

Reflect on the work you created by writing an artist statement. Your response should answer the following questions in paragraph form.

What theme, big idea or essential question did you explore?

How did you develop your ideas for this composition?

What materials and or techniques did you use?

What inspired you to create this composition?

What did you learn or discover?

How did you feel about your final artwork? Why?

**Level 3 - 10 points - your writing analyzes your work process honestly and explains your thinking clearly using art vocabulary. Your pictures provide visual evidence to support your writing.**

"I explored how artist can depict natural forms by choosing to depict realist flamingos. I researched images of various flamingos. For this composition I decided to use oil pastels after seeing some artist examples and experimenting with them in my sketchbook spread. I gained a lot of knowledge by experimenting in my sketchbook before I applied them to my good paper. I learned that you can use the burnishing technique to make the colors look more vibrant and that it is easier blend them by apply the oil pastels in layers. Using this technique I colored the flamingos pink with peach, yellow, red and white pastels. They blended well and gave the flamingos a natural color. I used directional line by carving into the blended pastel and added additional values of greens and blues to show texture and depth in the background grass and water. The use of line and a variety of values in the background made the grass and water more realistic. I really like how my artwork turned out because I wanted to create something realistic for my mom who loves flamingos and try to improve my pastel techniques which are much better now."

**Level 2 - 8 points - your writing is surface level, thoughts aren't clearly explained. Your photos are related to what you write about but don't provide clear evidence.**

"My art was original and bird themed. I found a picture of a bird to use as inspiration that I glued in my sketchbook for my spread but I changed things when I sketched my idea in my sketchbook. This made my art my own." I used different art materials and tried a new technique that I was really happy with. I can draw birds well so my artwork is successful.

**Level 1- 6 points - your writing is general and could apply to anyone's work, thoughts aren't explained. Your photos aren't connected to your writing.**

"My art is original because I did it and it fits the theme. I came up with the ideas in my sketchbook spread and that makes it my own. I'm really happy with my work."