

National Theatre, National Politics Creative Challenge: Current Events Storyboard

<https://thenationaldcpolitics.org>



Activity Overview

Grade Level: High School (9th – 12th)
Subjects: ELA/Literacy, Creative Writing
Estimated Time: 45 - 60 min

Materials Needed: Pen or pencil, paper, materials available to use as props or costumes
Activity Format: Individual or group

Summary: This assignment is designed for students to produce an original storyboard based on current events. The storyboard can be used to explore how students' stories connect with and inspire others.

Activity Guide

- Direct students to consider their perspectives on the political state of the world and its implications on their lives. What are some of the challenges and areas of strength or growth that students have observed? Guide students to select one hot-topic, then reflect to think of ways they can advocate for change or promote active solutions.
- Students will come up with a pitch for a new TV show, short film, cartoon, or storybook based on the current events of the time. To assist with the pitch, students will construct a storyboard that outlines one scene from the story they create. A storyboard is a sheet of paper or poster board that has short descriptions and visual representations of moments in a story. Have students consider why they selected a particular current event. What makes it political? What about this particular issue makes it interesting, difficult, or exciting?
- Next, students will create a short (1-3min) performance dramatizing a moment from their story board. Encourage students to be creative and use existing classroom resources as props or costumes. Instruct them to be mindful of who the intended audience is as they are constructing their story.
- Finally, students will present their story board and pitch and perform their short scene for the class.