



4-H Exhibit Goal Sheet

Visual Arts – Original Art

Name: Ciana Van Donkelaar

Club: Sioux Stockmen

Grade: 9 Circle one Junior Intermediate Senior

Class number: 10350 Project Area: Visual Arts

Exhibits made from kits or preformed molds are accepted at the COUNTY level NOT at the Iowa State Fair.

Original Art is defined as: design unique to you, an object that is NOT recognizable as someone else's work, trademarks, logos, etc., CANNOT be original. The 4-H emblem may be used by a 4-H'er provided you are not making money from its use. ALL other copyright logos, designs or trademarks REQUIRE written copyright permission.

1. List your goals as they relate to your Visual Art exhibit.

I had several goals to accomplish with this project. My main goal was to improve my painting skills as I don't have much experience in painting. Through this project, I wanted to practice stippling, highlighting, and general painting. I wanted to experiment in still life as I haven't done much in this art style either.

2. How did you go about working towards your goal(s)? How was the idea for the exhibit determined and developed? (Tell about the information used, decisions that were made, problems faced and how they were solved, what worked well, etc.)

The idea for this project came from wanting to improve my painting. I first painted simple flowers but wanted to challenge myself a little more. I was given the challenge to paint a still life by my art teacher, so I chose to do the pear. I started by stippling the background. I chose the colors red, purple, and blue to offset the greens and yellows of the pear. Stippling gave the background a unique texture. After painting the background, I painted the table the pear rests on. It's a simple brown paint, but using horizontal brush strokes gave it the illusion of wood grain.

Then, I painted the pear. Starting with a thick yellow base, I created the basic shape. I added the green before the base dried, so I could pull the color towards the center and create a gentle yellow-green ombre. I ran into the problem of the base drying before I could add the mustard color. After adding more yellow to the base to solve this problem, I did the mustard color, also pulling the color towards the center of the pear. Then, I created the highlight by watering down a little white paint and gently brushing it on. I created the shadow by painting a half circle directly under the pear and extending it outwards away from the imagined light source.

From there, I did the stem by dipping half of my paint brush in yellow and half in brown to create a sort of highlight on the top of the stem. I practiced this technique multiple times on a scratch paper to perfect it. I also painted a small oval underneath the stem to create the spot where the stem connects to the pear. Finally, I took an old toothbrush, dipped it in watered down brown paint and flecked on the spots of the pear. I had to be careful not to get the spots anywhere but the pear. This was my favorite part of painting and the part I think worked the best. With this, my painting was finished.

3. Where did you get your idea for your exhibit?

Did it come from something you thought up, the placement of geometric shapes or something in nature? If you saw a design in a magazine, painting or other source, what THREE major changes did you make to that idea? If there are identifiable people in the exhibit, do you have permission to use them in your art work?

We were tasked with painting a realistic still life for school. I chose to paint a pear as it is one of my favorite fruits and has both an interesting shape and vibrant colors. Out of the hundreds of fruits there are, pears are easily recognized. They are one of the first things thought of when someone is told to name a fruit. When I was given this assignment, a pear was the first thing I thought of, especially since this project was around the time I had been selling FFA fruits. I decided it was the perfect subject for my still life and got to work.

4. What were the most important things you learned as you worked toward your goal(s)?

(What specific skills did you learn? What did you learn about yourself through this exhibit? What knowledge did you gain?)

I learned a lot throughout this project. I improved my stippling skills while working on the background. I got better at my overall painting techniques as well as the ‘color pulling’ technique I used for the pear itself. I’d always thought painting was easier than drawing, but surprisingly, drawing comes to me easier. I discovered painting is a challenge, and I need to practice more with it than I thought.

5. IDENTIFY at least THREE of the Design Elements and Art Principles and how they are USED in this exhibit.

Design Elements – Line, Shape, Color, Texture, Space

Art Principles – Rhythm, Proportion, Emphasis, Balance, Unity

(Example: “I used the primary colors of red, blue and yellow to emphasize the geometric shapes and create balance in my painting.” NOT – “The element I used was color.”)

I used the art principle of balance in both the placement of the pear and the color of it. there is a near equal amount of orange and green to give the pear a more balanced look. I placed the pear in the center and made it almost symmetrical to give the painting more balance. For color, I used a background of red, blue, and purple to make the pear stand out more with its bright greens and yellows. I used rounder lines in the pear painting to create a round shape, and in the table, I used straight lines to create a crisper, slightly textured horizontal shape. This is where my final design element of lines comes in.

6. Do you have ideas of what you would like to do in this project area next year?

I’d like to try another still life, perhaps a more complex one. Kiwis could have a challenging texture to capture in paint, but watermelon sounds interesting, too, since it has

patterns that may be fun to paint. I'd like to make it as realistic as possible. Perhaps, I could even do a fruit salad to create many different shapes and colors to add interest to the painting.

7. List your expenses and/or profits involved in this project.

The only expense was the matting. I bought black poster paper from Walmart for 97 cents and cut it down to the desired size. The white matting had been put on at school and was provided for me. The paints and paper itself were already provided as well. There were no profits involved, and the final cost was only 97 cents.

8. The sources I used for my project were (list books, magazines, people, projects you've seen in a store, craft shop etc. include cut paper designs, sketches, doodles, if appropriate)



This is the image I used as a reference picture. I did end up taking some liberties with the coloring, and I changed the placement of the highlight and shadow.