2-D Art and Design Selected Works, Score 5

Scoring Criteria

2-D/3-D/Drawing Art and Design Skills
Visual evidence of advanced 2-D/3-D/Drawing skills.

Rationale for Score

In each of the artworks, the figures hover against an emptiness of black or blue. The decorative margins dance in front and behind the forms, drawing the viewer into the secluded space. A choice of an analogous color palette is applied to create unity; such as violet, red, and orange in work 1; blues, greens, and yellows in work 2; and red-orange and yellow in work 3. The band in the headdress of work 3 reflects the inverted arch beneath the roman numeral. The halo created by the sun’s rays encompasses both shapes with its bursting radiance. The accompanying works also show creative placement and repetition of shape with both a crown or halo. In all works, the circular shapes and arches are echoed differently and with equal success to demonstrate the student’s understanding of rhythm.

In addition, movement is orchestrated by arranging the figures and props. For instance, in work 1, the inclining arms and tilted head of the woman mirrors her diagonal gaze. Work 2 shows the man gazing downward, or is it upward? This reinforces the vertical pull of the artwork. In work 3, the woman robed in white looks to the side. Her head is turned perpendicular to her form but parallels with the base of the radial headdress. The student effectively moves the viewer’s attention through each composition.

Advanced 2-D skills are demonstrated with confidence.

Materials, Processes, and Ideas
Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are clearly evident and demonstrate synthesis.

It’s important to remember that it is not required for the selected works to have similar ideas, materials, or even the same application of 2-D skills; the artworks may vary significantly in intent and approach. In this case, there are visible similarities, and likely the artworks were selected from the student’s sustained investigation. In alignment with the rubrics, there is a clear demonstration of synthesis among the visual relationships of materials, processes, and ideas. In this portfolio, the student re-interpreted a common theme of tarot cards. However, it is difficult for anyone to come up with a genuinely original idea. Despite this, the work is personalized by using student peer models for each subject. The meaning behind the cards is reinvented. This infusion of the new personalities gives the topic a fresh perspective.

For example, a suspended young man can be seen in work 2, specifically the hangman. This tarot card is traditionally portrayed in a similar pose. The upended figure seems to be at odds with the universal law of gravity. His hair and shirt do not indicate their orientation. The decision to juxtapose the willow tree alleviates the viewer’s sense of vertigo. It’s vertical falling branches ground the movement downward, adding stability. The contradiction of gravitational forces is not only observable but intentional. In support, the student writes, “The Hanged Man represents letting go and also an inability to change.” The visual evidence alone illustrates the narrative, and the accompanying written confirmation restates the apparent paradox. A written explanation is welcome but not needed to understand the work. The work speaks for itself.

The materials, processes, and ideas synthesize to make the vision and meaning of the tarot cards clear.
Written evidence identifies materials, processes, and ideas. Gouache and colored pencil are the primary materials. A combination of processes is described in the making of the works. They include making compositional sketches with a pencil or in photoshop. Finally, the ideas are lucidly recorded as the student's personal interpretation of distinct tarot cards and their symbolic meaning described.
**Work 1**  
*Selected Works*  

**Height:** 18 inches  
**Width:** 12 inches  

**Ideas(s):** The Empress represents feminity and nature as well as maternal influence.  

**Material(s):** Gouache  

**Process(es):** Photoshopped compositional sketch to pencil sketch with gouache color.

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**Work 2**  
*Selected Works*  

**Height:** 18 inches  
**Width:** 12 inches  

**Ideas(s):** The Hanged Man represents letting go and also an inability to change.  

**Material(s):** Gouache  

**Process(es):** Pencil sketch and gouache. An interpretation of classic tarot card symbols.
Work 3
Selected Works

Height: 18 inches
Width: 12 inches

Idea(s): The Sun representations both optimism and conceitedness as the sun can be good in moderation.

Material(s): Color pencil

Process(es): Pencil sketch with color pencil.