

2020 Visual Art Finalist Prompt

Congratulations on being named a GSA Visual Art Finalist! No matter what happens next, we hope you feel a great sense of pride for having come this far.

All Visual Art Finalists must create a piece in response to the prompt below. You will bring your work to the in-person review and discuss it with the adjudicators. Remember to review the Visual Art Applicant Guide for information on other pieces you must bring to the Final Round review.

Instructions

This activity serves as a self-guided exploration of the limits and properties of a family of materials:

Common household cardboard usually considered trash.

Please work on this project alone and do not seek input from others, including teachers.

Part 1

Create a 3-D form that speaks about the topic of “consumption”. The final height of your sculpture should be greater than 12 inches but no taller than 24 inches. The depth and width should also be no greater than 24 inches. The list of approved materials might include cereal boxes, shoe boxes, toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, and any other light weight cardboard or card board like waste materials. You may add to, subtract from, or alter the surface of the forms in any way you choose. You may paint or decorate the work, or you may not. The one restriction is that you may not use tape, staples, glue, or any other readymade or purchased connective strategy. The work must be entirely waste cardboard. Be ready to talk about how the material and the concept of the work were used in conjunction to convey your interpretation of the prompt.

Part 2

Document your experiences and experiments as you engage in this process. How you do so is up to you: you can take notes, sketches and/or photos of the beginning, middle and/or end of your process. Bring your documentation with you the final round review and be prepared to discuss your creative process. Your documentation can be in an informal format; for instance, sharing photos from the screen of a smart phone is totally fine.

This prompt is intentionally vague and open ended, and you have all the information you need above. We are more interested in learning how you creatively solve problems and navigate limitations, than we are in you creating a masterpiece from cardboard. Please do not simply go to the internet for advice. Instead, spend that time with the material.....

Experiment.

Make mistakes.

Be open to scraping ideas and starting over.

Create something out of nothing.

Thank you, and have fun exploring. We’re excited to meet you!

Sincerely,

Your GSA Visual Art Adjudicators