

Worksheet #3: *Curating as a Democratic Practice*

Thinking about curating:

"The National Museum of African American History and Culture is one of the places where we help people grapple with the legacy of race that started with enslavement of black people in this country."

– Joanne Hyppolite, Ph.D.

Curating involves selecting and arranging objects; for example, choosing what to display and how to display it in a gallery or museum, or arranging one of your collections on a bookshelf. It also involves providing context or descriptions for what is displayed. Think about the artwork you are planning. Can you imagine it in a Smithsonian Museum? What might viewers think of your idea 50 years from now?

- Working with your classmates, decide on a title for your exhibit.
- Decide where you would like the exhibit to be: A hallway? The cafeteria? Online?
- Create a form for each work: An index card could work well. Decide on a format, for each artist in the class to use as to fill out their information. You might want to include:
 1. Name of artist
 2. Title of work
 3. Description of materials (for example, Ink and paper; cotton)
 4. Size of work
 5. Date of creation (This is usually just the year.)
 6. Anything else? You could also add an artist's statement.