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POD + College Crusade Photo Journaling 2022

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photo journaling

Project Open Door + College Crusade
FEBRUARY 2022

photo journaling

Photography is a tool that can help us to "SEE." What does this mean? If we are not visually impaired, we can, of course, physically see. But how much do we miss seeing? How much do we take for granted unless we take the time to look?

With assignments that hope to inspire careful observation, we can use the camera to observe things in our familiar surroundings in quite extraordinary ways. Photography can help us become more observant and help us have a fulfilling visual life. During this time of limited mobility due to the Covid-19 pandemic, finding creativity close to home is an essential part of a healthy balanced life.

In this online workshop, students were given daily photo challenges to create portraits and still life photographs. They found textures, shapes, colors, numbers, and letters through photographic explorations of their familiar surroundings. In doing so, students created an individual photo journal over the week.



Scott Lapham, Instructor

When the pandemic began, I saw the challenges my son's teachers faced when his classroom became a laptop on the kitchen table. So when RISD Project Open Door and the College Crusade asked me to design a remote photo workshop, the challenge of creating engaging programming for teenagers became my own. Would students even want to log in to an online class after experiencing Zoom burnout at school?

Thankfully it turned out that students did want to participate fully in our online workshops. However, this group of students was different in one specific way. They did not once turn on their cameras during Zoom meetings. Without a visual first impression, I wondered, who are these students? Did they have long hair, short hair, or no hair? Did they wear glasses? It was weird talking into the visual void of my laptop screen, unable to see any student faces. Because of this, something unexpected happened. Each photo challenge revealed more about what each student thought was important through their photography choices. Art-making was showing who the students were personally, instead of first impressions based on how someone looked. Students eventually took portraits of themselves, and other people they have been with during quarantine. But not before we learned about one another through our shared visual artwork. It was exciting to learn about people this way. In all my years of teaching, I realized I had never experienced this before. And isn't this what art is supposed to do, reveal who someone is without them needing to tell you? Sometimes we can find value in unexpected places.

portraits



IMAGE IS LANDSCAPE - PLEASE TURN



Health, mind & body | Salud, mente y cuerpo

66

Stop sleepwalking through...

THE CARN

DOME C...

THE EPIDEMIC

The End of Life

Health, mind & body | Salud, mente y cuerpo

ABIGAIL







ANEISHKA







EMELY







GABY







JOANNE







02/24/2022
03:41





JOSHELIN





scavenger hunts

Exploring Color

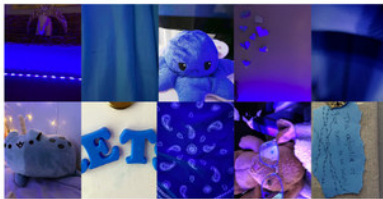
Project Prompt: Choose one dominant color and take 10 photographs of objects in your house or yard of that color.



ABDOULAYE



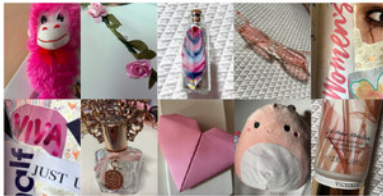
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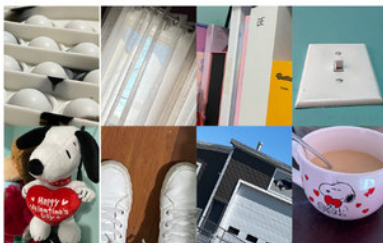
EMELY



GABY



JOANNE



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Exploring Shape

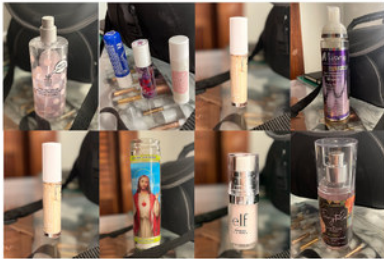
Project Prompt: Take 10 photos of at least five different shapes from your house or yard.



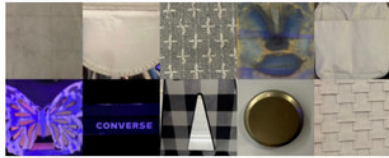
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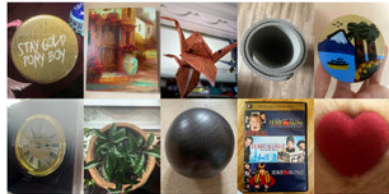
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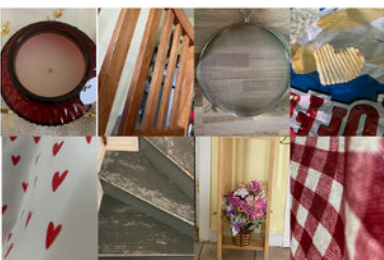
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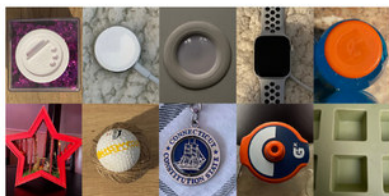
JAXSON



JOANNE



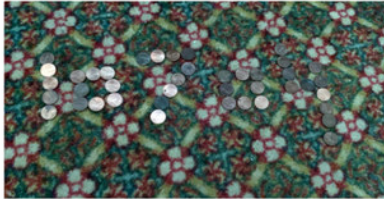
JOSHELIN



SIMONE

Meaningful Numbers

Project Prompt: Photograph individual numbers from in your house or yard to make that number that is significant to you.



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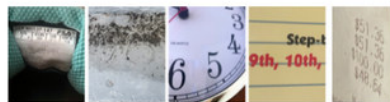
EMELY



GABY



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Meaningful Letters

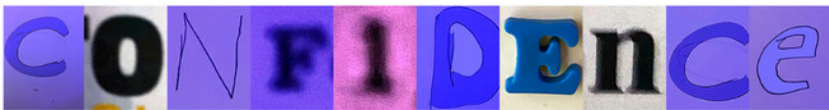
Project Prompt: Choose a word that is meaningful to you. Take individual photographs of letters you find around the house or yard. When grouped together, these letters should spell out your chosen word.



ABIGAIL



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EMELY

GUATEMALA

GABY

NIGHT HAWK

JAXSON

Grateful

Courageous

Ambitious

JOANNE

MUSIC

JOSHELIN



photo journaling

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