

The Grannie Annie Family Story Celebration

Writing Your Grannie Annie Artist Statement

www.TheGrannieAnnie.org

Congratulations on illustrating a Grannie Annie story! You are invited to share your thoughts about your illustration by writing an artist statement.

Before beginning to write, consider the following topics.

- Why you chose the story or scene that you illustrated
- What steps you used to create your illustration
- What you enjoyed about creating your illustration
- What you especially like about your illustration
- Whether you conducted any research about the scene you illustrated
- Anything else you want to share about your illustrating experience

We encourage you to choose one of the topics above, write down the main points that you'd like to tell your audience about that topic, and compose a first draft of your artist statement. You may want to get feedback from classmates, teachers, family members, or others, and then make any changes you wish. Artist statements for Grannie Annie events are to be 100–130 words long.

You may also want to read the artist statements included below. Of course, the goal is for your statement to be uniquely yours, just as your illustration is uniquely yours. The statements below are simply provided as very well-written examples, for your reference and as inspiration.

Before reading your artist statement in public, you may want to consider the reading-aloud suggestions in The Grannie Annie's resource titled "[Reading Your Grannie Annie Story Aloud](#)."

When drawing Sammy, I drew him with a happy expression standing in front of the camper wheel. I imagined how happy he was, about to go on a roadtrip with his family. To make him stand out, I pressed extra hard with pencil and blended, also making sure to show light on his coat. When drawing this piece, I tackled the challenge of having to shade a dark animal. This was one of the most challenging art pieces I submitted to The Grannie Annie. I chose this story because I love pets, and animals inspire me to draw. I thought it would be fun to draw Sammy and try to imagine what he looked like.

Janessa Hoffmann's artist statement for "Sammy's Rough Road Trip," *Grannie Annie*, Vol. 13

I chose to draw an illustration for the "Candy Thieves" story because I instantly visualized a picture after I read the story. I couldn't reference this from the Internet, so to get a perspective of what I saw in my head, I had my mom take a picture of my hand putting something into my back pocket. With the help of the photo, I began to sketch my art. The reason this idea appealed to me was because it represents the turning point and suspense in the story. As soon as the boy takes the candy bar, the reader knows that his one wrong choice will change everything. I thought it would be good to draw that moment.

Janessa Hoffmann's artist statement for "Candy Thieves," *Grannie Annie*, Vol. 13

When making this drawing, I used pencil and then blended to show the smoothness of the sand. I drew the kids as silhouettes because no matter what gender or race, kids are kids, and they just want to have fun. The drawing for "SOS: Saving Our Sand Dune" expresses triumph and victory the kids felt when they protected their favorite sand dune. The drawing shows carefree kids whose sand dune meant the world to them. I really felt this when creating the drawing. The part from the story that inspired my drawing was how one woman's bravery preserved what is now a famous landmark.

Janessa Hoffmann's artist statement for "SOS: Saving Our Sand Dune," *Grannie Annie*, Vol. 13