

# Artist Statements

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1. What are they and why bother writing them?
  2. How do I make an artist statement?

## What are they?



- Describe who you are as an artist
- What your artwork is about
- How you created your art
- Research that informed your art

## Why write them?

- Why you made the art
- What you want the viewer to know

# How do I make an artist statement?

- What inspired you to create the work?
- Why or how did you choose the title of the work?
- What medium(s) did you use and why?
- Did you do any research to create the piece? If so, why did you do the research? What did you find out and how did you do the research?
- Who influences your work?
- How did you determine the size or scale of the work?



# Jackson Pollock

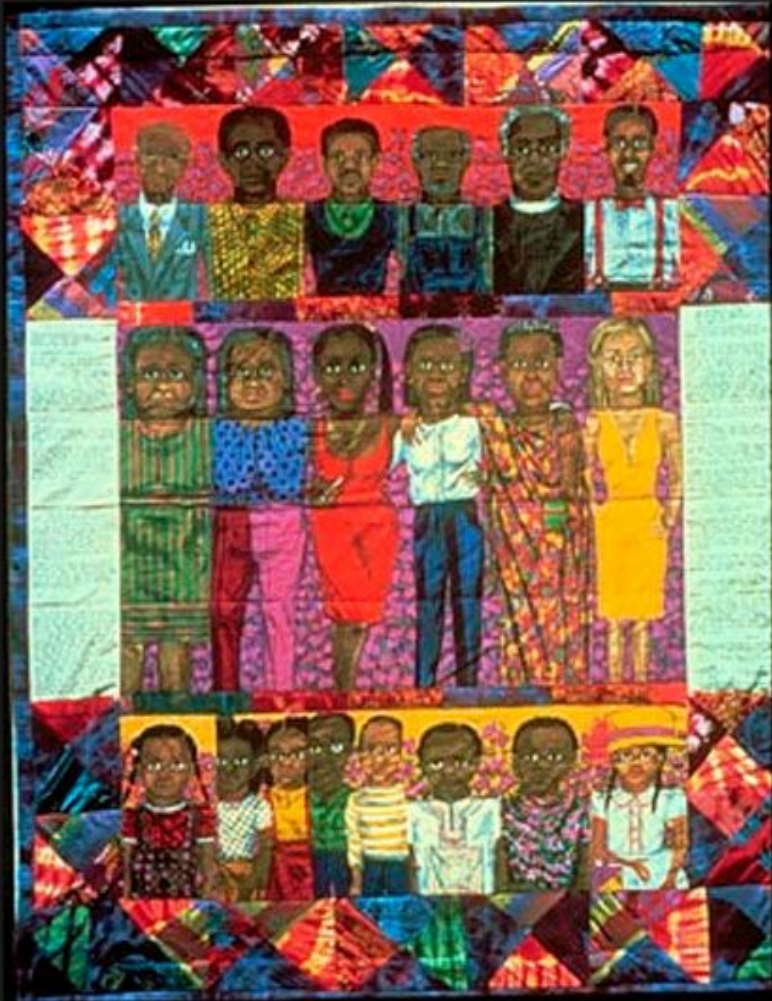


I want to express my feelings rather than illustrate them. It doesn't matter how the paint is put on, as long as something is said. On the floor I am more at ease. I feel nearer, more part of the painting, since this way I can walk around it, work from the four sides and literally be in the painting. When I'm painting, I'm not aware of what I'm doing.

# Faith Ringgold

My ideas come from reflecting on my life and the lives of people I have known and have been in some way inspired by. The story quilts grew out of my need to tell stories, not with pictures or symbols alone, but with words. The Purple Quilt, panels of text from Alice Walker's "The Color Purple", reinforce portraits of characters found in the novel.

**What did you learn from the artist statement that is not obvious in the artwork itself?**



# Triple Play, Anni Crouter

Triple Play is a series of tiger paintings done with acrylic on canvas. They are a work in progress and will be finished soon. I named them "Triple Play" because this event in a baseball game is so rare, like the Siberian tigers are becoming in the wild.



**What did you learn from the artist statement that is not obvious in the artwork itself?**

# Richard Wieth

This is a painting of a Michigan sunflower field. Richard attempts to capture the beauty of the moment of this field. He paints in a direct impressionistic style which engages the viewer. Richard does not attempt to paint photographically. He wants the viewers to know they are looking at a painting that was done by hand. His use of color and brush stroke create a vibrant multi dimensional landscape of energy.



**What did you learn from the artist's statement that is not obvious in the artwork itself?**

The smoke signal is one of the oldest forms of long distance communication. These visual messages billow across the sky carrying news, warning of danger, communicating joy and calls to gather. This original encaustic painting in two parts builds layers of meaning by combining oil paint and beeswax, rendering a modern image in an ancient medium.

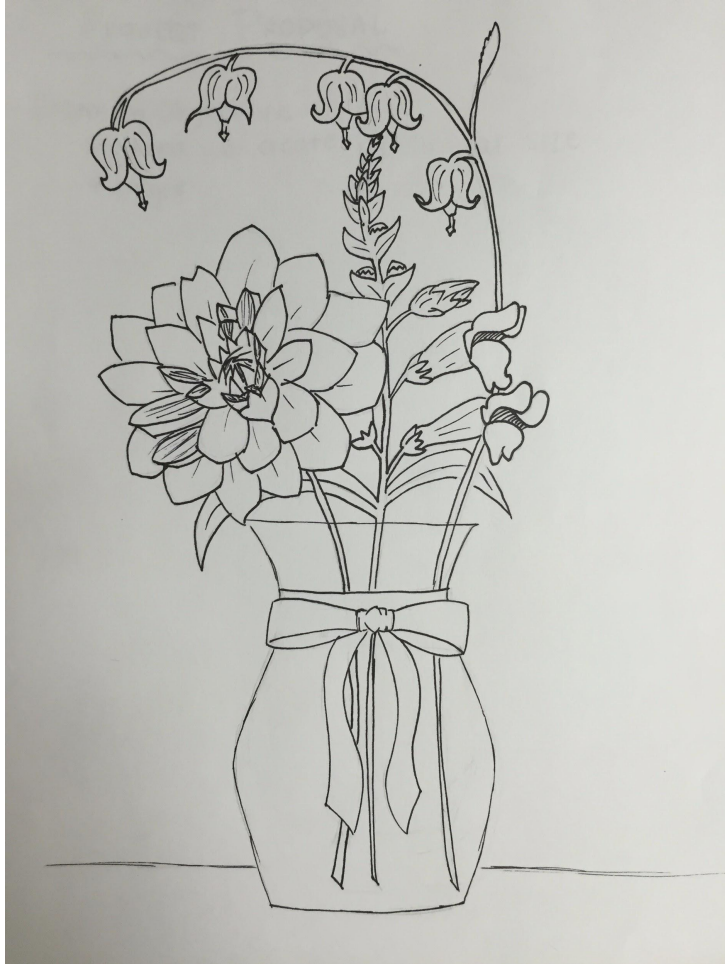
## **Beth Billups**

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learn from the  
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itself?**





# Example of My Artist Statement



I want the viewer to know that I have a love for making flower arrangements. To show this, I decided to describe my personality through different flowers, then combining them into an arrangement. I had to do research to find out the meanings of different flowers. For example, I wanted the viewer to know that I have a big heart and I care a lot about people. Turns out there's a flower called the bleeding heart, so I decided to add that to my arrangement!

I use the snapdragon flower because one of my favorite memories is my Grandma showing me around her garden; snapdragons was one of the flowers she showed me!