ART as a way of INTERACTING with your ENVIRONMENT

A Conceptual Project

In groups (of 2 or 3) or as an individual, you will be developing an ORIGINAL artistic concept which demonstrates consideration of your community (school or city,) and/or environment. Essentially, there are two broad ways in which you can approach this assignment, and expectations will differ depending on your concept.

1. Recycled materials collage, sculpture, image or installation work.

-What kinds of materials are lying around your house, your garage? Instead of eventually making their way to the dump, could you use them to create art? –Nails, bottle caps, recyclables, lids, cardboard, tea bags?

What kind of piece can you create? Abstract or realistic? Is it a canvas, a sculpture, a photo?

Where will it go (installation)?

What type of meaning will it have?

How does a piece made from garbage or recyclable material make a statement?

1. Art that makes use of the environment for a purpose (enjoyment, interest or function).

* It is more likely that this would become a conceptual idea only at this point (time constraints)
* Eg. City Electrical Box paintings
* Banksy, Jason DesCaires Taylor, Ben Wilson, Liu Bolin, Slinkachu, Reverse Graffiti
* My idea

What unique elements of your environment – (This school, your neighborhood, Grande Prairie,) could be utilized in the way these artists have worked with surroundings?

What type of purpose does your idea serve? Functional, Political, Beautification, other?

What materials would you use?

Would it be a long term installation, how would it change over time?

How might you expect people to interact with your work?

What permissions (if any) would you need?

THE ASSIGNMENT:

As explained above, based on time constraints, this may be purely a conceptual project. I will still be marking you based on your efforts, thoughts and planning, but will not necessarily expect a finished piece to be handed in.

HOWEVER – you are certainly welcome to take this idea and turn it into a final assignment if you choose.

So, if it’s conceptual, what are we supposed to hand in?

Basically, you will be handing in a one page write up that details your plan, the purpose it will serve, the materials you will use, where your piece(s) might be located etc. (essentially answering any of the applicable questions above). Be sure to explain if your idea will be intended as a political or social statement as well. Along with the write-up, you should include a minimum of 1 page of planning sketches. If your idea is to build a sculpture using tin cans, this would be a sketch of what the sculpture will look like from a few angles; if your idea is for a series of works in the community, you might make a few sketches of possible pieces. The sketches can, but don’t have to be in color, but should be rendered in enough detail as to make clear what you piece will look like if completed (like an architectural sketch).

I am going to be marking you based on your creativity, depth of thought, feasibility and conceptual sketch(es). What this means is:

How original is your idea? How does it interact with the environment?

Depth of your explanation? Have you answered the appropriate questions with care and consideration?

Quality of sketches

Feasibility – Is the idea realistic or far-fetched?