What Is the Creative Process?

The creative process takes place when an idea-whether visual, concrete, spiritual, ephemeral, or abstract- is transformed into a final product. The creative process is often unique to each individual and can consist of phases such as: inspiration, distillation, perspiration, incubation, and evaluation. During the creation of a work of art, each phase can be experienced many times, in no definite order or set time frame.

What does it look like in the classroom? Inspiration

- developing a sketchbook
- practicing ways to document ideas
- experimenting with media

Distillation

- constructing artist statements
- communicating meaning and purpose of personal works of art

Perspiration

- creating works of art with meaning and purpose
- evoking emotion through personal works of art
- persevering through challenges
- taking ownership
- developing technical skill

Incubation

- developing ideas and concepts
- solving problems
- inspiring others

Evaluation

- developing a portfolio of works of art
- reflecting on growth
- determining artistic merit