

Powerful Portraits



Background Information:

“In contrast to modern portraiture, which strives to capture the accurate likeness of a specific person, medieval portraiture was primarily valued for its ability to express an individual's social status, religious convictions, or political position. Medieval portrait painters, rather than reproducing the precise facial features of their subjects, often identified individuals by depicting their clothing, heraldry, or other objects related to them. The goal of medieval portraiture was to present a subject not at a particular moment in time, but as the person wished to be remembered through the ages.”

Source: http://www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/power_piety/

Project Objectives:

T.S.W. Develop an understanding of medieval and modern portraiture characteristics.

T.S.W. Create accurately rendered portraits using various pen and ink techniques (text to create value, stippling, cross-hatching, and the grid drawing technique).

T.S.W. Self-assess and critique their work and the work of others using the language of art (Description, Analysis, Interpretation and Judgment).

Procedures:

1. Brainstorm words that describe you. Think powerful, meaningful words to express your importance as an individual (at least 3).
2. Create a rough draft portrait using pencil (close up, half body, full body, side/profile view).
3. Trace rough draft onto final paper. **Be sure to trace lightly with a pencil!**
4. Begin to add words to create value and dimension (large and small text printed AND in cursive) using a fine point sharpie marker.

Grading Criteria:

- Portraits must accurately resemble you (drawing must be from life using a mirror or a photo/grid technique).
- Value and dimension must be created using only words (cross hatching and stippling can be used for SMALL details). *See general rubric.