**Symbolism Pendant**

**Intro & Criteria:** Artists are known for appropriating other cultures in the pursuit of their art. This comes in the form of using symbolism, stories, artistic techniques, and spiritual practices. Art throughout history can be traced back to the simple cave drawings and symbols used by people of the prehistoric past as a way to communicate and record history. How then as artists, do we continue to pass on the symbols and cultural meanings to our contemporary culture? For this project we will research a select culture in order to investigate and understand how certain symbols and meanings were used in the past and can still be used today.  
**Theme:** Your project will consist of investigating a culture and their symbolic traditions. Using this research, you will design a two (or three) layer pendent that reflects the culture’s symbolic tradition. meaning

**Requirements:** (Level 1) (Level 2) (ADVANCED)  
**Process Work & Steps:**

* 3 layer pendent (2 pierced aluminum sandwiching a Plexiglas piece)
* Symbols relate to your research
* Alter the symbol to resolve drop-out and make it unique
* Plexiglas exterior shape must push beyond the aluminum layer(s)
* Use tabs for hanging the pendent
  + - * Bevel and refine edges
      * Incorporate the rivets into the design
* 2 layer pendent (pierced aluminum & pierced Plexiglas)
* Symbol relates to your research
* Alter the symbol to resolve drop-out and make it unique
* Pendent exterior shape is reflective of your research
* Use tabs for hanging the pendent
  + - * Bevel and refine edges
      * Incorporate the rivets into the design
* 2 layer pendent (pierced aluminum & Plexiglas)
* Symbol relates to your research
* Pendent exterior shape is reflective of your research
* Optional: use tabs for hanging the pendent
* Bevel and refine edges
* Incorporate the rivets into the design
* Collaborative research (20 process points)
* Sketches & Design development (10 process points)
* Finalized Design (10 process points)
* Creation of Final Project (80 project points)

**Self-Evaluation Grade Sheet:**

**( /20 points) Requirements & Criteria:**

* Complete the process Work & Steps leading up to the final project
* Final design demonstrates knowledge of cultural research (Symbolism & Meaning)
* Pendent exterior shape is reflective of research
* Level 2: Pierced Plexiglas layer
* ADV: 2 Pierced Aluminum layers and 1 Plexiglas that extends beyond the shape of the symbol

**( /20 points) Creativity & Originality:**

* **ADV:** 2 Aluminum layers (can be a reverse and pos/neg flip of the symbol)
* Creative use of the Plexiglas and negative spaces (viewed from both sides)
* Plexiglas pushes beyond the symbol shape in an interesting and eye-catching way
* Incorporate tabs and folds into the design so that it hangs aesthetically
* Design goes beyond the basic criteria and is eye-catching
* Design uses a balance of positive (connected) and negative (drop-out) shapes
* **Level 2:** Alter the symbol and Pierce the Plexiglas layer

Creative use of the Plexiglas and negative spaces (viewed from both sides)

Incorporate tabs and folds into the design so that it hangs aesthetically

**( /20 points) Craftsmanship**

* Disguise drill holes into the design (thicken lines so that the holes do not stand out)
* Careful sawing (avoid accidental drop out or tiny detailed areas)
* Clean up the edges with filing, then bevel to a 45-degree angle
* Sand all file marks on both aluminum and Plexiglas
* Sand the surface of the aluminum to a wet 600 satin finish (optional buff and polish)
* Rivets are straight (not folding over) and not distorted or scratched
* Jumpring attachments are round and closed

**( /20 points) Effort & Involvement:**

* Participation in research, discussion, and planning
* Pacing: Efficient use of each class period so you don’t have to rush at the end
* Completing the process work (save your sketches to show improvement)
* Use of extra studio hours if you fall behind on any steps of the project (due to absences)