

Plan for MVAQN Tuesday Night Study Group on Zoom

September: “Introduction”

Please purchase *Head, Heart, and Hands: A Workbook for Developing Your Creative Voice* by Deborah Boschert. It is available on Etsy for download for \$14.00. You may also get a hard copy mailed to you for \$22.10 (book + S&H). It's only 29 pages, black and white but it is basically a workbook so you will want paper. I just printed the 29 pages front/back on my own printer. Then you also have the option to reprint pages if you want to do the exercise again later. Take a look at the introduction on pages 2-3 where she introduces the concept for the book and explains where the title comes from. You may also want to peruse pages 4-5.

October: “Identify your likes.”

Preparation- Buy the book and have pages 6-7 printed. Gather show and tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda -

- Like List on pages 6-7 we will fill this out together
- Sharing of your “Always” with the group. Do you feel like these words describe you well?
- Sharing of your “Never or Seldom” with the group. Any surprises? Things you'd like to explore more?
- Show and Tell

Homework - Explore a Seldom or Never OR Pull together 3 Often. Make a small piece.

November: “Inspiration skill development”

Preparation - Print out of book pages 11-14. Homework to share from October. Show and tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda -

- Sharing of Homework from October. Discussion of what you learned.
- Review pages 11-14. Daily practice Research and Daily practice Photos.
- Discuss the pros and cons of daily practice. Have you done it before? How can you be more successful at it? Are there drawbacks to daily practice?
- Brainstorming places to go or things to look at for the research part of it. Sharing your ideas with others.
- Brainstorming for the photos part. What to do especially in colder months? Sharing your ideas with others.
- Show and Tell

Homework - Use November and December to explore this daily practice. Be prepared to share your experience and an inspiration photo at the next meeting.

January: “Organizing and Using Inspiration”

Preparation - Print out of book pages 8-10. One inspiration photo to share with the group. One photo of one of your previous works. If you have this as a photo that you can screen share it may be more helpful than if you just try to hold it up to the camera. Zoom has a screen share function. Show and Tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda -

- Share experience of November and December daily practice.
- Page 10 - get the inspiration photo you chose to bring out. Complete page 10 using your photo.
- Page 11 - We will take turns screen sharing our inspiration photos. Using the same format for each photo jot down a few ideas. The owner of the photo will share her list and then others may comment how their's compared. Or additional ideas.
- Page 12 - Using your own work photo, complete the exercise again. Share if time allows.
- Show and Tell

Homework - using inspiration found in some of the photos you reviewed today, create a small piece. Be prepared to share your piece alongside the inspiration photo and your answers to the questions. You may also rework an already started piece based on the ideas or inspiration you gained from an inspiration photo today.

February: “Describing your work”

Preparation - Print out pages 16-18 of the book. Choose two pieces of your work and bring the real thing or photographs of them. Since we are finding our creative voice, I would try to choose 2 pieces that you feel are representative of you. Your Homework piece from January along with the inspiration photo and the worksheet the you filled out about it. Show and tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda-

- Homework sharing.
- Each person will display their two pieces of work. The others will look at both pieces and write down five words to describe them on a separate piece of paper. The owner of the art should make note of these words on pages 16 and 17.
- Show and Tell

Homework - page 18, analyzing your descriptive words. Choose 5 words that you think best represent you and work them into a design. It can be word art or a representation. It can be done on paper or with fabric.

March: “Daily practice create”

Preparation - Print out page 15 and 19 of the book. Your homework from February. Show and tell. We will be looking at making art daily. If you have small, easily finished project ideas you have already done, you may bring these to share.

Meeting Agenda-

- Share Homework.
- Review page 15.
- Discuss the pros and cons of daily practice
- Brainstorm ideas for making small daily projects start to finish.
- Page 19. Thinking quickly and making daily seem to go together!
- Show and tell

Homework- page 15 of daily creations. Bring some of your creations and be prepared to discuss your experience at the next meeting.

April: “Developing an Artists Statement”

Preparation - Print out pages 20-26 of the book. A copy of the artist’s statement you have been using most recently if you have one. Homework from the March meeting. Show and tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda-

- Share Homework
- Complete pages 20-22 What, How, and Why webs
- Share one of your webs
- Mad Libs pg 24 (may be helpful in devolving a statement)
- Declaration pg 25
- Palm of your hand pg 26
- Discussion on how these pages may help create an updated artist statement
- Look at your previous artist statement, how has this exercise changed how you feel about it?
- Show and Tell

Homework - using the ideas from the worksheets rewrite your artists statement. Plan to share your statement at the next meeting. Daily creations may continue, perhaps you’ve got some new ideas after seeing everyone else’s homework?

May: “Art Audit”

Preparation - Print out page 27-28 of the book. A recently finished piece. Your updated Artist’s Statement homework. Show and tell if you like.

Meeting Agenda-

- Share Homework
- Using the piece that you recently finished, complete page 27
- Share with the group
- How does the Head, Heart, Hands detail help you as an artist? Your audience?
- Reflection on this study as a whole.
- Show and Tell

