

One can believe the good ol' saying "art for art's sake". An example might be when we cut out random words from magazines and used that to create a poem. This was done after analyzing dadaism; an art form that is erratic without any sense of purpose from its creator (no deeper implication). However, most of the time people create art to make some form of statement. Whether it be to state one's belief in a social or political issue (which can be seen through the art from the Harlem and Chicano renaissance), or simply to express oneself. By that I mean, the artist isn't creating art just for the fun of it in an arbitrary way, but they are creating something whilst being meticulous to convey something that may be of importance to them. Once again, this may be by stating something that they believe in and would want others to consider. For example, I made a painting inspired by Palmer Hayden's *Among Them Is Young Girl Reading*. My painting was of a young boy in a stereotypical girl looking bedroom trying on a tiara in front of a vanity mirror. The reason being was because I know that some people might deem it as morally wrong (stating that he can't do that because he's a male and shouldn't wear/do "girly" things). However, the act itself doesn't hold any sense of malice. But people will see my painting as controversial due to social and gender norms. That's what I want, to create controversy in order to get people thinking. Now, that's not the only reason people would purposely create or do something. Others might just want to make something that is meaningful to them, and no one else but them (not really creating something for an audience). An example of this is the shelf that we created in art class. If you were to look at my shelf, you'll notice that it's covered with stuff and due to that you might even find it visually appealing. However, that wasn't my intention. Everything about my shelf was calculated by the things that I love and enjoy. Some people won't see the time consuming band/music related paintings on the underside of my shelf, and that is perfectly fine with me. I didn't create that shelf for others to admire or gain some deeper insight. The design was based on "selfish" reasons; thus, nothing about it was unmethodical (so it wouldn't fall under "art for art's sake"). Either way, it doesn't matter if you had a purpose for your art or not; someone will find one for it. I mean, in the end art is left up to the interpretation of others.