stars, make use of the trendy patterns for furniture. They might become tomorrow’s history.

Pop Art records the true side of human nature. We can promote Pop Art from now on and help our next generation have better understanding of our culture. As well, make this experience and method continues to extend.

(It is to) make us become part of the history and culture.
Appraising:
Final Evaluation of their own work
This is a close up shot of my final piece face. I tried to capture the attention to detail in the features. Also, I paid attention to the light areas, making sure the illumination was not portrayed as completely smooth and even - as I didn't want to distract from the reality of the texture of skin.

Also, as I coloured the eyes I wasn't sure whether to make them solid, a single monochrome colour - yet that felt lost alot of the life behind the eyes. I decided upon a multicoloured approach as a symbolic insight into me - more than just one layer.

I paid careful consideration to the brush strokes, aiming to use the direction to help build up 'contour lines' to help give the face shape and dimension.

This is an overview of the final piece without the added, less fish. It can be seen clearly that the face and background do not unite as are painting. The definition of the background faces is clearer than I anticipated, causing the two to make the piece disjointed.

I will have to layer the background to prevent the faces from distracting from the main facial focus.