

**Project: Of Inspired Lives**  
**Class: Intermediate Art, High School**  
**Submitted by: Jennifer Rhoades, Providence St. Mel School**

**Objective:**

Students will pay homage to someone whose life story has had a great impact on the civil rights movement. Each student will tell a story with his or her own palette. Following the careful study of events significant to the civil rights movement in history class, students will analyze imagery associated with specific events/people. Students will use their knowledge of the elements and principles of design, composition, and expressive use of tools and materials to make a meaningful connection to the subject.

**Steps:**

1. View and discuss selected photographs and artworks relevant to topic. Sample questions follow:
  - What do these images make you feel?
  - What did the artist/photographer choose to include in the image? What do you think he or she decided to exclude? Why?
  - Knowing the history behind this photo, what does it communicate to you?
  - If you had been hired to document this event, how might you have composed this image differently?
2. Students will research/brainstorm events/people significant to the civil rights movement in pairs or individually, narrowing their findings to a single person, event, or theme to be addressed in a personal, visual reflection (artwork). Students are encouraged to find meaningful images that evoke a strong personal reaction.
  - Reflect on the following questions to get started:
    - What do you think is important to take from this event?
    - What does it make you feel? Why?
    - What color is this event to you? (Repeat question, replacing the underlined words with others, such as: line quality, texture, tone, mood, etc. (Writing feelings in these terms will serve as a platform from which students can sketch out ideas and determine an appropriate medium for the final piece.)
3. Studio work:
  - Brainstorm and complete 10 thumbnail sketches
  - Peer review: Students will share plans with one another and receive feedback.
  - Complete preliminary and determine the appropriate medium.
  - Begin final piece onto surface of choice

**Assessment:**

1. Daily observation and discussion
2. Thumbnails and preliminary sketches

3. Participation in peer critique
4. Rubric: craftsmanship, color, composition, design, communicative qualities