**Surreal Contemporary Digital Art Manipulation: A Collaborative Photography Unit**

**Objective:** Create a contemporary work of art through digital media and collaborative processes.

**Theme**: Time, a *period* of *change* and forethought of *memories.* Life is full of times of transitions and transformations. Sometimes what appears to be real is in fact just a manipulation.

*Words to consider for your research could be altered reality, time, change, memories, surreal, surrealism, altered photography, digital manipulation*

**Inspiration**: Surrealism, Salvador Dali, Man Ray, René Magritte, Dora Maar

**Digital research options**: <http://pinterest.com/stepickens/surreal/>

<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/surr/hd_surr.htm>

**Essential Concepts:**

* Collaboration between artists is an essential part of contemporary art making.
* Digital media is an essential part of contemporary life and artmaking.
* Artists use juxtaposition to create new realities with their artwork.
* Photographs can be digitally altered and combined to create seemingly unreal realities.

**From the Real to the Surreal Process:**

* Using the theme Time, students will create a collaborative work of art with students from another classroom.
* Students will collaboratively research and discuss their theme, photographs, and historical artworks for inspiration on their own project.
  + Pinterest pages have been created to help in this process.
  + Students will contribute to a group Pinterest board based on Time and Surrealism.
  + Websites and email addresses are being shared as well.
  + A planning document will be completed in this process.
* Students will utilize original B&W and digital photographs of other students to create an alternate universe where anything is possible.
  + Each student will contribute a photograph(s) to a shared location for use by other students in creating new artworks.
  + Once discussions and research are complete, students will alter each other’s photographs and combine elements of different photographs to create a new surreal image.
* Each student will contribute at least 2 images (one of a figure, object, landscape, pathway or interior.)
* A mid-project critique will allow for further discussion and completion of the summative assessment for contemporary digital art manipulation.
  + Students will critique the “In-Progress” artworks created by students from the collaborating class-to be recorded.
  + This recording will be shared with the collaborating class and serve as feedback on what elements of the artwork could be changed or enhanced prior to the final deadline date.
* As final edits are completed, students will publish their final artworks along with an artist’s statement to Flicker, Edmodo, Pinterest, and student or teacher websites where available.

**Research Component**

* Students will contribute to a group Pinterest board created for the subject and theme of this project. Students will pin manipulated images that they find on the Internet, along with information about the artist who created the image. These images and artists will serve as building blocks for students to develop their own ideas for photographic compositions.
* Documentation of student research will include a student completed planning guide, Pinterest board, or pasted images onto the planning guide, and evidence of communication with collaborative partner.
* Once teacher approval of the research and planning has been obtained students will begin constructing the surrealistic photographic artwork.

**Rough Timeline (subject to change)**

* Add photos to our educational websites by Jan 31st
* Discussion with classes and determine questions for correspondence by Thursday January 31st
* Email each other with student email addresses by Monday February 4th
* Students email and correspond by Tuesday February 5th (possibly Thursday 7th)
* Mid-project critique February 15th
* Additional work-time and finalize project up to February 25th