

The Dalí Museum's Student Surrealist Art Exhibit "Waking Dreams"

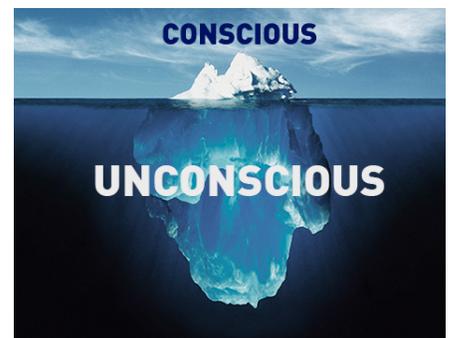
Hillsborough County
March 16-May 5, 2019

"Waking dreams are as important, as unpredictable & as powerful as those we have when we're asleep."

- Luis Buñuel, *My Last Sigh: The Autobiography of Luis Buñuel*, surrealist filmmaker

Initiated in 1985, this annual art exhibit presents work by middle and high school students whom we invite to explore ideas and visions similar to those explored by Salvador Dalí and the surrealists. This year, the theme is "Waking Dreams."

Sigmund Freud likened the mind to an iceberg. The conscious part of the mind, which contains the thoughts we are aware of, is like the tip of the iceberg. The bulk of the iceberg, beneath the water's surface, represents the unconscious mind. The unconscious mind contains the thoughts we cannot control and of which we are completely unaware. However, Freud theorized that the unconscious mind reveals itself in dreams.



The idea of the unconscious is the basis of Surrealism. The Surrealists believed that ignoring the unconscious mind was harmful to society. They wanted to release the suppressed thoughts and feelings of their unconscious. Influenced by Freud, the Surrealists looked to their dreams to uncover these ideas, and they used art and writing to express what they found.

The Surrealists found that waking dreams could be more vivid and more powerful than our usual sleeping dreams. Reality becomes distorted and hallucinatory. In waking dreams, you don't fully fall asleep but are somewhere between wakefulness and sleep. During this transition, the brain is more fluid, open to making connections between seemingly unrelated ideas, and consequently, can stimulate creativity.

We invite your students to imagine what might be hidden in their unconscious minds. Think about recurring dreams, dreams from childhood, or the imaginings while dozing off. Use surrealist techniques like transformation, dislocation and symbolism to translate these visions.

Did you know?

It was a waking dream that sparked the idea of Surrealism. **André Breton**, the founder, experienced a waking dream in which he thought, "There is a man cut in two by the window." When he snapped back to a conscious state, he realized that this strange idea had bubbled up from the hidden depths of his mind. The unconscious introduced him to a new way of thinking!

Try this: Dalí's "Slumber with a Key"

"The most characteristic slumber, the one most appropriate to the exercise of the art of painting...is the slumber which I call 'the slumber with a key,' ... you must resolve the problem of 'sleeping without sleeping,' which is the essence of the dialectics of the dream, since it is a repose which walks in equilibrium on the taut and invisible wire which separates sleeping from waking."

-Salvador Dalí, *50 Secrets of Magic Craftsmanship*



Horst P. Horst. Salvador Dalí, 1943

In the quote above, Dalí talks about using a method called "Slumber with a Key" that allows him to induce a waking dream, or as Dalí puts it, "sleep without sleeping." You may know it as a "power nap." Dalí proposed that this exercise renewed creative energy.

Here's how to do it:

You'll need a chair, a plate, and a heavy key

1. Place the plate next to the chair
2. Hold the key between your thumb and pointer finger
3. Relax your arm to your side, dangling above the plate
4. Sit back, close your eyes and let yourself drift for a nap
5. As you drift, you'll drop the key onto the plate, and the noise will jolt you awake
6. Jot down anything that pops into mind or return to the project you're working on



Salvador Dalí, Illustration from *50 Secrets of Magic Craftsmanship*, 1948

****NEW THIS YEAR****

Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, we ask that students submitting work for the Student Surrealist Art Exhibit write an original artist statement. The Dalí Museum's goal for this addition is to encourage students to reflect upon their creative processes and to articulate their artistic decisions.

We ask students to consider the questions below as they reflect upon their artwork. Students should limit their responses to 50-75 words.

- What inspired you?
- How did the exhibit's theme influence you?
- How do you connect to this artwork? What makes this work important to you?
- What was your method for creating the work?
- What did you learn from making the work?
- What makes your work surreal? Which surrealist techniques did you use?
- What do you want the viewer to know?

