



**11-12 ELA
Local Artist Research Project**

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Overall Goal for the Project:

Students will gain the skills needed to perform research and write a research paper necessary for high school and college.

Description of Setting, Grade Level, and Students:

This activity can be used for students in grades 11-12, any class size. The activity is for varying performance levels, remedial, average, or advanced. This lesson may be completed in the classroom or at Guthrie Green. Guthrie Green is in an urban setting with access to water, shade, restrooms, and electricity.

Student Objectives for the Project:

The purpose of this assignment is to give students the skills and tools needed to perform independent research, write up a proper research paper, and present their project to the class in preparation for research projects that they will complete in both high school and college.

Length of Lesson:

This lesson should take several weeks, at the discretion of the teacher.

Schedule of Project:

1. Teacher will distribute and explain the research guidelines and rubric to the students.
2. Students will select an individual local artist to research and write one paragraph about their selection.
3. Students will research a local artist for information to use in their papers.
4. Students will create an outline and draft of their research paper.
5. Students will revise and edit their research papers.
6. Students will submit a final draft of their research paper.
7. Students will give a 3-5 minute presentation of their research to the class.

Common Core Standards Addressed:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed based on final research paper and research presentation.

Accommodations:

Students may complete their research in groups. Materials may be modified according to need.

Materials Needed:

Local Artist Research Paper Guidelines.

[Six Traits Writing Rubric](#)

Research Paper: Local Tulsa Artist

Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to give you the skills and tools needed to perform independent research, write up a proper research paper, and present your project to the class in preparation for research projects that you will complete in both high school and college.

Summary: This project requires you to research and to write a 4-5 page paper about a local artist from Tulsa, Oklahoma. You will cite your sources correctly using MLA Citation. Further, you will type your final draft and present your project to the class in a brief (3-5 minute) presentation.

- You may not choose the same artist as someone else.
- Because we will be doing most of the work for this project in class, it is important that you do your best to attend every class and arrive on time.
- If you make the most of class time and don't let other things distract you, you will have very little work to do outside of class.
- You must use at least **SIX** sources (books, websites, online encyclopedias, articles that you read online, personal interview).

Procedure

Step 1: Select a topic and write one paragraph answering the following questions:

1. Which artist do you want to research?
2. Why do you want to research this artist?
3. What do you know about the artist already?
4. What else do you want to find out about the artist?

This paragraph is due immediately.

Possible Artists to Research:

Musical Artists

Visual Artists

Performance Artists

Graphic Artists

Fine Artists

Step 2: Research and start taking notes. Do not print information or copy it word for word. Instead, you should take notes by putting information into your own words. Make sure to **cite your source**: write down the exact website you are using, the author, and the date the page was written.

Step 3: After reading up on your topic and taking notes, write an outline for your research paper. You should use bullet points and note which sources you plan to use.

Here is a suggested outline. Feel free to go beyond the questions asked here, but this is the minimum requirement for your paper:

Introductory paragraph: Which artist did you research? What is something special about this artist? Where are they active? What kinds of art does this artist produce?

Body paragraph 1: What is the history of the artist? When, where, and why? Are there certain things your reader should know about this artist? Give as much information as possible about the early years of the artist.

Body paragraph 2: What is the artist like today? Is the artist still alive today? Where is the artist most active? Give specific details about people, cities, and galleries associated with the artist. This is a good paragraph to go into detail about famous art. Be specific about the art that the artist is involved in.

Body paragraph 3: What are the advantages and disadvantages to being an artist in Tulsa? What can artists in Tulsa do? What are the risks or the disadvantages? Make a judgment about whether or not you would encourage someone to pursue their art in Tulsa.

Concluding paragraph: Why is it important to know about this artist? How does the artist affect the lives of other people? If the artist is still alive, where can we go to experience their work?

Step 4: Write a draft of the research paper. You will submit this draft to your teacher and receive feedback.

Step 5: Write a revised draft of the research paper. You will exchange papers with someone else in the class and edit each other's work.

Step 6: Write a final draft of the research paper. This draft should have no spelling or grammatical errors, and it will be typed. We will have class time available to type your papers.

Step 7: Prepare a presentation. You will be responsible for making a 3-5 minute presentation to the class about your artist. Try to find new details to talk about; don't just repeat what we learned in class.

Bibliography Examples

Book

Author's name. Book Title. City of Publication: Publisher, Year.

Okuda, Michael, and Denise Okuda. Star Trek Chronology: The History of the Future. New York: Pocket, 1993.

Website

Author's name. "Web page title." Website name. Year published. Website owner. Date accessed <Web address>

Lynch, Tim. "Bloods and Crips." Gangs of the World. 2008. Bradley University. 8 Oct. 2012 <<http://www.bradley.edu/campusorg/psiphi/DS9/ep/503r.html>>.

Newspaper or Magazine Article

Di Rado, Alicia. "Trekking through College: Classes Explore Modern Society Using the World of Star Trek." Los Angeles Times 15 Mar 1995: A3.

Journal Article

Wilcox, Rhonda V. "Shifting Roles and Synthetic Women in Star Trek: The Next Generation." Studies in Popular Culture 13.2 (1991): 53-65.