Surreal Contemporary Digital Art Manipulation: A Collaborative Photography Unit

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

Theme: <u>Transformation:</u> Life is full of transformations. Personal, professional, environmental and biologic happen on a daily basis. Sometimes what appears to be one thing is just something different that has been transformed.
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 impossible realities.

From the Real to the Surreal Process:
- Using the theme <u>Transformation</u>, 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 Transformation and Surrealism.
    - Websites and email addresses are being shared as well.
    - A planning document will be completed in this process.
- Students will utilize original their own B&W and digital photographs and other students' photographs 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, Picasa, Course Sites, Pinterest, Instagram or Twitter 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, participation in group in class and online discussions, 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 collaborative Folder by February 10th
- Discussion with classes and determine questions for correspondence by February 10th
- Post to discussion board by February 12th. – Skype conference during class
- Students will use the discussion board email and correspond by Tuesday February 14th
- Mid-project critique February 21st
- Additional work-time and finalize project up to March 7th