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2021

Drama 111: Neighborhood Box Project (Theater Design)

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NEIGHBORHOOD BOX
EMOTIONAL RESPONSE FOR FINAL PROJECT
20 POINTS

The Neighborhood Box is inspired by Queens native and renowned folk artist Joseph Cornell. Cornell created a series of extraordinary decoupage and assemblage boxes which were abstract expressions of his Queens neighborhood. You can see some examples of the boxes in the project folder.

You are going to create your own Cornell-inspired Box, and fashion it using images you think reflect your own neighborhood. Your project should contain the following:

1. A folder of visual images and research about your neighborhood
 - a. This can be personal photos you take, and also historical images of your neighborhood
 - i. Be specific. Really take moments to look around and “behold” your home. What makes your neighborhood unique? What is beautiful there? What is ugly? What smells or sounds could you try to find an image to capture in your box?
 - ii. Most of us have just spent the last 18 months in very close proximity to our homes. Try to draw upon that experience to really find images that capture the essence of this place.
2. Your Box can be made of any materials
3. The box must be no smaller than 12” x 12”
4. You can use an existing box, or create a new box from scratch
5. Your “box” does not have to be square
6. The Box should be composed inside and outside. Nothing should be random or undone. This is essentially a sculpture.
 - a. What color is the outside? What textures or materials are present?
 - b. How are you using the natural texture or material to support your vision if it is a found container?
7. The inside of the Box must have been created or painted by you in some way
8. The Box must contain at least 3 independent objects. One must be a found object, at least one must be something created by you
9. Your Box can be one space, or divided into more than one space
10. No other person may construct or assist you in the construction of the elements of this project. You may use pre-existing historical photographs or artworks in this project, please make a word document which lists those sources if you use such works.
11. You do not have to fully emulate Cornell’s artistic style or flavor. You can be inspired by the general idea of his boxes but do it in a style that reflects you and your neighborhood.

You should photograph your box from all angles and post it in DISCUSSIONS the morning that it is due in class. There should be one photograph of you with your box to show that it is your own original work. You will give a presentation in class on June 21st about your box. If you will be absent from class that day, you can email a video presentation to the professor which must be received BEFORE the start of class on 6/21/21 to receive partial credit for your presentation.

This project will be graded on the following criteria:

1. All elements are complete
2. Originality
3. Use of the elements of design (TEXTURE, COLOR, HARMONY, OPPOSITION, SPACE, SHAPE, LINE, PROPORTION)
4. Storytelling- can I see your neighborhood in the box? Is it specific?

An incomplete project will receive a minimum grade of 10 points. A project which is not received during or prior to the start of class on 6/21 will receive a 0.