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Spring 2021

Pandemic Pandemonium

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Pandemic Pandemonium - Spring 2021
Student Winner based on Assignment

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Semester taught assignment: Fall 2020
Course Title: Museum and Gallery Techniques
Assignment Title:
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Art 174/ ARH 174 Museum and Gallery Operations
Assignment # 2: Pandemic Pandemonium

Option 1: Curate an art exhibition for “ Pandemic Pandemonium,” a college wide initiative to address the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on culture and cultural practitioners.

For the curated exhibition, you will submit

- A digital album (flicker, Google slides, Artsteps or Kunstmatrix, Adobe Spark) of at least 15 works
- Wall labels (one per artwork) and a 500 word minimum exhibition brochure.

Option 2: Create a work of art (at least 1, could be more) for “ Pandemic Pandemonium,” a college wide initiative to address the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on culture and cultural practitioners.

For the artwork, you will submit

- A digital album of art work documentation
- A 500-700 word artist statement

Possible Questions to Consider:

1. How have artists and curators tried to visually represent the extent of the pandemic? (The human losses as well as the social and economic effects?) How would you represent, or curate the representation of the pandemic and its effects?
2. How can art aid our emotional and psychological resilience during the pandemic?
3. What are some ways in which artists and institutions have tried to commemorate the deceased of Covid 19 and/or show the enormity of the losses caused by the pandemic? To what extent can a pandemic be visualized and memorialized publically?

Option 3: Write an essay describing the effects of Covid-19 on two local (South Bay Area) and/or national arts institutions. You will need to research each organization to understand their mission and goals and exhibitions and programming prior to and during the pandemic. It is advised that you reach out to the institution for an interview and personal reflections. Please speak to the instructor if you need help with this.

For the essay, you will submit:

- 2 pages of notes on the institutions
- 1000-1500 word essay, Times New Roman, 12pt type, double spaced
- MLA or Chicago citations
- Focus on at least 2 arts institutions

Possible Questions to Explore:

1. What challenges have cultural institutions (including, but not limited to the San Jose Museum of Art, Chopsticks Alley Art, and Local Color) faced as a result of Covid 19 and the subsequent shelter in place and social distancing measures?
2. How have institutions changed their exhibitions and programming as a result of the pandemic and the subsequent shelter in place and social distancing measures? In what ways have they been successful? What aspects of their approach do you think need improvement?
3. In your opinion, what will it take to make our cultural institutions resilient? What changes should cultural institutions make in their structures, programming and approach to their communities in light of the Covid 19 pandemic and racial justice protests?