



Fairchild Challenge at Phipps

2019 – 2020 High School Challenges In-Depth

Challenge 1: Art and Writing

“Wish You Were Here”

For individuals or groups | Maximum points: 200 (100 points/submission)

Due at Phipps: Friday, October 4 by 5 p.m.

Your Challenge:

“If one truly loves nature one finds beauty everywhere.”
- Vincent van Gogh in a letter to Theo van Gogh, 1847

Vincent van Gogh often used nature as inspiration for his artwork. Some of his famous nature scenes include *Wheat Field with Cypresses*, *Olive Trees*, and *Irises*. Along with painting these breathtaking natural scenes, he also wrote many letters to his brother, Theo van Gogh describing them in vivid detail. For this challenge, choose a favorite nature spot or scene from your own life and write a one-page letter to a friend describing it. Use imagery and descriptive language to “paint a picture” with your words. Pair the letter with an original painting or drawing of the scene, using van Gogh’s style of bold brushstrokes and contrasting colors if you wish.

The art piece can be created using any medium, but must be two-dimensional. The finished art work should be no larger than 12”x16”. Letters should be typed or neatly hand-written in first-person and should be no longer than one page, single-spaced with 1-inch margins.

Resources: The following list of online resources may be used when preparing your entry:

Entry Requirements: Deliver to high school program coordinator at Phipps in person or via certified mail (electronic submission is not accepted):

- Challenge Entry Form
- Create a two-dimensional artwork of a natural scene, no larger than 12”x16”
- Write a one-page first-person letter to a friend describing your natural scene. Letter may be typed or neatly hand-written and should be single spaced with 1-inch margins.
- Please include the school name and a list of the students involved in the project.
- Maximum Entry: Two letters each with an accompanying artwork

School Submits: Two letters with two accompanying art pieces, Challenge Entry Form

Select student artwork will be displayed in the Center for Sustainable Landscapes Gallery.

State Standards:

9th and 10th Grades

- CC.1.4.9-10.A Write informative/ explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately.
- CC.1.4.9-10.B Write with a sharp distinct focus identifying topic, task, and audience.
- CC.1.4.9-10.D Organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text; include formatting when useful to aiding comprehension; provide a concluding statement or section.
- CC.1.4.9-10.E Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition. • Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic. • Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing.
- CC.1.4.9-10.F Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

11th and 12th Grades

- CC.1.4.11-12.A Write informative/ explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately.
- CC.1.4.11-12.B Write with a sharp distinct focus identifying topic, task, and audience.
- CC.1.4.11-12.E Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition. • Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic. • Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing.
- CC.1.4.11-12.F Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.
- 9.1.12.E Delineate a unifying theme through the production of a work of art that reflects skills in media processes and techniques.
- 9.1.12.F Analyze works of arts influenced by experiences or historical and cultural events through production, performance or exhibition.
- 9.2.12.A Explain the historical, cultural and social context of an individual work in the arts.

Keystone Final Assessments:

- C.IE.1.1 Write informative and explanatory pieces that describe, explain, or summarize information or ideas.
 - C.IE.2.1 Revise writing to improve style, meaning, word choice, and sentence variety.
 - C.IE.3.1 Use conventions of standard written language.
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