Art assignment #5

I hope that you are not being overwhelmed by schoolwork at this time. Be patient we will all figure this out. I have been making masks for myself and with students for many years. All over the world there is a strong history of mask making. There are just so many types of masks made with such a wide variety of materials. Of course when you search youtube for “masks” almost all of the results are for making your own medical type mask. A good project but not the type of mask, necessarily, that I want you to design and create. For this assignment we are going to be making a specific sort of mask.

For lack of a better term, I will use the term “Alter Ego” mask. Batman has a mask and Batman is the alter ego of Bruce Wayne. I too have a mask, photo attached, my alter ego is “frog”. I am attempting to get out there on youtube soon, but I am not really comfortable putting my actual face out there on the internet. So I created my frog mask. I made the mask from part of an old rusty metal bucket I found on the ground. I chose the frog theme because the frog is considered to be an indicator species. Apparently you can learn a fair deal about various environments by studying the health of their frog populations. I care about the environment and try to bring an awareness of that into my work, so I thought the frog would be a perfect alter ego for me.

You can begin the process by thinking about your alter ego and what sort of mask would compliment what you are about. The things you care about. Brainstorm with some quick sketches and refine this work into a working drawing or rough blueprint for your mask. Next locate materials and create your mask. The recycle bin is a great place to get materials. Materials from nature work well also, twigs, moss , shells , leaves………. Maybe tinfoil , newspaper, papier mache , old toys, wool, string, tape. The possibilities are endless.

**Remember. HAVE FUN**