Frida Kahlo – Queen of the Selfie Workshop

Frida Kahlo – Queen of the Selfie, Grades 6- High School

Frida mastered the art of the “selfie” long before smartphones were invented. Frida is likely one of the most recognizable faces of Mexican art. Students will learn how she used images to signify her thoughts and emotions in her self-portraits, then they will create their own self-portrait collage with mixed-media.

Colorado Standards: Visual Arts, Social Studies

Objectives: An introduction to the life of famous Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Students will learn how her physical and emotional life influenced her artwork. The power of observation will be used to engage students in finding details and clues to her story which will help them in the creation of their own self-portrait. Students will also be encouraged to embrace their own “flaws” and take a deeper look into themselves and what things have influenced their life.

Exit Ticket/Deliverable: Students will leave the workshop with a better understanding of who Frida Kahlo was and how her life influenced her work. Students will understand the concepts of metaphorical and literal imagery in art and how this influences storytelling through visuals. Students should be able to explain basic concepts of self-portrait drawing, mixed media collage as well as basic art concepts of background, middle ground and foreground. These concepts should also be understood in a metaphorical sense in relation to themselves as past, present and future, for self-portrait creations.

Art Component: Students will create their own mixed media collage self-portraits. Students will use the lessons they learned about how Frida Kahlo used her personal life as inspiration for her artwork. Students will use magazines, paper, pencils, markers, sequins and other items to create a self-portrait they feel is a good representation of themselves, including a “flaw” they think they have. (Literal or metaphorical)

Vocabulary: Metaphor, Literal, background, foreground, middle-ground, emotional, polio, gender, realism, artistic style, mythology, profile, opalescent, catharsis, vanguard, mosaic, demure, cumulus, irony