

medium photo

Teaching Guide

Introduction

Welcome to the Teacher Guide for Medium Photo! This guide is designed to provide educators with resources and activities to engage students in the exploration of photography through Medium Photo's ongoing events. The mission of Medium is to connect us through photography and celebrate its power to transcend boundaries. Medium Photo offers a limited number of free, one-year student memberships. Learn more mediumphoto.org/student-member-scholarships

Event Overview

Medium Photo hosts a series of events to celebrate and explore the world of photography. During the Medium Festival, there are several ticketed and free events where students can engage with artists through exhibitions, talks, and more. Check mediumphoto.org for details.

- Present Tense Artist Talks:
 - Quarterly events featuring selected photographers presenting their work in an informal setting followed by a Q&A session. Moderated by Medium Photo. See Present Tense Artist Talks Teaching Guide.
- Size Matters Exhibition:
 - An annual exhibition celebrating photo-based artwork smaller than 10 inches. Showcases a diverse range of works including traditional prints, digital art, and sculptures.
- Film Screenings at Digital Gym:
 - Film screenings at Digital Gym, offering additional visual experiences during the Medium Festival of Photography.
- Keynote Lecture:
 - A ticketed event featuring a keynote lecture during the Medium Festival of Photography.

Guiding Questions

To encourage critical thinking and discussion, here are some guiding questions for classroom use:

- What role does creating a portfolio and participating in portfolio reviews serve in the creative process?
- Compare and contrast the commercial and fine art fields of photography. How do they overlap, and what similarities exist in their practice and process?
- Why is it important to nurture a community of artists and hold space for discussions?

Ideas to Think About After

After engaging in the events and discussions, consider the following activities:

- Summarize the theme or topic of the film, lecture, exhibition, or body of work you experienced. Share what you learned, liked best, or have questions about.
- Reflect on your experience during the event. How can you apply what you've learned to your work as an artist?

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- Select an artist from the event and analyze their work and style. Choose a piece for detailed interpretation, analysis, and evaluation. Make connections to other artists, both historical and contemporary.
- Compare and contrast the work of two artists featured in the events or exhibitions. Identify similarities and differences, discussing aesthetic qualities and the meaning of their work.

Activity Extensions

Extend learning beyond the events with these activity ideas:

- Create digital portfolio presentations inspired by the Present Tense series and present them to the class in a similar format.
- Organize a portfolio review session with a panel of community reviewers or encourage student peer feedback.
- Curate a small works group show inspired by Size Matters, involving students in the selection and exhibition process.
- Research an artist, create a body of work inspired by their themes, and present findings to the class.

2024 Medium Festival Schedule

Thursday, April 25

- 9:00am-5:00pm - Medium Review - Marriott Courtyard Old Town San Diego
- 6:30-9:30pm - Open Portfolio Night with Participating Photographers
- 6:30-9:30pm - Photography Pop-Up and Marketplace

Friday, April 26

- 9:00am-5:00pm - Medium Review - Marriott Courtyard Old Town San Diego
- 3:00-5:00pm - Iva Sidash Exhibition Reception - San Diego City College
- 6:00-7:00pm - VIP Reception With Cara Romero And Guest Speakers - San Diego Central Library
- 7:00-7:30pm - Public Reception with Guest Speakers - San Diego Central Library
- 7:30-8:30pm - Keynote Lecture with Cara Romero - San Diego Central Library

Saturday, April 27

- 9:30-10:15am - Second Sight Artist Talk With Harlan Bozeman
- 10:00am- 4:00pm - Photography Pop-Up and Marketplace - Marriott Courtyard Old Town
- 10:30-11:15am - Lana Z Caplan Artist Talk - Marriott Courtyard Old Town
- 11:30-12:15 Cesar Rueda Talk On Copyright and Ai - Marriott Courtyard Old Town
- 12:30-2:00pm - Focus Events with Hosted Facilitators
- 2:00-2:45pm - Iva Sidash Artist Talk - Marriott Courtyard Old Town
- 3:00-4:30pm - Present Tense Artist Talks - Marriott Courtyard Old Town
- 5:00-7:00pm - Size Matters Exhibition Reception - Athenaeum Art Center (Bread & Salt)
- 5:00-7:00pm - Mónica Arreola Exhibition Preview- Best Practice (Bread & Salt)
- 7:00-10:00pm - Medium's Big Night Fundraiser - Marriott Courtyard Old Town

Sunday, April 28

- 8:00am-6:30pm - Bus Tour of Artist Studios and Exhibition Spaces In Tijuana
- 11:00-11:45am - Exhibition Walk Through with Cara Romero (MOPA @ SDMA)