

WACA Poetry Project

This quarter we will become familiar with a broad range of 20th Century poets. The learning objective is to learn about 20th century poets. You will create a video/audio presentation of the selected poets for “WACA Art Night”.

The Groups

This will be a small group project, each group consisting of 4 to 5 students. Groups will be formed based primarily on skills and workshop choices, but interest in a particular poet will be given consideration.

The Pitch

Students will form temporary groups to pitch a particular poet. Each pitch group will consist of 2 to 3 students; each student must have a part in the presentation. Groups will have no more than 3 minutes to explain why their poet would be a good choice for this project. After the presentations, the class will select 4 to 5 poets, students will be assigned to groups and the work will begin.

The Poets

Groups may pitch any poet who:

- Has published a substantial body of work in the 20th Century
- Has been reviewed, critiqued, or evaluated (as a poet) in print
- Is generally recognized as a writer of literature for adults.

Our goal is to have a diverse group of poets, representing distinctive voices in 20th Century Literature.

The Video/Audio Presentation

Each group will produce a 3 to 5 minute video. The video is to be a creative interpretation of the poet/poetry selected. Students will utilize some combination of text/graphics, music, sound effects, voice-over, performance, and image to create a unified presentation of the work. All elements of the video/audio must be original work, or copyright released work. Students may use copyrighted materials only with the written permission of the copyright holder.

The Venue

The class will participate in “WACA Art Night.” Each group will present their video/audio production to the WACA and Woodburn Community.

Other Requirements

Each group will be responsible for a number of documents during the process:

- A Project “Treatment”
A word-processed document describing the poet selected, a detailed interpretation of the text (including imagery, mood and theme), the intended visual approach to the work, proposed locations, and the particular responsibilities of the group members. Each member of the team will sign this document.
- Storyboard
A shot-by-shot plan for the production of the video.
- Voiceover script
A detailed script of the poem(s) with dramatic direction.
- Weekly reports and ending statement.
The groups will keep track of the time spent by each member in workshops, meetings, production, and other activities. Equipment use will be logged. These elements will be combined into a final statement that will show how much time was spent on the project (“person hours”), and how much equipment was utilized. Think of this as a preliminary budget assignment.

*Adapted from poetry project descriptor provided by Steve Kuever