

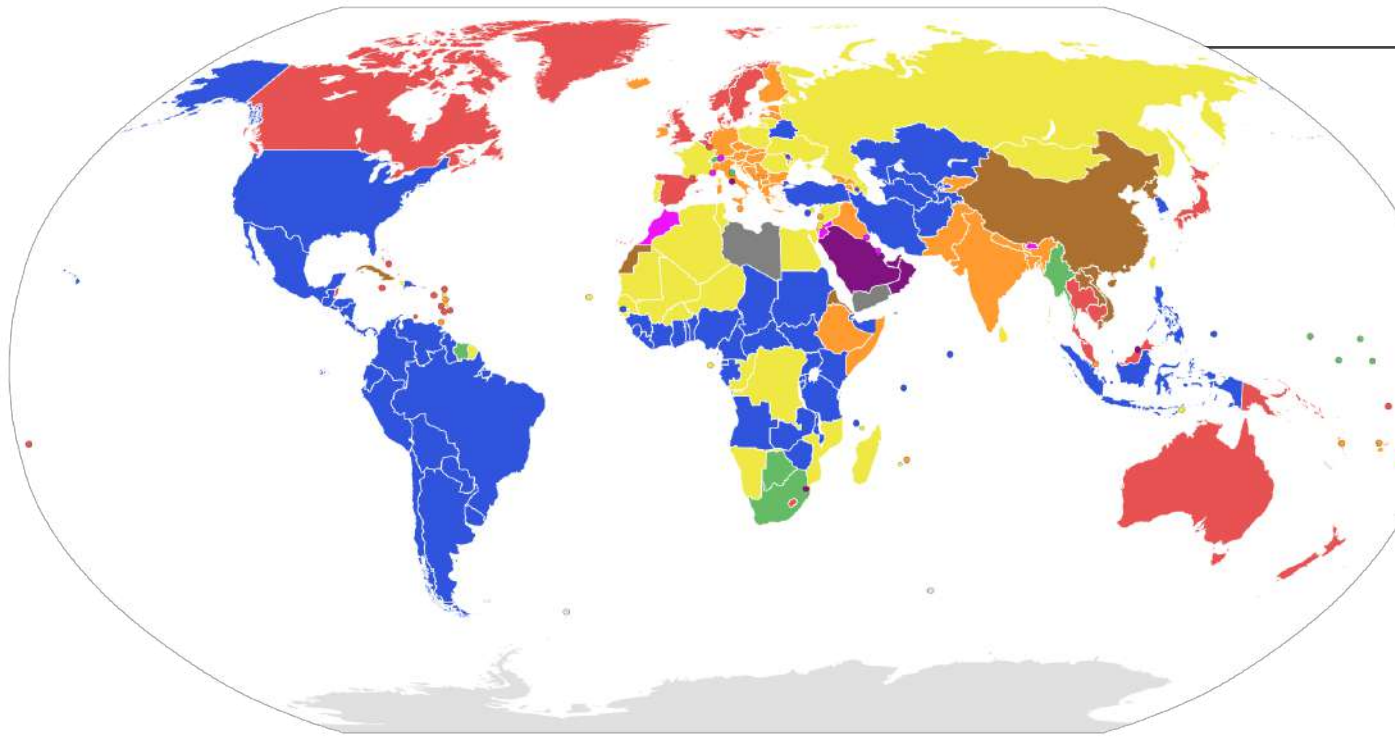


My America

PHOTO B/C

WITH MS. REINERT

Multiple forms of Government around the world



Presidential republic: Head of state is also head of government and is independent of legislature

Semi-presidential republic: Head of state has some executive powers and is independent of legislature; remaining executive power is vested in ministry that is subject to parliamentary confidence

Republic with an executive presidency nominated by or elected by the legislature: President is both head of state and government; ministry, including the president, may or may not be subject to parliamentary confidence

Parliamentary republic with a ceremonial presidency: Head of state is ceremonial; ministry is subject to parliamentary confidence

Constitutional monarchy: Head of state is executive; Monarch personally exercises power in concert with other institutions

Constitutional parliamentary monarchy: Head of state is ceremonial; ministry is subject to parliamentary confidence

Absolute monarchy: Head of state is executive; all authority vested in absolute monarch

One-party state: Head of state is executive or ceremonial; power constitutionally linked to a single political movement

No constitutionally defined basis to current regime

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_system_of_government

We are a Democracy

Government by the people
especially rule of the majority.