Details:

- Teachers should attach artist statements to back of artwork with submission form
- Artist statements may be considered in the initial judging and the final awards judging but scoring remains based on the merit of the artwork in accordance to the scoring rubric
 - Artist statements may bolster submissions but will never be detrimental to scoring
- *Please advise students that artist statements will appear on display to the public with their artwork if selected for the exhibit – please do not include private information*

****NEW THIS YEAR cont.****

The Dalí Museum produced two videos to support students and teachers prepare for the Student Surrealist Art Exhibit.

"Surrealism: The Big Ideas" is an 11 minute introduction to Surrealism. The video goes through the history of Surrealism and its key components. Consider it Surrealism 101.

The second video, "How to Make Surrealist Art," is meant to inspire not only your students, but also you, as the teacher. The video introduces surrealist techniques, like dislocation, transformation and symbolism and presents prompts to try in the classroom.

Video:	Link to video	Closed Caption link
"Surrealism: The Big Ideas"	https://vimeo.com/thedali/bigideas	https://vimeo.com/thedali/bigideas-cc
"How to Make Surrealist Art"	https://vimeo.com/thedali/howto	https://vimeo.com/howto-cc
Password for all 4 videos	DaliED!	

Hillsborough County Exhibit Dates

Feb 21	Submissions due to Hillsborough County Schools Art Office 901 East Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa (Art Supervisor, Erin Saladino)
Feb 27	Judging by The Dalí Museum
Mar 16	Exhibit open
April 5	Awards judging completed
April 23	Reception
May 5	Last day of exhibit
May	Artworks returned via Hillsborough County Schools Art Office

Entry Requirements

- Up to **6** entries per teacher & one work per student
 - If two teachers submit for the same student, only one will be chosen for consideration
- Finished work must be **8"x10"** to fit our frames and cannot be thicker than $\frac{1}{2}$ "
 - **If work does not fit into frame, the work will be disqualified**
- **We cannot accept 3D objects nor clay reliefs (due to fragility)**
- **Artwork in the exhibit must be original work and cannot be digital reproductions**
- **Any work found to be plagiarized will be disqualified**
 - *Please remind your students to use original ideas and imagery*
- The Dalí Museum wishes to show varied work and represent as many schools as possible, please avoid submitting similar work by different students

Exhibit Details

- Exhibit website: <http://thedali.org/ssae>
- Open to middle and high school students
- About 100 works selected for exhibit
- The Dalí Museum frames accepted work for exhibit
- Exhibit held in The Dalí Museum Raymond James Community Room
 - Please call before visiting a student exhibit as the Community Room occasionally closes for private events
- Six middle school works will be given awards and twelve high school works will be given awards (Honorable Mention, Merit, Excellence)

Suggested Surreal Strategies and Techniques to Consider:

Juxtaposition	Metamorphosis	Collage
Displacement	Dreamlike settings	Levitation
Double images and illusions	Dislocation	Transparency
Transformation	Symbolism	Scale

Guidelines for judges

- **Theme:** Artwork that addresses appropriately the exhibition themes of Surrealism
- **Originality:** Artwork that exhibits an original approach to process, concept and subject matter
- **Expression:** Artwork that communicates an aesthetic vision or style and visual expression of critical thinking
- **Skill/Technique:** Artwork that exhibits technical competency required to successfully create a work of art in a particular medium

Scoring Rubric

Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Shows strong evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.○ Shows strong use of innovation and inventiveness.○ Communicates a strong personal and/or original message○ Shows strong application of the design principles.○ Shows excellent technical use of media to express ideas.
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Shows good evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.○ Shows good use of innovation and inventiveness.○ Communicates a good personal and/or original message.○ Shows good application of the design principles.○ Shows good technical use of media to express ideas.
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Shows little evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.○ Shows little use of innovation and inventiveness.○ Communicates limited personal vision or message○ Shows limited and/or inconsistent application of the design principles.○ Shows Inconsistent use of media and may appear unfinished.○ Shows technical accomplishment but relies heavily on copyrighted photographic resources.
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Shows no evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.○ Shows trite or simplistic approaches.○ Communicates no personal and or original message.○ Shows no understanding of the design principles.○ Shows very little or no technical competence or control of media.○ Works are direct copies of copyrighted photographic resources.

The Dalí Museum Education Department thanks you for your participation.

Peter Tush, Curator of Education

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Denisse De Leon, School Education Manager, ddeleon@thedali.org

ACCEPTED ENTRY FORM: STUDENT SURREALIST ART EXHIBIT

- Fill out the form completely and attach to the back of each accepted artwork
- Check spelling of student's name and title of work
- Indicate the **orientation** of the work

Student Name First & Last	
Title of Work	
Media Be specific	
Grade	
School	
City	
Teacher Name First & Last	
Teacher Email	