

**Newark Community Art Club with Elaine Winter  
Autumn Term 2020 Session 7:**

## **Design a public sculpture**

**Materials needed:**

Pencil, rubber, sharpener

White paper to draw on (any size you like to work on and whatever you have at hand)

**Introduction:** This week's activity is about imagining you are a sculptor who has been commissioned to make a new piece for where you live which has a focus on Remembrance and peace. You may have a monument or a sculpture near you as a reference point to help you think about what you might design but you can do something completely original and different to anything you have seen before.

**Activity 1:** To start the process of designing a piece of public art you need to get yourself into the mindset of someone who is commissioned. Here is a list of questions you need to answer as part of the design process, which will get you started.

Q Firstly and most importantly, what are you trying to commemorate? What message are you trying to communicate? How will you communicate that with clarity?

Q Where are you going to put this new piece of public art? And why in that place? What is the significance of the site?

Q What materials is it going to be made of? Will it be weatherproof?

Q What processes will be involved making the art? Will it be carved, cast? Or something else?

Q Where will it be made? Think about the scale of the piece and what kind of building it will need to be made in as a result?

Q How will the art be transported (with care) from the place it is made to the site of it's final position?

Q What do you need to do to make it safe for the public to interact with?

**Activity 2:** Now focus on the design of the piece of art, this is what you need to spend the most time on as, unlike many other forms of art, it is going to be completely free to view at all times by anyone who passes it. Public art can get it very right (e.g. Antony Gormley's Angel of the North is widely loved) but it can also cause controversy and be a subject for debate and sometimes protest. Do several drawings of your potential designs and then select the one you feel is the strongest whilst keeping in mind how it will be viewed and judged by everyone who passes it.

**Activity 3:** Now you have selected the strongest design, do drawings of what it will look like from several angles and annotate the drawings with reference to all the questions listed under Activity 1. Imagine you will need to present these drawings to the client who is commissioning this piece of art. The client will need to be convinced that you have not only designed a fantastic monument or sculpture but that you have also thought through all the logistics. In the real world you would also need to cost this but we will leave that out of the process for now!