



Writing Your Artist Statement

Your Artist Statement is a short introduction to your artwork. It describes the inspiration behind your work, what drives your interest, and your simply stated philosophy of art. It may also introduce your subject, your media and your techniques. Keep it simple and short. Overly wordy or flowery language can be a turn-off. Also do not use your statement for biographical information, the statement is about your art. If you work in several different media you will need a statement for each.

Write concise sentences.

Include:

- introductory sentence which encapsulates your work and sparks interest.
- the inspiration, motivation, influences in your work
- brief description of your process, especially if your technique is unusual
- describe the qualities that make your work different & determine your style

Avoid:

- too many adjectives, especially flowery or pretentious language
- over use of I, me, my
- biographical information (that is a separate document)

After you have written out your statement note the word count. You may be asked for a 25, 50 or 250 word statement. Now begin to condense in stages, keeping the most important information intact, until you have the simplest (and often most elegant) 25 word statement. Save each version separately.

Look for Other Resources:

There are so many examples of great Artist Statements on the web. Alyson Stanfield's blog has several posts on the subject of artist statements. (this is a good one: <http://www.artbizblog.com/2012/05/statement-fixes.html>)