**Photography: Block 3 assignment**

**“The Self Portrait”**

**Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Requirements:**

**Photograph yourself! You must take at least half of your shots as head and shoulder shots for a project we will be doing.**

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* What aspects of your character, personality, and appearance would you show to explain yourself to others? How would you depict yourself in a photograph?
* The logistics of photographing yourself are a bit more difficult than photographing someone else. In some cases, it is necessary to have someone other than yourself actually take the picture. This should always be done **after** you have made all the preliminary decisions concerning composition, exposure, and the correct focus.
* Consider the following ways to take your self portrait:
  + Photograph your reflection in various mirrors such as hand mirrors, bathroom mirrors, convex mirrors, or carnival mirrors. You could also photograph yourself in the reflection of a puddle or in the shiny chrome of a car.
  + Create special effects by the placement of one or more artificial lights. Surround your face with luminous candles, or hold a flashlight under your face for an eerie look. If you try these low light situations, it might be necessary to set your camera on a stack of books or better yet, use a tripod if you have one.
  + Pose a friend as if he/she were you. Decide on the composition, select the correct exposure combination, and accurately focus your camera. Exchange spots with your friend. You might want to place a piece of tape to exactly mark the spot where you were standing. Give the person explicit directions and then have them take your picture.
  + What kind of props might you select to tell the story of “you”? Do you play a musical instrument or have a hobby? Are you involved in sports? Do you have a pet? Think about the possible poses you could do with the props. Be creative and thoughtful with how you compose your shot.

**\*\*Use the rest of this handout to make a list of at least five ideas for possible compositions. The more specific you are with your ideas the better prepared you will be the day of the shoot.**