

PROJECT BRIEF

"Illustrated Interview"

Some Project Goals:

- Get comfortable drawing from life
- Let loose and embrace mistakes as you learn to draw while talking with someone
- Practice writing questions that can inform your work and observe how different reflections can inspire different stories and details that make interesting imagery

Think of someone you know who you'd like to learn more about and then draw them while you chat!

One of the most magical things about art and creativity is the way they connect people to moments, places, and most importantly, to each other. Find someone to interview and organize a time to chat with them, it can be in person, on a video call, or even a phone call, the important thing is to talk live and draw while you chat. You may use this as an opportunity to draw a live portrait of the person you're chatting with or you may feel more inclined to draw things that come up in your conversation, either way, think about the tone of the conversation and how it can inform your work.



Some tips and tricks...

1. Curate a good list of questions beforehand. Think about what kinds of questions will invite your subject to reflect and share interesting details.
2. Begin with intention about what kinds of drawings you'll make (portrait, spot illustrations of objects or scenes, etc.) but be prepared to stray from your plans as the conversation unfolds.

*Success Path Stage Application

1 Leave lots of room for mistakes and let your drawings respond to what you hear from your subject as they share about their life.

2 Focus on drawing your subject from life. Observe their position and what kinds of shapes they make while talking to you.

3 As you draw, try using different shapes than you normally do. What happens when you draw your subject using only flat shapes? Etc.

4 Try posing your figure and setting up lights in a specific way to practice observing and making shadow shapes.

5 After the interview, design a poster or zine that combines your drawing(s) with some of the questions and answers from the interview.

EXAMPLES

There are many different ways you can approach your illustrated interview. Will you focus on making a single portrait of your subject or incorporate scenes and objects? Maybe you want to write down your favorite quotes along the way? Here are a few different approaches...

i love the way this one depicts multiple moments from the interview and gives a grander sense of what the interview was about/ who the person interviewed is.

BOOTS ON THE BURNING GROUND

RECORD-BREAKING temperatures and **EXTREME** drought have led to an increase in wildland fires in the Western United States. We spoke to **MARY LEE**, 37, a wildland firefighter based in Jackson, Wyo., about what it's like to be on "the front lines."

"I'M A HELITACK SQUAD LEADER. My location really depends on the mission. Sometimes I'll be on the forest in different locations based on where fire might be. Other times we might be in a different state, helping with a fire incident there."

"When the fire call comes in from our dispatch, the expectation is that our crew is ready to fly within 10 minutes. We get the helicopter loaded and start flying toward the smoke. Typically, we'll see the smoke from far away."



"We're in constant communication with dispatch and letting them know moment by moment what we're seeing. From there we get the OK from fire managers to go ahead and we'll land and start fighting fires—whether that's putting people on the ground to start digging line and running chainsaws or letting the helicopter up for water-bucket drops."

"THE PROCESS OF TRULY PUTTING A FIRE OUT—OR RATHER, DECLARING A FIRE DEAD—ISN'T AS GLAMOROUS AS YOU'D THINK. The fire seems out, but we have to really make sure that it's out. And that consists of us literally on the ground with our hands touching everything that burned and making sure it's cold. Once we've done that we can really say, 'it's out and we can walk away.'"



"MOST PEOPLE DON'T HEAR ABOUT THE HUNDREDS OF SMALL FIRES THAT ALL THE DIFFERENT CREWS OUT THERE ARE WORKING ON EVERY DAY."

"I've been working for a combination of the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service for the last 14 years. I feel like our fire season has been longer and I've been on more fires little by little every year."

"A couple weeks ago, it was pretty dry with a lot of wind, and we were having fires pop up almost every single day. We just knew with the environmental conditions out there something was going to happen."



"I never heard about wildland fires when I was little because I grew up in Brooklyn. I didn't get exposed to them until I moved out West after college. My first job I worked in Yosemite National Parks and they asked, 'Who wants to get trained in wildland firefighting?' I raised my hand."



"I WOULDN'T SAY I FEEL LIKE A HERO, I JUST FEEL LIKE I DO A REALLY COOL JOB THAT I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR."

Julia Rothman

maybe you are fascinated by elements of what your subject is wearing or doing. try dissecting that into a sort of labeled diagram.



Nina Cosford



Yifan Luo

this artist limited herself to just a few colors and focused on linework while she drew her subject.