Superhero Self Portrait

If you could change the world for the better, what would you do? Superheroes are often thought to be those who do good deeds and always fight through hard times . People look to them for inspiration, protection, and hope. This project challenges you to think about how you can impact others and set a good example. Think about how you could improve your community as a superhero. What powers will you need to achieve that? Use this information to envison, design, then create your ideal "superhero" self!

Learning objectives

· Notice and identify problems in the world and within the community. Thinking about their superhero "powers" leads to solution brainstorming.
·Develop design critical thinking skills.
·Understand color association and use that to create the right "feel" for their superhero.

Materials needed

· Paper
· Pencils
· Paint or markers
· Mirror (optional)

Step 1: Decide on 2-3 colors for your superhero costume.

How do these colors reflect your powers? Think about your favorite superheroes, how do the colors of their costumes make you feel? What do they make you think about the superhero? How about the world that they live in?

Step 2: Design a symbol for your costume.

Every superhero has a unqiue symbol that makes them stand out from the others. It shows their personality or power without using any words. Ex: Flash has lighting as his symbol to represent his super speed. What does your own symbol represent? It should tie into your goal as a superhero.

Step 3: On the right side on your paper, draw a self portrait of half your face and body.

Fold your paper in half (hamburger style) to spit your paper in half. This is to create symmetrical (even) drawings of your normal and superhero self. Open the paper back up and use the fold to draw where the halfway mark is. To help with proportions, use a mirror to look at your face while drawing.

Step 4: On the left side, draw the other half of your superhero face and costume.

Think about how the design for your costume relates to your power. If you can fly, do you need a long cape? What kind of shoes would you need for super speed?

Step 5: Draw yourself solving a problem.

· How do your powers help you solve this? Why is it important to solve?
· What could you do right now, as a normal citizen, to help?

When you're done with your project, take a picture and share it with us too! You can tag us on social media (@designmuseumchi on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter) or email us at info@designchicago.org. We're looking forward to seeing your work!