2017 Standard Setting Sample

2-D Design Sustained Investigation (Concentration) Score 6

Image	Dimensions	Media
1	15 x 12	ink drawing of fairy origins in flowers
2	15 x 12	mixed media design of fairies
3	16 x 10	mixed media design of belief that carrots made you see in an orange tint
4	13 x 18	mixed media design of belief that watermelon seeds could grow in bellies if swallowed
5	32 x 24	dry point Native American myth of sun print, three etchings of sun-burned faces
6	12 x 12	layered transparent woodcut print over black and white print, showing insecurity about my nose
7	8 x 12	embroidery and pen on transparent paper beings the myth of a perfect home
8	8 x 12	embroidery and pen on transparent paper shows my foundation in my family crumbling, yet despite this, hope remains and grows
9	8 x 12	embroidery and pen on paper show the transition of my idea of home to the reality of home
10	9 x 13	embroidery and gouache on paper, detail of front and back
11	9 x 13	embroidery and gouache on paper representing the feeling of being alone
12	7 x 2.75	watercolor, ink drawings of body parts in tea bags represent the feeling of being not valuable and weak

Sustained Investigation (Concentration) Statement

1. My concentration revolves around the myths I believed in as a child, which helps me understand what beliefs and ideas have shaped me into the person I am now.

2. Throughout this series, I explore the ways certain myths have marked my character, beginning with childish ideas to the manipulation of my beliefs about my reality. By beginning with fairies, a light-hearted tone is established, giving me room to cherish the sweet memories of dancing in gardens (in the wings on fairy feet in image 2). Experimenting with perception in pieces 2 and 3 by layering over illustrations brings depth and complexity, moving beyond traditional boundaries. Moving to the myths surrounding my history, I merged a wiry contour style in piece 5 with an intricate Cherokee and Apache myth about the creation of the sun-which I believed had to do with why my skin became lobster red in the summertime. Warm colored embroidery adds to the tribal pattern, and the heavily etched plates suspended below represent being burned while admiring the sun's face. Even these sweet memories transition to the darker beliefs that burdened my childhood. Insecurity about my bent nose clouded my mind (in piece 6) and the broken nature of my home life left me wading in fear (in pieces 7-9). Transparent paper signifies the feelings of being worn thin. The loneliness associated with these feelings translate through the canyon-colored boundaries I built around my broken frame (in piece 11).

Rationale for Score

- The work demonstrates a thorough understanding and an effective application of 2-D Design principles. Image 3, for example, demonstrates an effective understanding of contrast in the use of circles on the left side

and the lines on the right side. It also displays asymmetrical balance and clear rhythmic qualities. Image 5, with its white and black halves and three portraits hanging down from the white half into the black half, thoroughly explores the tension between occupied and unoccupied space.

- An evocative and engaging theme, the myths the student believed in as a child, is sustained throughout the work. Each piece is an effective exploration of one myth, using materials and media successfully to convey complex ideas. Image 12, for example, uses watercolor and ink drawn on tea bags. The delicateness of both the images and the paper from the tea bags supports the idea of being weak and not valuable.

- The topic and the work presented are unmistakably and coherently integrated. A distinctive theme is stated and is clearly evident in each piece both in the artistic decision-making and in the sustained focus. The work has benefitted from effective process documentation, experimentation, research, and development. Additionally, the notations below the images allow viewers to appreciate the visual logic of the progression and development of the investigation.

- The sustained investigation clearly demonstrates an original vision, innovative ideas, and risk taking. The inventiveness and risk taking of the work can be seen in the way that the topic and the materials integrate so well that they can become, in effect, the subject of the work. This integration can be seen especially in images 7–9.

- Although the works may show varying levels of accomplishment, overall the work is at an excellent level. Image 6 is slightly less successful than the other works in terms of the understanding and application of the principles of 2-D Design. The flatness of the figure works against the idea being expressed (concern about what the student's nose looks like). Generally, though, the work is at an excellent level.