

Revised Biography Project 2020: Person Pouch Performance

A **Person Pouch Performance** is a 5-10 minute presentation about a historical figure. This presentation is typically made to a small group who has gathered to hear about a historical figure and why this person is worth remembering. Usually the person performing takes on the persona of the historical figure, pretending to be that person. The presenter shows artifacts or objects which relate to the person during the presentation. Our 2020 Bowman Hills Person Pouch Performance will be a variation on this.

1. You will prepare a presentation on the person you researched. This presentation will be made in the informal setting of your home or in our classroom if we return to it. If done at home, a video must be made of the performance.
2. You will decorate a table top with artifacts and objects that relate to your research topic or place them in a pouch, which you set in a location easily accessible as you speak. As you speak, you will take the objects or artifacts out or lift them up individually to show your audience. One of the objects will include an object or artifact which you crafted.
3. You have two options as the presenter:
 1. A first-person presentation in which you assume the identity of the historical figure you researched, doing your best to dress and look like the person. During the presentation you explain to your audience what you did that makes you worth remembering.
 2. A third person presentation in which you dress up as a guest lecturer expert. During the presentation you explain what the individual you researched did that makes them worth remembering.

Preparing:

1. Choose an American figure who made a positive impact on history.
2. Read a biography or autobiography of the person. Read several articles on this person as well (these will likely be provided by your teacher). Annotate these articles and become an expert on your historical figure.
3. Write a composition about your person arguing why this person should be considered worthy of being an American hero or worthy to be remembered in American history. This should contain a thesis statement and at least 3 supporting ideas with specific details. This composition will be done in language class and will follow MLA format with citations.
4. Craft your verbal presentation from your written composition.
5. Create one original artifact relating to your person. This must be handcrafted by you and show time and effort. A rubric is provided.
6. Find other objects or artifacts which relate to the supports you have for why your person is worth remembering. *For example, a stovepipe hat might be made of construction paper if you were portraying Abraham Lincoln. This might be the object that prompts you to talk about how he became president.*

7. Practice your presentation in front of a mirror numerous times. Practice speaking and showing the objects.
8. Make the presentation for someone who is able to record it. Do not do this until you have received your teacher's approval to go ahead. This might be in front of your family with one of them acting as the recorder.
9. Share the presentation with the class.