

Graphic Art and Medicine Series

Alan Klass Health Humanities Program

Week 1: Intro to Methodology: Setting Your Story

Intro to graphic art, including as it relates to medicine. Who, what, where, when: How we begin a journey in storytelling. Discussion will include review of learners personal experience and background, including within medicine. Learners are to bring a personal comic or literature item related to graphic art or storytelling that affected their own personal experience.

Week 2: Story Trigger: Truth and Lies, and What Lies Between

A story needs a character. How we tell our stories determines how that character is seen. We will examine how characters and their actions and words may change how a story is presented. Personal experience and Points of View will be discussed.

Week 3: The Quest: Ideas Put Into Action

What is the story question? An idea remains unrealized until it is moved into action. We will explore the concept of inciting incident, and how it propels our characters and stories forward. Learners will explore how personal inciting incidents have changed their own stories. Techniques of action in art will be discussed.

Week 4: Surprise: A Journey Into The Unknown

Within the art of storytelling lies the element of surprise. The act of drawing and writing is inherently a vulnerable act, and can lead one to unexpected thoughts and places. We will discuss how to stay open, and expect the unexpected in the act of storytelling.

Week 5: Critical Choice: Where Do We Go From Here?

A story can lead everywhere and anywhere, yet choices still must be made. A story is never a straight line, yet the beginning will still connect to the end. We will discuss critical choices that help hone a story to its definitive, readable journey.

Week 6: Penning a Pinnacle

What is a story climax? How do you know when you've reached it? Storytelling features will be explored that help identify and demonstrate the pinnacle of the story. We will review the question initially asked, and whether any new questions come about. Learners will have a chance to show their own projects' progress during this time.

Week 7: Reverse Journey: Edit and Review

How do you come down from the pinnacle of a story? What have we learned? The journey back to where the story began will be reviewed. Techniques including call back and wrap around will be explored.

Week 8: Resolution: Building on Lessons Learned

Endings are as important as beginnings, as they signal new beginnings. Learners will have a chance to review their journey, and to explore where and how they may continue their projects beyond this course. Learners will also have a chance to show parts of their finished or in progress work.