



**Photography and Collage**  
**Artist: Barry Shapiro**



**Barry Shapiro**

**Grade Level:**  
K-Adult

**About the Artist:**

Barry Shapiro has been actively involved with photography for nearly 40 years. He studied at Pratt Institute in New York under Phillip Perkiss and Arthur Freed where he earned his BFA in Photography & Illustration. He also studied with William Giles in an Otis/Parsons Los Angeles master class. His exhibitions include the Worcester Museum of Art in Worcester, Massachusetts and the International Photo-Optical Show. In June 2008, his work was shown as part of a juried show at the Newspace Gallery in Portland. During the summer of 2008, he also exhibited his work—both traditional photographic images and his more recent exploration of digitally composed photo-montages—at SAA’s Project Space. He is an active artist/member at the Lunaria Gallery in Silverton and has shown in the Borland Gallery as part of the Silverton Art Association. Before moving to Silverton in 2007, Barry taught photography during and after school enrichment programs for grades 1-6 in the Valencia California school system. He was also active as a community organizer in the Atwater Village/Glassell Park area of Los Angeles and was instrumental in bringing the nationally recognized Inside/Out Community Arts Program to the Washington Irving Middle School.

**Objectives:**

Utilizing both his background as a community volunteer/activist and fine art photographer, Barry seeks to expose children (and young adults) to the self-expressive side of photography to use it as an aid in seeing and increasing awareness of both the photographer and the world around him/her. In order to try to achieve this objective, an understanding of the distinction between the various strata of photography must be understood in the differences, say, between a snapshot, a document, a photograph and an equivalent.

**Activities:**

Activities include a brief history of the medium and the artists who have creatively contributed to the development of photography as a serious art form. Exercises in seeing and point-of-view will be approached with such simple demonstration tools as black mat board/foam-core with a hole (in the configuration of a 35mm film frame) in the middle. Looking through the cut-out with one eye simulates the act of looking through a camera and edits out the immediate, allowing students to focus on what is in the frame. This teaches looking through one eye, as the camera does as well as the concept of cropping in camera. Holding the board close to the face simulates a wide-angle, while at arm's length simulates zooming to telephoto length. This exercise needs to be explained and practiced before any actual photography takes place. Ideally, the students will be using digital cameras—either their own or from the school board/individual school. Digital cameras will make the process less expensive in that the flash cards that hold image files can be shown via digital projector, saving the cost of printing, etc. Assignments will be handed out and will range from taking photographs of others (portraits) to the students creating their own equivalents -things that look like something else. The final step in the activities will be a critique period with participation of the students encouraged.

**Workshop Size Limits:**

- 14-20 students

**Special Equipment:**

- Digital cameras
- Black mat board
- Foam core
- Digital Projector

**Space Needed:**

- Classroom with an outdoor space to take photographs (park, school play area, etc...)

**Connections to the Curriculum:**

- Art history, art, history, photography and language arts