

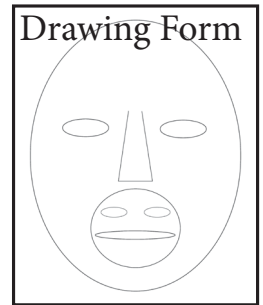


MY AMAZING STORYFACE ACTIVITY SHEET

An arts-in-education activity designed for classroom workshops to follow **Christopher Agostino's StoryFaces** assembly programs.

This activity gives students their own experience in visual storytelling, as they create an original story starring themselves, first through a drawing exercise, and then as a written story meant to be told. For the drawing, students will use the accompanying Drawing Form with a big face that has a little face on the mouth — just like the image I create in my performances. (see *The Amazing Face Video* on YouTube)

Grade Levels: In Elementary schools, grades 2 and up have been able to complete the StoryFace drawing and a simple written story in a single workshop session. In Middle and High Schools the concept of placing a portrait of yourself into an illustrated story can go further as a visual art project by incorporating other media, digital art, animation, etc.



The instructions for students are simple:

- 1 -- Start by drawing the “story” on the top part of the big face. You are going to be the star of your story, so make it about something you want to be when you grow up, or maybe some place you’d like to see or some adventure you’d like to have. You could put yourself into a story you already know, like a folktale or a story from a book — something from your dreams, your wishes, your nightmares or just something fun. The only limit is your imagination!
- 2 -- Put yourself in the story by drawing a picture of yourself onto the little face at the bottom of the big face. You can draw yourself like you really look, or you can transform yourself so that you fit into the story.
- 3 -- Once you’ve completed the StoryFace drawing, give your story a title and write it out on the back of the drawing.
- 4 -- Finally, “show” and “tell” the story to a friend, your class or at home to your family — show them your drawing while telling them your story.

Some Guidelines:

A -- I have the students do simple pencil sketches for their StoryFaces, with no coloring, so the focus remains on the content of the story and not on the quality of the drawing. In subsequent art classes, the drawing could be the basis for a mask or other more finished work of art.

B -- Students should start by drawing the story idea first, before they start drawing the picture of themselves on the little mouth -- because the story they come up with may change how they depict themselves. They should write the story out after the drawing. The visual process should drive the language process.

C -- I tell students to just draw the things in their story as best they can -- not to worry how good they look -- because they will be telling the story as they show the drawing, they’ll be able to explain the images.

D -- Getting a student to tell a story through images and words is the goal of the workshop. Some students are more original than others, some are not -- and that’s ok. I’m ok with kids putting themselves into familiar tales (like “Little Red Ridinghood”) or scenes from movies, video games, etc., or if they re-create the stories they saw in my performance.

E -- To complete the experience, the students should tell the story, and I usually suggest they can bring the StoryFace drawing home to tell it to a family member. If you display the drawings, include the written stories as well.

MY AMAZING STORYFACE

*You are amazing — and so is your face.
You can be anything — and so can your face.*

The origins of this “face on a face” imagery came as I started incorporating cartooning techniques into the faces I paint at events. I would ask a kid questions about what they like to do, or want to be, and then put them into a picture of that activity on their face. Eventually I used the technique to tell a story about how I learned to facepaint (see *The Amazing Face Video* on YouTube), which I present as part of my school performances and workshops.

These are some examples of the Amazing StoryFaces I have painted:



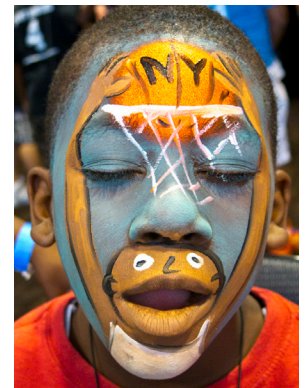
My Amazing Gold Medal
for Figure Skating



I'm A Pirate
Aaarrgh!



I Love Flowers



Slam Dunk!



I Sing Like an Angel



Young Scientist at the
World Science Festival



Vampire Attack!



On the Trapeze
at Gymnastics Camp



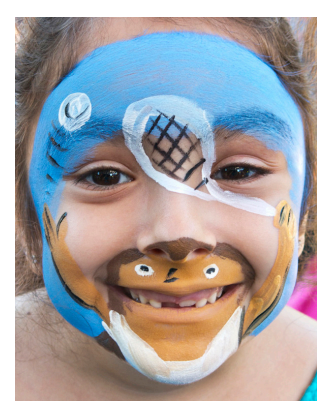
My Easter Bonnet
5th Avenue



On Safari in Africa



Winning the Stanley Cup



I'm A Tennis Star

MY AMAZING STORYFACE – DRAWING FORM

YOUR NAME:



**HAVE FUN AND
BE CREATIVE!**

**AFTER DRAWING
YOUR STORY, TURN
THE PAGE OVER AND
WRITE THE STORY**

My AMAZING STORYFACE

TITLE OF YOUR STORY: _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

TO FINISH YOUR AMAZING STORYFACE, "SHOW AND TELL" YOUR STORY TO SOMEONE.
TELL THEM YOUR STORY WHILE SHOWING THEM YOUR DRAWING.
STORIES ARE MEANT TO BE SHARED.