

Art and Social Issues¹

EQ: How do artists respond to social issues?

Artists sometimes respond to social issues by creating a work of art. Your objective is to create a work of art that responds to the situation at hand regarding COVID-19. You may use any material to draw, paint, sculpt, or create your work of art.

(For example, if you don't have paper you can use the inside of a cereal box and then draw on it with pencil. If you don't have a pencil, you can be creative and use coffee at different strengths to create a range of value/tones, or ketchup, or oil to stain. If you are familiar with digital drawing tools you can create a work of art through digital media. Photography would be an ideal medium for this project. Use your phone to create a photo essay.)

Check out [this link](#) for an example of a young person photographing their daily reality during a time of chaos and uncertainty.

Questions to Answer in Your Sketchbook (or any other paper):

1. What are your current feelings towards the effect that COVID-19 is having on society & our culture?
2. What would you like your art to do about it?
 - a. Record the facts? (infographic/illustration)
 - b. Advocate for safety? (infographic/visual directions)
 - c. Give yourself an outlet to work through the changes? (visual journaling)
 - d. Get out your anger/anxiety towards it? (expressive)
 - e. Comment on society? (social artwork - illustration, cartoon, or statement piece)
3. What kind of imagery would serve the purpose of your piece so that you are communicating your intent and meaning clearly?
4. What kind of materials would serve the purpose of your piece?

¹ Adapted by Alison Keener and Phoebe Heath from resource by the Department of Art