When writing an Artist Statement, be sure to focus on...

3 Key Points:
- **Why** you make your artwork
- **How** you make your artwork
- **What** your artwork means to you

Your Artist Statement can include:
- Where you find inspiration for your art
- Key ideas and themes you’re exploring
- Your personal connection to the work you're creating
- Information about your creative process (techniques, materials)
- The impact you hope to have on your audience

You should try to keep your artist statement to 1-3 paragraphs.

Helpful sentence starters:
- “My inspiration comes from...”
- “I began creating art because...”
- "When I create art, my goal is to...”
- "I have learned...”

Artist statements are either written in first person or third person. On the next page you will find examples of both.
Erin Friedman's Artist Statement

*Erin Friedman is a contemporary abstract artist based outside of Washington, DC. Visit www.erinfriedmanart.com to learn more.*

Erin’s goal is to make people feel deeply when they see her work. Her inspiration comes from moments and reactions to everyday life experiences. Emotions have a great impact on her work and influence her paintings in a variety of ways. She believes in embracing these feelings and allowing them to become a part of her creative process. As her style continues to evolve, her process remains as intimate as ever. She brings her personality as a sensitive and empathetic truth seeker to every blank canvas. Each piece is deeply personal. Erin’s work is free from formal structure and open to interpretation, a style that she hopes causes viewers to think about what the piece means to them.

Carlos Delgado's Artist Statement

*Carlos Delgado is a Colombian artist living between Colombia and Canada. Visit www.artcarlosdelgado.com to learn more.*

I am fascinated by the way human beings express themselves and relate to one another within our modern systems. The environment that I am, including all of the cultural and social aspects, are the influences and the subjects of my work. Within these systems I try to find the human elements, those subtle expressions of our emotions, experiences and stories

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which make us unique and yet at the same time connect us to each other. Through my abstract portrait work, I focus on the subtle way these human experiences are expressed, be it in our facial gestures, in the way we occupy and share space with each other or the way we present ourselves to the world. My drawings and sketches are my instantaneous translations of the wide array of emotions around me. Be it the way someone looks in a particular direction, or the way they avoid eye contact in a public space. All of these are masks that we wear in public, masks which even though they may try, do not hide the complexity of our emotional human self. The sketches grab a particular emotion and look past the chaos of the mask and every day realities to find the emotional stories of the people around me. They are created fast and organically as to not loose any of the subtle self-expression shared through a look, a posture, a gesture, a glance.

Translating these moments, I create abstract paintings, oftentimes playing with the techniques of mark making with a palette knife and letting the paint organically form and interweave the different emotions we all have. The faces in the paintings are not one particular person, rather they are the emotional translation of the world around me, of many people in one, including myself. They are the reflection of the world we live in and at the same time relate to. The colour palettes are formed organically through a process of layering and reflect many states in any given moment. For example, a dark piece can at the same time seem sad and nostalgic as it can be hopeful and strong.

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Human emotion and the experience of that emotion is never manifested in one simple way, as such, the paintings and the drawings invite the viewer to find their own story within it, allowing for a sense of relatedness. In a world where there is much disconnection from each other, where we co-exist together in the same spaces and yet are not connected, my work hopes to connect us to those subtle experiences which make us all human.

**Ekaterina Popova's Artist Statement**

*Ekaterina Popova is an artist, entrepreneur, and founder of Create! Magazine living near Philadelphia, PA. Visit www.katerinapopova.com to learn more.*

For the past few years, I have been exploring interior spaces in my work. The interest started as a way for me to reflect on my upbringing in Russia, but eventually progressed to exploring the overall idea of “home” and what it means to me now. The work has slowly evolved from being reflective and sentimental to being mindful and present in my current environment. I repeatedly paint my own bedroom, visit other people’s houses, and use reference photos submitted to me by others online. My paintings include messy rooms, intimate items, and objects that refer to human presence without including the figure. I pick up on the subtle tones, lighting, and mood of each location in order to capture the emotion I associate with the space and then exaggerate the color to create a dream-like image.