Diving Deep
Supporting Student Growth in a Choice-Based Classroom

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Cornerstone of my Studio program
“If we wish for our students to do the work of artists, we must offer them the opportunity to behave like artists, think as artists, and perform as artists.”
(Douglas and Jaquith, “Engaging Artists Through Artmaking”, 2009)
What do Artists do?

• Generate ideas
• Source personal interests/passions for inspiration
• Work on pieces over time
• Innovate new techniques
• Work within a theme, repeat subject matter
• Switch direction based on experimentation and discoveries
WAYS TO GO DEEP
Deep into Subject Matter
Deep into Exploration
Deep with Media & Materials
Deep into technique
Developing a personal style
Setting
Personal challenges
Innovation and Collaboration
New Media/Skills
SAP Story
Size and scale
BENEFITS OF DIVING DEEP

Student voice Developed

Expertise in specific media
Exploration time leads to breakthroughs/Innovations

Creativity Requires time
Inspiration to peers/collaboration
Validates student artists and their ideas
Strengthens Artist’s Community
Skill development due to intrinsic motivation
Meaningful artist statements

“When people look at my piece, I want them to notice the inside of the dressing room in the back of the theatre. It has the striped wall behind the mirror made of textured paper, and added the yellow beads for the lights along the mirror. I want people to notice the dressing room because it’s not always about the outside, the inside can be just as good, and I want to send that message by incorporating the dressing room.

I feel that I have grown as artist because I took more risks, and tested myself as an artist more than ever before. I feel it is important to grow as an artist because it not only shows how you grow as an artist, but as a person. This is because you open yourself up, and let your inner self out, and realize the understanding of how important it is to be yourself. I feel I have not only grown as an artist, but as a person as well. If everyone on Earth tried art just once, we’d have a whole lot of people who felt comfortable with themselves, and with what they as people. That I feel is incredibly important.”

6th grader
Questions?

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