A government in which the supreme
power is vested in the people and
exercised by them directly or
indirectly through a system of
representation usually involving
periodically held free elections.

We have the authority to VOTE and
choose our governing legislators!

(not stuck with the same white guy for all our life,
phew!)



Our Founding Principles

Embedded in our American
Declaration of Independence:

*“We hold these truths to be **self-evident**, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”*



We are a Symbol of **FREEDOM** to other Countries



The United States Capitol is the meeting place of the United States Congress and the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government.

It was built September 18, 1793

It stands today as a monument to the American people and their government. An example of 19th-century neoclassical architecture, the Capitol evokes the ideals that guided the Founding Fathers as they developed the new republic.

America is a **Young** Country

Founded: July 4, 1776



The Great Wall of China was constructed from the 7th Century BC by the Chu State

We are only 245 years old! We're a "teen" compared to other countries but have the oldest Constitution in the world!

England is about 1,080 years old, meaning it was a country for about 900 years before we declared our independence as a nation.

The Republic of San Marino, one of the world's smallest countries, is also the world's oldest country, founded in 301 BCE.

China- The first recorded dynasty in Chinese history existed over 3,500 years ago when the feudal Shang dynasty ruled from 17th to 11th century BCE. However, the modern country of China celebrates 221 BCE as the date of its founding

Many countries are fighting **for** a Democracy right now

Puerto Rico. Hong Kong. Ecuador. Haiti. Lebanon. Iraq. Chile. People are rising up around the world against austerity and corruption, defying police forces unleashed to suppress them. Many of these mass movements share a fierce critique of capitalism.



Photography informs us

Visual diary of our world

Authoritarian leaders worldwide are exerting their influence to silence critics and subvert democracy.



Opposition activists in Saint Petersburg carry a model of a prison cell with the cut-out figure of Russia's President, Vladimir Putin, during a rally against his third term, June 12, 2012. In July 2020, they reset presidential term limits, which could effectively make Putin Russia's president for the rest of his life.



Released by North Korea's state-run Korean Central News Agency shows attendees during the first day of the 8th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in Pyongyang on Jan. 5, 2021. under a "hereditary dictatorship"

Women in Saudi Arabia still can't:

- Marry, divorce, travel, get a job or have elective surgery without permission from their male guardians.
- Mix freely with members of the opposite sex.
- Appear in public without wearing a full-length black abaya
- Conduct certain business without a male sponsor.
- Retain custody of their children in a divorce after they reach the age of seven for boys and nine for girls.
- Apply for a national identification card or passport without the permission of a male guardian.
- Eat at restaurants that don't have a separate designated family section.
- Get a fair hearing in court, where “the testimony of one man equals that of two women.”
- Receive an equal inheritance. Under Sharia inheritance laws, daughters receive half what is awarded to their brothers.

<https://egyptindependent.com/women-saudi-arabia-still-cant-things/>



On **26 September 2017**, King Salman issued an order to allow women to drive in Saudi Arabia, with new guidelines to be created and implemented by **June 2018**.

We have the ability of **free speech** and a free exchange of ideas

The First Amendment, which protects the freedom of speech, is arguably the most famous part of our Constitution.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



What is YOUR America?

Our Founding Principles:

What principals do you and your family celebrate most:

- all people are created equal
- have fundamental rights such as
 - liberty
 - free speech
 - freedom of religion
 - due process of law
 - freedom of assembly



What do **YOU** believe in?

