

# The Power Within

## A Reading Series Exploring the Self



### Guiding Question:

- ❖ Where does your power come from?

### Project Description:

Students will work in groups of 5 to produce personal narrative non-fiction pieces centered around the question: Where does your power come from? They will work in groups to produce a reading series to take place during the first two weeks of December in at *The Industry* 871 Harold Place in Chula Vista. The public, HTHCV, and families will be invited to attend. The groups will be formed around thematic similarities in their writing depending on where they believe their power comes from (for example: family, money, physical power, art, nature, writing, etc.). 2 groups (10 students) will perform each night (a total of 5 nights) and they will be in charge of producing the show with some professional guidance.

We will be partnering with the literary nonprofit group *So Say We All* in order to introduce professional models of narrative writing and reading performances. Guided through weekly professional workshops, students will produce writing, performances and exhibition worthy of a captive audience. Several professional storytellers will visit our classroom and our team of students will take field trips to several reading series in San Diego.

Students will also produce artistic renderings of where their power comes from to be finalized on a painted canvas. Their painting will showcase the biological connection to where their power comes from. This painting will be displayed on the stage where they will perform their writing in tandem with a visual component (sideshow) aiding them in conveying the content and feeling of their writing.

### Humanities Objectives:

- ❖ Students will think critically about where their power comes from
- ❖ Students will think critically about where our (the US) power comes from
- ❖ Students will discuss and debate the complicated and sometimes problematic nature of power

### Biology/Environmental Science Objectives:

- ❖ Students will think critically about the biological system connected to their power
- ❖ Students will visually represent their power including their biological connection
- ❖ Students will discuss the biological root of their power

**Deliverables:**

- ❖ 7 minute long performance
- ❖ Professional quality non-narrative fiction writing
- ❖ Exhibition of a 20"x24" or 30"x24" painting highlighting where the student's power comes from
- ❖ A visual component to accompany the performance (slideshow)
- ❖ Honor students will design and create a chapbook for each group that includes selected writing and the unique artwork of that group.

**Calendar:**

Week	Activities and Deliverables
9/11	9/12 - Project Rollout at The Industry. 9/13 - First Humanities workshop: What is personal narrative?
9/18	Hum: Richness in tiny details. Bio: Drawing from nature and gathering references <b>FT: Friday 9/23 - San Diego Zoo</b>
9/25	Hum: Connecting with an audience Bio: Exploring the human anatomy and physiology. Gathering references for artwork
10/2	Hum: Narrative structure: plot, character, etc. Bio: Drawing physiology and gathering references
10/9	Hum: <i>Group Critique Session basics and first session</i> Bio: Develop 1st draft image of Power Within - critique, 2nd draft & painting 101
10/16	Hum: Revision overview, in media res refresher, hooks, etc. Bio: Critique, refine 3rd draft and finalize image
10/23	Hum: Revisit emotional truth discussion Bio: Transfer image onto canvas and begin painting
10/30	Hum: Revisit tiny details discussion. Bio: Painting and brainstorm elements for chapbook
11/6	<b>FT: Thursday 11/12 - Southwestern College VAMP</b> Hum: Fundamentals of performance
11/13	Bio & Hum: Finishing touches to personal narratives & art work. Layout of chapbook for printing.
11/20	Thanksgiving Break
11/27	Finalize production of showing and rehearsals. Assemble chapbooks. 2-3 reading series will be performed
12/4	Finalize production of showing and rehearsals. 2-3 reading series will be performed