Louise Lincoln: A Scrapbook of Art & Spirit
Lesson Plans

1st – 3rd Grades: Design a theater booklet

Lesson overview:

This project will help students connect to the past, involve them with their school, and utilize their creative and artistic skills. Theater booklets and materials from the Louise Lincoln scrapbook are shown and discussed. The students will then create their own theater playbill cover for their school’s play.

Objectives:

- Creativity
- Increased school participation
- To investigate historical documents

Time:

One class period plus any assigned home time

Materials:

- Computer and projector
- Louise's scrapbook
- Paper and coloring materials (can be done at home)

Lesson Procedure:

- Show the class Louise's scrapbook. Pay particular attention to the playbills, ticket stubs, and the theater booklets. Ask if students have even been to a play or a show before.
- Ask the students if they know what the school play is that year and if any of the students are involved with it.
- Have the students design and draw a theater book cover for the school play.
- Once they are all finished, hang them on a display board in the hallway near the auditorium or outside of the classroom.
4th-5th Grades: School Schedule

Lesson Overview:

This project will help students connect the past with the present and have them understand the importance of schedules and creating objects to remember in the future.

Objectives:

- Introduce the concept of a historical artifact
- Understand time and develop planning/organizational skills

Materials needed:

- Computer and projector
- Louise’s scrapbook
- Paper
- Writing materials

Time:

One class period

Lesson Procedure:

- Ask students if their parents or guardians have calendars at home. Tell them that every year, we get new schedules at home and for school. Ask them if they know their own schedule. Ask if they have a chart somewhere that shows them their schedule.
- Show the class Louise’s scrapbook. Explain that she created it 75 years ago.
- Explain to the class that everyone has a schedule, even people who lived hundreds of years ago.
- Show them Louise’s schedules - how they changed every year with different classes. Explain that their schedules and classes change every year, too.
- Ask students if their parents or guardians save their report cards and special papers. Explain that Louise saved these things too because they were important to her. That by putting it into a scrapbook, she could remember what she did 75 years later.
• Have students write up and decorate their own school schedules. Note: Pass out prepared photocopies of an empty schedule framework so students can fill in the blanks.

6th – 9th Grades: Investigative Journalism

Lesson Overview:

Students will write newspaper articles about things or events that are important to their own lives that they would be willing to put in a scrapbook of their own.

Objectives:

• Engage students in community
• Exercise journalistic skills

Materials Needed:

• Computer
• Louise's scrapbook

Time:

One class and whatever at-home time needed

Lesson Procedure:

• Introduce students to Louise's scrapbook.
• Pay particular attention to the various newspaper articles documenting different aspects of Louise's life and interests.
• Have students choose an event in their life, whether related to school or sports teams, events in the community, etc.; An event or thing that is important to their lives that they would put in a scrapbook of their own lives.
• Once articles are written, students will share the events and things they chose to write about and compile them into a single class newspaper.
10th-12th Grades: Narrative

Lesson Overview:

This project aims to have the students become more intimately acquainted with the scrapbook as a specific person's record of memory and experience. Students will be asked to put themselves in a first-person perspective with the materials and create several journal entries based on the scrapbook.

Objectives:

- Engross students in a first-person perspective and relationship with the past
- Engage with historical materials
- Exercise creative writing skills

Materials:

- Computers/computer lab
- Louise's scrapbook

Time:

One class period plus any at home research and work

Lesson Procedure:

- Show students the Louise Lincoln scrapbook, have them interact and explore the resources and items in detail.
- Have them investigate in particular how these items came together out of Louise's experiences. Discuss how each item records moments and events in her life that she chose to preserve. Notice how little of herself Louise actually incorporates. Her scrapbook is more of a record than a voice, a repository of records about places she went and things she did as opposed to a curated collection.
- Assign students to write five pages comprising at least three separate journal entries from the perspective of Louise. Have them narrate through her eyes three journal entries based on the materials in the scrapbook.
- Write a three page story using the scrapbook as a primary resource, pretending you're Louise. Write a few journal entries about things you do/have done.