

## **Plagiarism vs. Original artwork (using personal photos)**

Did you know? ..... that using another person's artwork or photo for your own art is illegal? This is called Plagiarism. It is not considered an "Original" work by you.

When I taught high school art students, I had to be very clear about not using any online images. I would tell them that they could go to jail (!!) To illustrate the seriousness of "stealing" another's image for their work. These students were preparing their Art Portfolio for entrance into Art Colleges where if the College had any suspicion of copying on work entered, they would dismiss the Portfolio, not accept them and not respond to the student as to the reason! This was in 2004. Online Facebook with images was an easy place to take images posted - then considered "Imminent Domain" (meaning free for anyone to take). Students would upload their art all the time to show their friends ... I had a neighbor adult who worked for a Design Company, and his job was to search online images for anything that could be used for their Ads! He said he often took "artwork" from students who posted their images online!

Today — it is very important not to photo other artists work at Craft Shows, take images from Art Events that you would like to use ...it is not fair to the original artist who created the idea for their art. You must ASK PERMISSION before using ANYONES artwork image for your own. Some artists at Mt. Dora have signs stating "NO PHOTOS" because their work ideas have been stolen. Many images online have "watermarks" to prevent the use by another person — like Shutterfly images or Etsy.

CPPG stands firm on teaching art students to use their own original Photos.

If you take a photo of a person without their permission, you are violating their privacy.

(Indigenous people, Island people, young children) In Elementary school in the 90s,

I could not use faces of the children in class photos for the newspaper- it was illegal.

It is also NOT TRUE - "if I change 1 thing in the photo, then it is my own". If I use a Cartoon icon but change a leg direction, and then sell my work - I could be sued.

As an artist, sometimes I will need to Reference my personal photos with online images to check on the perspective or lighting, if my photo was not able to capture that info.

But I visually look and make notes to my personal photo....I do not copy the image.

As an artist, I try to take multiple photos of my subject for my artwork. I try to take photos from different perspectives or angles, different lightings to show the values.

If I am working on an Animal and my photo is very dark so I cannot see the back legs, then I will use books that show different body positions to I can understand the correct drawing of shape and values of color for that area. Research is often needed by the artist before beginning the work, make sketches, or visually study real subjects that will help to convey your meaning in your work. Check color, values, shape, perspective.

There is a lot to prepare before beginning your artwork. Choose an idea. Take photos. If you need permission to use an image - include that in writing on back of your artwork

There are RULES in making quality ART and all artists follow these to create their idea.