RESEARCH PROJECT: Adopt-an-Artist
English Honors 11A: O’Connor

Have you ever wondered how artists find the inspiration and just the right techniques to produce their amazing works of art? For the next few weeks, you will get to know “your” artists as you research their lives, their masterpieces, and the history surrounding them. The final project will consist of two parts: an attractive poster (see details below) and a research paper 2-3 pages in length.

Your Tasks:

1. **Choose** one of the 12 famous artists or photographers and his/her work to research. See Powerpoint.
   Write a detailed reaction to the painting—analyze details of color, shape, texture, character, and mood. If you already know about the historical era, include what you perceive as the artist’s perspective on the historical event.

2. **Research** your artist or photographer and the work. On your capture sheets, take notes on:
   - The life of the artist or photographer
   - The subject of the painting or photograph
   - The painting or photograph as a work of art, including what scholars have said about it (or about his or her work in general if you are having trouble finding discussions of the work itself)

3. **Write** a 2-3 page paper developed from your notes. Organize the details into 5 paragraphs:
   1. Introduction
   2. Interesting and important details about the life of the artist/photographer
   3. Interesting and important details about the subject of the painting or photograph
   4. A discussion of the painting or photograph as a work of art (or about his or her work in general if you are having trouble finding discussions of the work itself)
   5. Conclusion

   **Bibliography:** On a separate sheet, include a list of the sources from which you got the quotations and the information that are in your paper

   **Quotation requirements:**
   a. 1 quote in paragraph 2 by or about the artist/photographer
   b. 1 quote in paragraph 4 by a scholar or expert who has written or spoken about the work of art
   c. correct citations

4. **Put together a poster** that includes the following:
   - A photograph or drawing of your artist/photographer
   - Timeline of key events in his or her life
   - Pictures of at least 2 other works of art by your artist/photographer
   - an original poem/rap/song lyrics you compose in response to the work of art or to the artist/photographer
   - optional: a painting/photo of the same subject or in the style of the artist/photographer

Objectives:

- To practice note taking, researching, and citing sources
- To create a project that combines personal analysis with expert opinion
- To gain knowledge about an important visual artist and an important moment in history
- To use your creativity