

**FLASH FORWARD INCUBATOR PROGRAM**

**Research**

The purpose of this activity is to undertake a personal investigation into the theme “A Plastic World” with the goal of finding inspiration and clarifying your ideas for the work that you would like to complete.

The document in your folder entitled “Research Links” as well as the powerpoint have been created to help you begin. The questions below are to support you in extending and developing your thinking and ideas, and to give us some concrete information to begin facilitating a dialogue with you in the online mentorship component of the program.

**#1 - Journal:**

Write a journal entry on the theme It’s a Plastic World. Use the prompts in the written material and aim for at least 300 words.

**#2 - Research:**

After conducting your research, what is one of the artists that you connected with the most? How did they shed light on the theme at hand? What did you find surprising? Unexpected? New? Is there something that you would like to know more about? **Please respond below with a few sentences.**

**#3. Content:**

What are some ideas, messages, or concepts that you would like to communicate through your project? For example, do any of the following topics interest you? The environment, gender representations, self-expression, communication, power structures, economy, mass media, inequality, immigration, housing, gentrification, revitalization, identity.

**In a few sentences,** please tell us a little bit about the message and or content you see yourself exploring in your project and what it means to you.

**Process/Aesthetic Considerations/Materials**

Are you interested in colour, shape, or form as a focus for your work? Are you thinking about using the camera; its settings, and its ability to frame a perspective to explore the theme? Do you enjoy the physical process of artmaking; painting, collage, stitching or drawing to explore the theme? Would technology and/or photoshop be a more relevant process to express your desired content? There are many different ways to approach this project, and we are interested in learning your initial thoughts, ideas and interests. Below are a few guiding questions about defining the **artistic process** that you would like to undertake for your project.

**Please respond to ONE of the questions below with a few sentences. Please keep in mind that photography must be integrated into your work and process.**

1. Are you interested in exploring the theme through its aesthetic qualities? The use of the elements of art; line, colour, shape, form or repetition to evoke a particular feeling or response? Please describe your initial thoughts about the materials and/or tools you would like to use in your project and how they relate to your proposed content.
2. Are you interested in exploring the psychological or social impacts of the theme? What is the impact that “A Plastic World” can have in positioning or repositioning content? Does the theme bring a new perspective to social or psychological issues that you would like to explore? Please describe some of your initial thoughts and ideas about the materials and/or tools that you would like to use in your project, how you would like to use them, and how they relate to your proposed content.
3. Are you interested in working with physical materials, drawing, painting or collage? Please describe some of your initial thoughts and ideas about the materials and/or tools that you would like to use in your project, how you would like to use them, and how they relate to your proposed content. If you work with these processes, how will photography be integrated into your work? If you work needs to be a digital print, how will you make this happen? What meaning would the integration of physical objects into your work offer?
4. Are you interested in exploring the theme using photography alone? Please describe some of your initial thoughts and ideas about how you will work with the camera it’s settings and/or photographic processes in your project and how it relates to your proposed content.
5. Is there a different process that you would like to explore? Or are you looking to combine some of the above-listed approaches in your work? Please describe your initial thoughts and ideas about your project, the materials, tools, and or processes that you would like to use, how you would like to use them, and how they relate to your proposed content.