

Mixed Media Visual Art Lessons

Representational Self Portrait

Summary: Students were asked to create a self-portrait using a mirror to demonstrate their ability to draw from life emphasizing their unique qualities in response to artist Kehinde Wiley.

Objective(s):

Students were able to learn how to break up the parts of the face in order to create a realistic self-portrait. Students were able to use elements of art line, shape and color to emphasize their unique facial qualities to best portray themselves.

Material: Oil Pastel, Colored Pencil, Crayon, Sharpie

Grade Level: Middle - High School

Vocabulary:

Representational Self Portrait- representation of a particular person. A self-portrait is a portrait of the artist by the artist.

Proportions- refers to the relationship in size and placement between one object and another.

Steps of the project:

1. Students research artist [Kehinde Wiley](#) taking note of the realistic qualities of his work and emphasis on color. Students brainstormed the importance of color and design as it relates to the subjects in Wiley's work.
2. Students observe their face in a mirror and as a class we brainstormed the overall shapes and lines they saw.
3. Students create a general sketch in pencil using drawing techniques such as breaking up the face into a "T" shape to create the accurate proportions of their face.
4. Students choose colors that they felt helped describe their personality

Class discussion and concluding thoughts during art critique:

Students presented their work and shared their challenges and where they believed they succeeded in creating a realistic self-portrait. Overall students were able to share their unique qualities with the class which gave them a sense of empowerment and ultimately helped the class learn more about one another.

Related Artists and Work to Reference:

[Kehinde Wiley](#)



Student Work Samples:



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