

Anne Polashenski

St. Nick's Grand Street - Saturday Studio

Lead Teacher Lesson Plan for 28 February 2009

Collaborative Art That Affects Change

Fundred Dollar Bill Project: Operation Paydirt

11:00 – 11:30 – Students spend this time working in their sketchbook individually. The project I will focus on during this time will prepare the students for the Fundred Project.

Design your own lettering and numbering – Practice designing lettering and numbering designs found on US currency (I will provide some images). Change the designs to create a font of your own.

11:30 – 12:15 – Introduction to Mel Chin & watch the ART21 videos regarding this project:

- ART21 – Consumption – Mel Chin – about 12 minutes
- ART21 – NAEA Paydirt – 2:44 – Mel Chin speaks about the project
- ART21 – George Jackson Academy, NYC – 4:09

Follow Up discussion and questions.

- How does Mel Chin's art differ from other artists you know?
- Does this video change the way in which you define art? How?
- Introduce other collaborations that interact with communities (visuals)
 - Bread & Puppet Theatre
 - Brainstormers

What do these artist groups have in common? How do they differ?

-Scale of project (in terms of money and funding); types of people involved; subject matter (all socio-political: environment; politics/war; gender inequality)

Can you identify issues in your own communities, neighborhoods, schools?

12:15 – 1:15 – Students work on Fundred Dollar Bills.

1:15 – 1:35 – Brief informal discussion/critique regarding the art created; students walk around and see what other students drew. Discuss how this project affected them (or didn't); How is this art project different from other art projects they have been involved in?

- What stories do the pictures and writing on the currency convey?
- Can art change the world?

1:40 – 2:00 – Clean Up and Snack.

Learner Objectives: Students will create their own Fundred Dollar Bills to contribute to Mel Chin's Operation Paydirt Project.

Student Outcome: Students will understand some basic concepts of social activism and the role art can play in regards to creating change in a community. Students will contribute Fundred Drawings to the Operation Paydirt Project.

Motivation: I will discuss the important of social activism in art and the role art can play in a community. I will discuss types of collaboration and emphasize the importance of even one voice when it comes to trying to create change. (Motivation for Mel Chin: New Orleans is a starting place in

terms of the lead poisoning issue our country is faced with; he wants the government to deal with this issue in other communities).

Vocabulary: Social Activism, Collaboration, Lead Poisoning, Mel Chin

Materials: Fundred Dollar Bill Sheet, Pencils, Markers, Colored Pencils.

Assessment: We will have a brief informal critique, where students will walk around and see the Fundred Dollar Bills created during class. Students will discuss why they chose the imagery they did and how this project affected their ideas about art-making.

- How does Mel Chin's work differ from other artists studied?
- What stories do the pictures and writing on the currency convey?