What are you most passionate about?



Religious Freedom, Animal Rights, Vaccines, Privacy Rights, Free market Capitalism, Evolution, Immigration Reform, The Opioid Crisis, Transgender Rights, Federal Living Wage, The Green New Deal, Electoral College, Black Lives Matter, Cancel Culture, Gun Control, White Supremacy, Abortion, Student Debt Crisis, Universal Healthcare, Public Education, Poverty, National Holidays, capital punishment



The right to disagree **is** American! We can speak out, peacefully.



Images are symbols of ideas

Was it an insurrection? A coup? Should we call it domestic terrorism? Or just a peaceful protest gone awry? As a battle of politics becomes a battle for words to describe what happened in the capital and on Capitol Hill on January 6, 2021

Project Details:

Take 100+ photos about 'My America' in any photographic style:

- Photojournalism? Still Life? Nature? Fashion? Candid? Portrait? Symbolic?

Edit best **3 images**

Add a line of text with each final image:

"My America is..."

"My America is..."

Kind, caring, diverse, understanding, a place where everyone feels (or should feel) welcome, a place where we can protest ideas peacefully, still evolving, a place where we can do better and be better, a place to be inspired by others, a place where I can do my own thing and express myself, beautiful

Jan. 6, 2021

What's YOUR vision?

UNITED WE STAND

“Like many communities across the country, West Irondequoit students came to school today confident that our district remains **a safe place for all students to process the world around them, express their own thoughts, ask hard questions, and face uncomfortable truths.** In our classrooms, we supported one another by listening and learning with our teachers, classmates, and peers. This proves our core value as a community that during unsettling events – divisive, destructive or otherwise – **our diversity is a source of strength,** and we will continue to forge ahead during unprecedented times. As we strive to do every day, we will continue to problem-solve and grow together, leaning on one another.”

-Ms. Kim Cristal, our K-12 Curriculum Supervisor of Social Studies



FOUR agreements of Courageous Conversations

As we begin to move forward in having courageous conversations there are 4 agreements we'll review throughout this project.

We are diverse and have different ideas on where our country is headed.

1

stay engaged

Staying engaged means “remaining morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially involved in the dialogue”.

2

experience discomfort

This norm acknowledges that discomfort is inevitable, especially, in dialogue about race, and that participants make a commitment to bring issues into the open.

3

speak your truth

This means being open about thoughts and feelings and not just saying what you think others want to hear.

4

expect & accept nonclosure

This agreement asks participants to “hang out in uncertainty” and not rush to quick solutions, especially in relation to racial understanding, which requires ongoing dialogue.

“A nation that has wrapped its eyes so tightly in red, white and blue that it has gone blind. This is *My America*.”



- CHRISTOPHER MORRIS, 2006

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER FOR GEORGE W. BUSH'S PRESIDENCY

Professional Photography

Inspiration for you:

How can you photograph an important principal in your life?

- all people are created equal
- have fundamental rights such as
 - liberty
 - free speech
 - freedom of religion
 - due process of law
 - freedom of assembly

