

Final project: Class magazine

The end project of the AAP: Music class is a magazine written by you. Magazines contain a variety of features, perspectives, and ideas centered around a common theme. There are thousands of magazines in the world about sports, fashion, gardening, pets, technology, opera, chamber music, violin... anything! The common theme for this magazine is your experience in this class.

The creation of a magazine requires editors, writers, and designers.

- 1) Editor: The editor guides the theme and encourages writers to write articles that illustrate and illuminate the theme, asks writers provocative questions to keep their writing fresh and insightful, and refines drafts that have been submitted. I am the editor in this project, and in addition to creating your writing prompts, I will meet with each of you individually at least 3 times in January to edit, revise, and refine your pieces for this project.
- 2) Writer: The writer writes the articles in a magazine. Each writer has a different perspective, style, and content. This magazine has four writers: you!
- 3) Designer: The designer produces content that helps the reader get a fuller sense of the written content and that is aesthetically pleasing. Together, we will decide on the layout of the magazine (order of articles, table of contents, and arrangement of each page) and style/presentation (fonts, colors, photos, etc.).

We will publish this magazine in three formats:

- 1) Print: Hard copies of the magazine.
- 2) Digital: The magazine will be available as a PDF that you can easily share and take with you wherever you go.
- 3) Event posters: Each of you will have an article displayed as a feature poster (approximately 2 feet by 3 feet in size) at the final AAP events in the last week of January. We may also decide to do a group poster of a collaborative article.

What's in this magazine? We've spent this semester doing short observational writings, compare/contrast writings, musical analysis, reflective writings, travel essays, concert essays, and an interview project—we've been brainstorming content for the magazine all along!

Pieces written by you – final drafts are due by January 22 via email

For this magazine, each of you will contribute at least 6 pieces of content (articles). There are three pieces that are specifically required and three that are open to your choice. All articles/pieces can include any kind of art that you want, as well (photos, drawings, musical excerpts/scores), and every piece needs a captivating title:

- 1) Revision of an in-class or homework short writing. Take a writing prompt we've already done and revisit it: expand it, add new ideas, connect your ideas to another experience you've had.
 - Vaudeville/Tin Pan Alley challenges, experiences, and skills
 - Analysis, comparison, and insight into America through pop music
 - Observation, comparison, and insight into Purchase class visits (percussion, brass, composition)
 - Observation, comparison, and insight into class guests (Hugh Ash, Isabel Gleicher, Laura Kaminsky, Katty Mayorga)
 - Talent vs. hard work vs. luck
- 2) One travel essay – Choose one of your 3 travel essays (Met Opera, BKCM/Bargemusic, Metropolitan Museum) to include in the magazine. Revise your first version for grammar but also, and more importantly (!), make it an even more vivid piece of writing and connect your travel experience to other ideas or experiences you've had.
- 3) Interview essay – Revise your email interview project as needed based on the feedback you receive.
- 4) 3 additional pieces – Pieces #4-6 are your choice. Here are some suggestions:
 - Another in-class/homework prompt revision (like magazine piece #1)
 - A concert essay from a concert you attended at Purchase
 - A poem or short story
 - A description of a piece of music you imagine/create
 - A graphic score
 - Any new piece of writing you feel inspired to create

Pieces written together in class, January 22-24

There will also be at least two pieces of content written by the group that help tie all the articles together by reinforcing the theme of the magazine. Together in class, we'll discuss, draft, and revise these pieces as well as anything else you want to include in the magazine:

- 1) "Dear readers" – a letter welcoming anyone who is reading the magazine and giving them a sense of what to expect in the magazine.
- 2) One piece of reflective content that you together imagine, create, and revise. This could be a presentation of your evolving ideas about what America is or what America sounds like from the first day of class through the semester, or it could be anything else you think of that shows what you've learned together.

This magazine also needs a title, cover, table of contents... And we'll do these together in class this week, too.