

# What's the BIG IDEA?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What are Big Ideas?**

A Big Idea is something that drives our artwork and gives it meaning. It is large and has lots of different meanings. It is a life central issue.

Artists generally experiment with several directions before setting on a big idea that will sustain their attention over an extended period. Students too need opportunities to learn about an idea, build an adequate knowledge base for working with it, examine the idea in the world of other artists, and find personal connections to the idea.

Personal interest plays a significant role in directing the artist's choice of ideas. Becoming personally connected to a big idea is highly important for artmaking; otherwise artmaking can become merely an exercise in problem solving.

**How does a Big Idea help me in Artmaking?**

Big Ideas drive an artist's artmaking over time. They extend beyond individual artworks and encompass large portions, if not all, of an artist's overall purposes for artmaking, and they tell-in broad conceptual terms- what the artist is about.

# BIG IDEA EXAMPLES

IDENTITY  
 DREAMS/NIGHTMARES  
 RELATIONSHIPS  
 LIFE CYCLES  
 POWER  
 GROWTH  
 COMMUNITY  
 FANTASY  
 SOCIAL NORMS  
 TOLERANCE

CULTURE  
 OPPORTUNITY  
 JOURNEY  
 PLACE  
 PRIDE  
 CONFLICT/CHANGE  
 HEROES  
 EMOTIONAL LIFE  
 COURAGE  
 FAMILY

## Step One: Art Type

Circle THREE (3) statements that best relate to the type of art you would like to create for **THIS** Path

<p>I want to create art that <b>shows my life</b>: things that I like, dislike, how I looked that day, my feelings, my emotions etc.</p>	<p>I want to create art that makes people realize that the world is not always gumdrops and fairy tales. I want to show that there is a <b>darker</b> side to everything.</p>	<p>I want to create art that makes a <b>statement</b> to the world. I want to create art that shows my beliefs in politics and/or religion.</p>
<p>I want to create art that shows how I wish to live, how I see the world, how things <b>should</b> be.</p>	<p>I want the viewer to look at my art and <b>question</b> their ideas on gender, race, etc.</p>	<p>I want my art to be different. I want my art to look different than anyone else's. <b>Different</b> is good.</p>
<p>I want my art to <b>look good</b>. I want the viewer to compliment my art and want to hang it in</p>	<p>I just want to have fun creating art. I like being messy with materials and seeing what cool things I can do with</p>	<p>I want to create art because it's the best way to <b>express</b> myself. Sometimes I just need to sit</p>



★ Now look back over your list. Circle the three (3) most important concepts of your big idea.

★ Why are these your most important concepts?

★ Which one is your favorite? WHY?