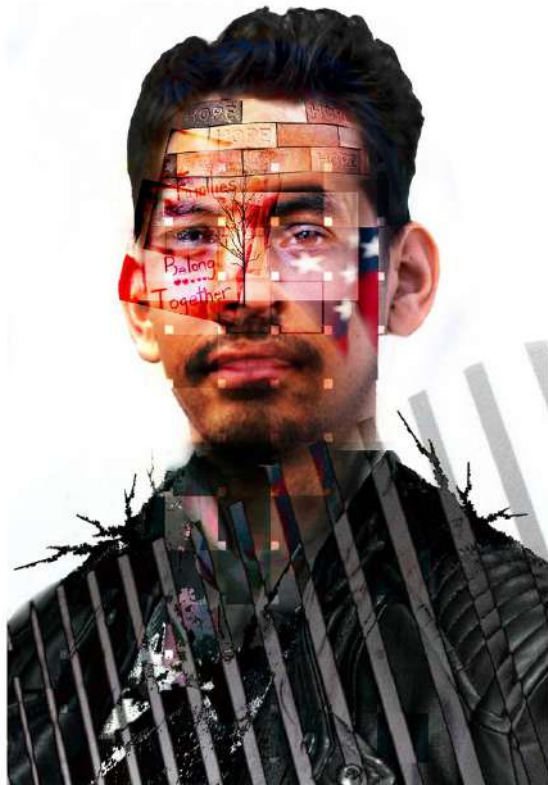
What does YOUR America represent?

MUST TAKE NEW PICS- never submit a photo from last years vacation. You're taking this class to enhance your skills which means taking NEW images each time!

Choose 5 ideas and attempt to represent them visually.

My America is... a mosaic of beauty?

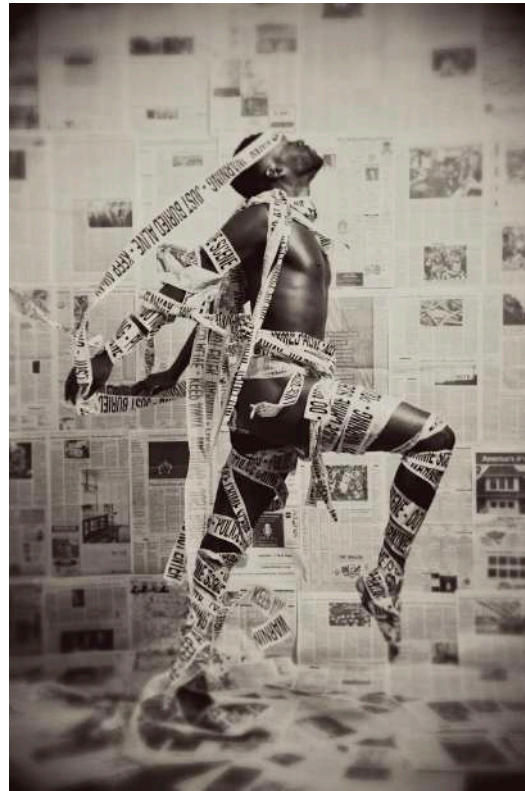
Jana Curcio



Jana Curcio uses composite digital photography and mixed media in her artwork to explore issues of interpersonal relationships and the complex struggle around one's identity. Her work has been selected for numerous international awards and has been shown in galleries across the United States.

My America is... emerging from racism?

Marvin Joseph is a Washington Post staff photographer.



When I was tasked with creating imagery that shows what racism looks like, what came to mind were all the troubling but increasingly common ways African Americans die at the hands of law enforcement. Recently, for instance, a young African American woman, who was at home in Texas with her nephew and had been playing video games, was shot through her bedroom window by a police officer.

My America... has dark secrets people still don't feel comfortable talking about?

Sheila Pree Bright



Sheila Pree Bright is an acclaimed fine-art photographer known for her photographic series “Young Americans, Plastic Bodies, and Suburbia.” She is the author of “#1960Now: Photographs of Civil Rights Activists and Black Lives Matter Protests.”

My America is... hopeful?

André Chung

André Chung is based in Maryland. His work has always explored the relationship of people of color to the world.



My America... has style?

Marc Baptiste

Marc Baptiste was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and moved to Brooklyn at an early age. An internationally known fashion and portrait photographer, Baptiste says love for his birthplace influences all of his work.



My America is...

Due dates:

- 100+ photos are due for uploading- **Monday, Feb. 22**
- Contact sheets are due-**Thurs/Fri, IN CLASS, Feb 25 &26**
- 3 edited images with a line of text are due- **March 11/12?** (may adjust)