**Writing an Artistic Statement**

*How do I start?*

Take five minutes and think about why you do what you do when making compositions in art – especially a specific piece.

* How do you explain your work? Linked to research you did? Art you viewed in the past, seen in books, on internet?
* How did you feel when working on this composition? Did you experiment with a technique?
* What are your favourite things about your work?
* What is your style?
* What patterns emerge in your work?
* Is there a pattern in the way you select you subject? In the way you use color, texture or light?
* What techniques did you use? Painting, sketching…?

Jot down short phrases that capture your thoughts. Don’t worry about making sense or connections yet.

*Now think a bit deeper…*

Write five sentences that tell the truth about your connection to your work. If you are stuck, start by filling in the blanks below.

* When I work with\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I am reminded that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I began this piece by\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I knew this piece is done when\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* When my work is going well, I am filled with a sense of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* When people see my work, I’d like them to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*Putting it all together: Ways to structure your paragraphs; 150 words max, better if less than 100 words.*

* Begin with a simple statement of why you did the work you did. Support that statement, telling the reader more about your goals and aspirations.
* Tell the reader how you make decisions in the course of your work. How and why do you select materials, techniques, themes? Keep it simple and tell the truth.
* Tell the reader how, or if, your current work grew out of your prior work or life experiences. What are you exploring, attempting, challenging by doing this work.