

Dear You: Shared Spheres in Creative Spaces

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Abstract

Dear You is a cross-cultural mail art project created for children aged 4-15 years old. The aim of Dear You is to connect children internationally by making and sharing art with new friends from abroad. Through this process of exchange, a child's worldview is widened and their skills for self expression are honed. The workshop, Dear You: shared spheres in creative spaces, will be held in the form of a combined seminar/art practice. Arlene Tucker, author and workshop facilitator, will give insight into Dear You's methodology in order for workshop participants to utilize and engage in transnational collaborations. This special Dear You InSea experience proposes process-based art practices and the application of semiotic concepts in educational and artistic projects. Betwixt the variety of presentations and hands-on activities, we will discuss how one can create their own functioning participatory design-based projects, which empower students and educators through open dialogue. There will be an opportunity for the development of and practical application of the proposed techniques. The workshop, as a whole, is intended to be informal, interactive, and immediately applicable.

Educators partaking in this brainstorming session can also pose hypothetical

problems, issues, and concerns based on the information given, as a means to problem solve together. The hope for this session is to collectively share from valuable previous experiences in order to create a new forms of dialogue and sharing through mail art exchange.

Keywords

Semiosphere, Art Education, Sharing, Mail Art, Cross-cultural, Process-based art, The art of asking questions.